

Fitness leaders in hunt for glory

Nominees are revealed for this month's premier event



The great and good: This year's batch will be looking to repeat the success of 2015's winners.

By Staff Reporter @Sport360
editorial@sport360.com

Shortlisted nominees for this month's 2016 FIT Awards have been revealed, with the winners set to be honoured during a glamorous ceremony at The One & Only Royal Mirage, Dubai.

Organised by Sport360°, presented by Emirates NBD and in partnership with Daman Active Life, Dubai Sports City, One & Only Royal Mirage and REPs UAE, the annual event – enjoying its third edition – celebrates the achievements of outstanding companies and individuals from the region's health and fitness industry.

A record total of 17 categories, with two open to submissions from the GCC, will recognise the diverse successes witnessed this year. The 90 finalists will now learn their fate

“The FIT Awards contribute to the growing awareness on health” – Krishna

during a glitzy black-tie gala dinner on Thursday, November 24.

The candidates were shortlisted from a high of 242 applications, which will now go through a rigid and transparent judging process, overseen by a judging panel of 18 of the region's industry experts and facilitated by independent auditors. Public voting opens tomorrow on the Sport360° website and tickets are now available to be purchased.

Vikram Krishna, Executive Vice-President, Head of Group Marketing & Customer Experience at Emirates NBD, said: “The FIT Awards contribute to the growing awareness on health and fitness in

the UAE, a trend we are delighted to support.”

To shake up the event, six new or tweaked categories have been created. Didier Brun, publisher and deputy CEO of Sport360°, was proud to reflect the growing diversity and reach of an industry which comprises at least 2,500 registered professionals across more than 160 venues in the UAE alone.

He said: “We have introduced new categories that reflect the development of the health, fitness and wellness sector and will help further position these awards as the industry's leading annual event.”

Head to www.sport360.com/fitawards tomorrow to cast your vote, with these results being taken into account by the judging panel. Tickets can be purchased by emailing fitawards@sport360.com. Standard tickets costs Dh650 and a table of 10 is priced at Dh6,250.

2016 finalists

Personal Trainer of the Year - Female

1. Abigael Garcia – Haddins Fitness
2. Bernadette Bray – Advantage Sports UAE
3. Charlotte Mathers – SMART Fitness
4. Emma White – BActive.me
5. Maria Savic – Miss Fitness
6. Smitha Thomas – Gold's Gym Etihad Mall
7. Rhian Adams – Flywheel Dubai

Personal Trainer of the Year - Male

1. Aaron Agnew – SMART Fitness
2. Amjad Khan – Fitness First Platinum Dubai Media City
3. Jarred Lowson – SMART Fitness
4. Kris Greene – The Physical Training Company
5. Lee Ryan – Freelance
6. Phillip Elder – UPANDRUNNING Sports Medicine Centre
7. Sam Bolger – Haddins Fitness

Youth Trainer of the Year

1. Alexandra Dionisio – Stryx Gulf
2. Danil Borneventure – FITT High Performance Centre
3. Kaveh Bikoghli Kalkhoran – M and S Sports
4. Kris Greene – The Physical Training Company
5. Nemanja Krstic – Basicball Academy Sports Services

Group Instructor of the Year

1. Emma White – BActive.me
2. Gordana Golovic – The Stables Fitness Centre
3. Lauren Greaves – Flywheel Sports
4. Marija Nikolic – I Shape Middle East
5. Meline Margaryan – Gold's Gym International
6. Nuno Costa Fernandes – Flywheel Dubai
7. Vanja Zrnica – Desert Pal PER AQUUM
8. Vladislava Zhizhchenko – Pole Fitness Dubai

Instructor of the Year – Pilates

1. Paul Thornley
2. Liz Marshall
3. Dora Ferko
4. Manny Maurice
5. Dana Lim

Fitness Manager of the Year

1. Andy Meech – Fit Lab at Emirates Golf Club
2. David Nascimento – Fitness First Bur Juman Mall
3. Joao Silva – Fitness First Ibn Batutta
4. Kathrina Sabino – Gold's Gym Etihad Mall
5. Trevor Flowers – Fitness First Mirdiff City Centre
6. Bruna Diniz – Fitness First

General/Club Manager of the Year

1. Andre Henriques – Fitness First
2. Dennis Curtin – Gold's Gym Al Ain
3. Matthew Graham – Talise Fitness Madinat Jumeirah
4. Michael Haddin – Haddins Gym
5. Michelle Scott – Real Pilates
6. Vanja Zrnica – Desert Pal PER AQUUM

Social Media Campaign of the Year (Individual)

1. Alice & Abdul – ANAfit Dubai
2. Essa Al Ansari – fitnesswithessa
3. Inger Houghton – ingerindubai
4. Nadine Du Toit – glorygirlfit

Social Media Campaign of the Year (Business)

1. Adidas Emerging Markets I Got This
2. Fitness First Middle East I Am Training For
3. New Balance #alwaysinbeta
4. Nike Middle East We Run DXB

Facility of the Year (Up to 3,000 members)

1. Fit Lab at Emirates Golf Club
2. Fitness First Safer Mall, Sharjah
3. Fitness First Vision Tower Platinum, Business Bay
4. Flywheel Sports
5. Gold's Gym Al Ain
6. Real Pilates JLT
7. Talise Fitness Madinat Jumeirah
8. Yoga La Vie

Facility of the Year (3,001+ members)

1. Fitness First, Burjuman
2. Fitness First, Mirdif City Centre
3. Golds Gym, Al Wahda
4. The Armed Forces Officers Club

Ladies Only Facility of the Year

1. Exhale Fitness Studio
2. Gold's Gym Al Ain
3. Morning Glory Health Club and Med Spa
4. Uptown Mirdif Ladies Only Club

Yoga/Pilates Studio of the Year

1. Exhale Fitness Studio
2. Real Pilates
3. Yoga La Vie
4. Zen Yoga

GCC Recreation and Leisure Facility of the Year

1. Koora Dome
2. Sheraton Doha Health and Recreation Centre
3. SPORTZONE
4. Talise Fitness Jumeirah Beach Hotel
5. The Chedi
6. Tribal Fitness

GCC Health Food Operator of the Year

1. GoOrganic ME
2. HEAT Cafe
3. ICONS Coffee Couture
4. Pura

Supplier of the Year

1. AKI Fitness
2. MEFITPRO
3. Faris Group
4. Functional Fitness Supply

Product/Activation of the Year

1. adidas Climachill
2. Under Armour Earn Your Armour
3. Lululemon Sun Sand Savasana
4. Technogym SKILLMILL



GALA AWARDS NIGHT
THURSDAY 24TH NOVEMBER
ONE & ONLY ROYAL MIRAGE

FOR TICKET SALES & TABLE BOOKINGS
(+971) 4 377 2400
fitawards@sport360.com