

IBU OC Award for Excellence in Sustainability

What is this?

An annual award for the Organising Committees hosting an event in the IBU World Cup, IBU Cup and IBU Junior Cup series, including the relevant Championships.

Why the Award?

To promote impactful and replicable sustainability and climate actions implemented successfully by the Organising Committees to contribute to one of the overall aims of the IBU Sustainability Strategy 2020-2030:

- Climate
 - Reduce the carbon footprint of biathlon as a sport according to science-based targets (4.5% p.a.) to become climate neutral by 2030
- Sport
 - Ensure environmental neutrality of the sport (air, water, and soil)
- Venue & Event
 - Enable biathlon venues and events to have a long-term positive impact on their host communities and the environment.
 - Ban single-use plastic and ensure 100% waste is re-used, recycled, or composted.
- People
 - Become the leading winter sport in terms of good governance, gender equality and diversity.
- Communication and Awareness
 - Lead in advocating for climate action and sustainable development within the biathlon family and winter sports for the global fans.

Why should your OC participate?

Many IBU Organising Committees are already doing excellent work to become more sustainable, and we wish to make sure that everyone can share in their experiences and take advantage of the know-how in the Biathlon Family for the benefit of Mother Nature and climate.

What do winners receive?

Winning OCs are awarded at the next regular OC Meeting.

They will receive an iconic trophy to keep, much praise and glory, as well as a money prize to support their future sustainability initiatives in the following two categories:

1. BMW IBU World Cup/WCH: €10'000
2. IC/JC/OECH/YJWCH/JOECH/SBWCH: €5'000

The IBU reserves the right to award multiple awards in each category if necessary.

Award Rules

- Each IBU Organising Committee that organised a series event during the just completed season is entitled to apply with one project. If an Organising Committee carried out events as part of several IBU series, they must apply in the category for the highest level of series they participated in.
- The application will need to be co-signed by the National Federation of the OC.
- The application period will run from 1 March until 30 April.
- The awards will be presented at the annual OC meeting typically held in June.
- An OC may only submit a winning project once. A winning OC may submit another project in the following year(s).
- The application will be submitted digitally and will have to include the following parts:
 - Project description
 - Explanation on how the project contributed to a more sustainable event
 - Concrete data to demonstrate sustainability impact.
Examples could include the number of people educated, number of fans engaged, data highlighting impact/adoption of new behaviours, adoption of an innovative process or product, amount of waste eliminated, amount of single-use plastic avoided, etc.
 - Description of how the how the project aligns with the IBU Sustainability Strategy 2020-2030, and which overall aims it contributes to.
 - Suggested use for the prize money by the Organising Committee should the project win the Award.

Award Jury

- The Award winners will be decided by a jury consisting of three members of the IBU Sustainability Expert Reference Group.

Award Criteria

Projects will be evaluated based on several criteria, including but not limited to:

- Originality of solution
- Sustainability impact
- Replicability (i.e., ease of implementation by another organisation)
- Alignment with the IBU's sustainability strategy and aims
- Proposed next steps based on award prize money