State Awards Criteria Form
Georgia Recreation and Park Association

Agency of the Year Award
(Covers the period September 1st of last year - August 31st of current year)

Purpose: To recognize exemplary agencies who deliver recreation, park or leisure related services. Awarded per population category.

Who is eligible? Any member agency within the state whose primary function is the delivery of recreation, park or leisure services and which has made a significant contribution to the recreation, park or leisure services movement on a local, state, regional or national basis.

Check the appropriate population category:
- Under 20,000
- 20,001-50,000
- 50,001-80,000
- 80,001-150,000
- Over 150,001

All of the following must be answered in your nomination online (worth 20 points total when judging):

1. Describe internal and external staff development opportunities and staff’s involvement within national, state and local organizations. (2 points possible)
2. Describe your agency’s budget sources and department structure. (2 points possible)
3. Provide information on your agency’s facilities as well as the acreage you maintain. (2 points possible)
4. Describe ways in which your agency is integrating technology into your services including the use of social media. (3 points possible)
5. Discuss new or outstanding programs offered between September 1st of last year - August 31st of this year. (5 points possible)
6. Discuss major accomplishments other than programs that have taken place between September 1st of last year - August 31st of this year. (6 points possible)

Distinguished Professional Award

Purpose: To recognize individuals who have made outstanding and lasting contributions to leisure services. This is the highest award GRPA can bestow on one of its members.

Who is eligible?
1. A member of GRPA for at least five consecutive years.
2. Has a minimum of five years professional service in recreation, parks or conservation.
3. Has not received this award previously.
All of the following must be answered in your nomination online (worth 10 points total when judging):

1. Describe this nominee’s involvement in professional and civic organizations. (2.5 points possible)
2. Describe this nominee’s professional and community achievements and recognitions. (2.5 points possible)
3. Why is this person deserving of being recognized as GRPA’s Distinguished Professional? (5 points possible)

**Mike Daniel Award**

**Purpose:** Award given to professional that exemplifies excellence at the programming level. It is presented in memory of Mike Daniel, a leader in our field, who strived during his career for the highest level of achievement in programming. The award is reserved for individuals who have excelled in situations where they are primarily responsible for the supervision or implementation of recreation, parks or leisure programs.

**Who is eligible?**

1. A member of GRPA for at least five consecutive years.
2. Has a minimum of five years professional service in leisure services.
3. Has not received this award previously.

All of the following must be answered in your nomination online (worth 10 points total when judging):

1. Describe this nominee’s involvement in professional and civic organizations. (2 points possible)
2. Describe this nominee’s involvement in programming and/or athletics within their community, agency and state organizations. (4 points possible)
3. Why is this person deserving of being recognized as a Mike Daniel Award recipient? (4 points possible)

**GRPA STATE VOLUNTEER AWARD**

**Purpose:** Recognizing volunteers whose efforts have had lasting effects on recreation and leisure services programs. There will be only two awards per population category:

- 20,000 & Under
- 20,001 – 50,000
- 50,001 – 80,000
- 80,001 – 150,000
- 150,001 & Over
Who is eligible? Any person, business, civic club, organization or agency not officially connected professionally in the recreation movement.

All of the following must be answered in your nomination online (worth 10 points total when judging):

1. Number of years or service/dates. Official title or business. (2 points possible)
2. Describe nominee’s work with the Agency, their promotion of recreation/parks/conservation and assistance to the agency and community. (4 points possible)
3. Why is this person/group/organization deserving of being recognized as a GRPA State Volunteer? (4 points possible)

HALL OF FAME AWARD

Purpose: To recognize any Individual/Organization who has made unusual and extraordinary contributions to the Recreation, Park or Conservation movement in Georgia. To provide paramount recognition for an individual organization at our Annual Conference. The Hall of Fame will be located in the GRPA Office and portraits or plaques suitable to the surroundings will be displayed in an attractive and conspicuous manner. Honorees will receive an additional award at the GRPA Annual Conference.

Who is eligible? 1. Nominees must be individuals/organizations who have not been previously recognized with this award.
2. An individual/organization whose efforts have made lasting contributions to the Recreation Field in Georgia.
3. A Park and Recreation Professional who was an active member of GRPA for at least ten (10) years.
4. A Park and Recreation professional active in the profession for 30 years or a Park and Recreation professional that has retired or become inactive for at least two (2) years.

Nomination Should Include: 1. Support information explaining why an individual/organization is deserving of this Award.
2. A summary of the contributions and efforts of this individual/organization that had significant influence on the Recreation Field in Georgia.
3. A statement on any vital or profound impact the individual/organization that has accomplished within the professional or in support of the field.
4. Achievements on the local, state or national level.
Additional Information:
1. A maximum of two (2) recipients may be honored. In any year, the committee may make no award. Awards may be made posthumously.
2. A black and white or color photograph must accompany the nomination.
3. No nomination will be considered which is not postmarked prior to midnight, August 31, of the current year.

SERVICE AWARDS.

Who is eligible? Any GRPA member in good standing who has served in the field of recreation for a minimum of twenty (2) years. Recognizing professionals who have worked in the field of recreation, parks and leisure services giving their time and energies to make the professional better for those we serve. Members recognized after twenty (20) years in 5-year increments.

Nominations Should Include: 1. Number of years of service and dates 2. Agencies employed during this time 3. Present place of employment and capacity or title

NETWORK AWARDS

Administrative/Leadership Network

Distinguished Administrative Support Staff

Purpose: Recognizes individuals who have made outstanding and lasting contributions to the administrative aspect of the recreation profession.

Who is eligible? Any full-time administrative support staff person who is employed by an agency member of GRPA, which is in good standing and has not received the award previously.

All of the following must be answered in your nomination online (worth 10 points total when judging):

1. Describe contributions made as an administrative support staff which improved and enhanced the effectiveness of the department as a whole. (2.5 points possible)
2. Describe the nominee’s outstanding customer service to citizens as well as fellow co-workers. (2.5 points possible)
3. Through their work in the department and community, why is this person deserving of this award? (5 points possible)
Distinguished Professional Award

Purpose: Recognizes individuals who have made outstanding contributions to the field of recreation, parks and leisure services within the Administrative/Leadership Network. This is the highest award given by the network.

Who is eligible? Any member of GRPA in good standing who is a member of the Administrative/Leadership Network.

All of the following must be answered in your nomination online (worth 10 points total when judging):

1. Describe the nominee’s involvement in community and civic organizations. (2 points possible)
2. Describe the nominee’s involvement in professional organizations such as NRPA and GRPA or other associations that relate to their field. (2 points possible)
3. Discuss contributions made to promote the field of recreation through media interviews, workshops taught, innovative programs created and articles written. (2 points possible)
4. Why is this person deserving of being a distinguished professional? (4 points possible)

Athletics/Aquatics Network

Distinguished Professional Award

Purpose: Recognizes individuals who have made outstanding contributions to the field of recreation, parks and leisure services within the Athletics/Aquatics Network. This is the highest award given by the network.

Who is eligible? Any member of GRPA in good standing who is a member of the Athletics/Aquatics Network.

All of the following must be answered in your nomination online (worth 10 points total when judging):

1. Describe the nominee’s involvement in community and civic organizations. (2 points possible)
2. Describe the nominee’s involvement in professional organizations such as NRPA and GRPA or other associations that relate to their field. (2 points possible)
3. Discuss contributions made to promote the field of recreation through media interviews, workshops taught, innovative programs created and articles written. (2 points possible)
4. Why is this person deserving of being a distinguished professional? (4 points possible)

Outstanding Volunteer Award

Purpose: Recognizes volunteers whose efforts have had a lasting, positive effect on parks, recreation or leisure service programs within the Athletics/Aquatics Network.

H-5.5 -- Awards Criteria  (Revised 09/2015)
Who is eligible? Any volunteer who performed services for a program directed by a GRPA member or GRPA agency.

All of the following must be answered in your nomination online (worth 10 points total when judging):

1. Describe the service that the volunteer provided to the agency. (5 points possible)
2. How did the services performed by the volunteer help the agency? (2.5 points possible)
3. How did the services performed by the volunteer impact the community? (2.5 points possible)

**Outstanding Program Award**

**Purpose:** Recognizes outstanding programs.

**Who is eligible?** Any program directed by a current GRPA member in good standing.

All of the following must be answered in your nomination online (worth 10 points total when judging):

1. Give a description of the outstanding program to include a purpose, goals and number of participants. (2 points possible)
2. Describe the agency’s budget sources, program structure and any cooperative efforts that contributed to the success of this program. (2 points possible)
3. Describe the impact on and contribution to both the participants and the community as a whole. (6 points possible)

**Outstanding Special Event Award**

**Purpose:** Recognizes outstanding special events.

**Who is eligible?** Any special event directed by a current GRPA member in good standing.

All of the following must be answered in your nomination online (worth 10 points total when judging):

1. Give a description of the outstanding special event to include a purpose, goals and number of participants. (2 points possible)
2. Describe the agency’s budget sources, special event structure and any cooperative efforts that contributed to the success of this special event. (2 points possible)
3. Describe the impact on and contribution to both the participants and the community as a whole. (6 points possible)

**Programmers Network**

**Distinguished Professional Award**

**Purpose:** Recognizes individuals who have made outstanding contributions to the field of recreation, parks and leisure services within the Programmers Network. This is the highest award given by the network.
Who is eligible? Any member of GRPA in good standing who is a member of the Programmers Network.

All of the following must be answered in your nomination online (worth 10 points total when judging):

1. Describe the nominee’s involvement in community and civic organizations. (2 points possible)
2. Describe the nominee’s involvement in professional organizations such as NRPA and GRPA or other associations that relate to their field. (2 points possible)
3. Discuss contributions made to promote the field of recreation through media interviews, workshops taught, innovative programs created and articles written. (2 points possible)
4. Why is this person deserving of being a distinguished professional? (4 points possible)

Outstanding Volunteer Award

Purpose: Recognizes volunteers whose efforts have had a lasting, positive effect on parks, recreation or leisure service programs within the Programmers Network.

Who is eligible? Any volunteer who performed services for a program directed by a GRPA member or GRPA agency.

All of the following must be answered in your nomination online (worth 10 points total when judging):

1. Describe the service that the volunteer provided to the agency. (5 points possible)
2. How did the services performed by the volunteer help the agency? (2.5 points possible)
3. How did the services performed by the volunteer impact the community? (2.5 points possible)

Outstanding Program Award

Purpose: Recognizes outstanding programs.

Who is eligible? Any program directed by a current GRPA member in good standing.

All of the following must be answered in your nomination online (worth 10 points total when judging):

1. Give a description of the outstanding program to include a purpose, goals and number of participants. (2 points possible)
2. Describe the agency’s budget sources, program structure and any cooperative efforts that contributed to the success of this program. (2 points possible)
3. Describe the impact on and contribution to both the participants and the community as a whole. (6 points possible)
Outstanding Special Event Award

Purpose: Recognizes outstanding special events.

Who is eligible? Any special event directed by a current GRPA member in good standing.

All of the following must be answered in your nomination online (worth 10 points total when judging):

1. Give a description of the outstanding special event to include a purpose, goals and number of participants. (2 points possible)
2. Describe the agency’s budget sources, special event structure and any cooperative efforts that contributed to the success of this special event. (2 points possible)
3. Describe the impact on and contribution to both the participants and the community as a whole. (6 points possible)

Parks Maintenance/Operations Network

Distinguished Professional Award

Purpose: Recognizes individuals who have made outstanding contributions to the field of recreation, parks and leisure services within the Parks Maintenance/Operations Network. This is the highest award given by the network.

Who is eligible? Any member of GRPA in good standing who is a member of the Parks Maintenance/Operations Network.

All of the following must be answered in your nomination online (worth 10 points total when judging):

1. Describe the nominee’s involvement in community and civic organizations. (2 points possible)
2. Describe the nominee’s involvement in professional organizations such as NRPA and GRPA or other associations that relate to their field. (2 points possible)
3. Discuss contributions made to promote the field of recreation through media interviews, workshops taught, innovative programs created and articles written. (2 points possible)
4. Why is this person deserving of being a distinguished professional? (4 points possible)

Outstanding Volunteer Award

Purpose: Recognizes volunteers whose efforts have had a lasting, positive effect on parks, recreation or leisure service programs within the Parks Maintenance/Operations Network.

Who is eligible? Any volunteer who performed services for a program directed by a GRPA member or GRPA agency.
All of the following must be answered in your nomination online (worth 10 points total when judging):

1. Describe the service that the volunteer provided to the agency. (5 points possible)
2. How did the services performed by the volunteer help the agency? (2.5 points possible)
3. How did the services performed by the volunteer impact the community? (2.5 points possible)

**Marketing/Visibility Awards**

**Purpose:** To highlight the printed work of GRPA agencies. Awarded by population category: Under 20,000 / 20,001-50,000 / 50,001-80,000 / 80,001-150,000 / Over 150,001

**Who is eligible?**

1. Any GRPA member agency which uses print media to promote programs, services or professional activities.
2. Entries must be made in one of two categories and limited to four entries per category.
   - **Category I:** Single Event Publication (flyer, poster, postcard, etc.)
   - **Category II:** Multi-Event Publication (brochure, calendar, etc.)

**Nominations Should Include:**

1. Event Category
2. Percentage of publication done “in house”.

**Judging Based on:**

1. Readability
2. Clear purpose
3. Visual appeal
4. Clearly answers, who, what, where, when and how
5. Appropriate use of graphics
6. Appropriate type/font
7. Creativity
8. Promotes the benefits of parks and recreation