MUSLIM SPORTS FOUNDATION

ACTIVE SUNNAH

THE MUSLIM SPORTS AWARDS 2025

THURSDAY 4TH DECEMBER 2025
ELLAND ROAD STADIUM, LEEDS

PROGRAMME

17.30	Drinks Reception
18.30	Welcome
18:50	Starters
20.00	Awards 1
20.45	Mains
21.00	Charity Auction
21.25	Awards 2
21.55	Dessert
22.05	Awards 3
22.30	Carriages

QUR'AN

QARI KHUZEMA UMAR

HOSTS

AATIF NAWAZ

SABBIYAH PERVEZ

ASAAALAMO ALAYKUM - PEACE BE WITH YOU

It is a privilege to welcome you to the Muslim Sports Awards 2025, our second year celebrating the achievements of Muslims in sport across the UK. Hosting the event at the iconic Elland Road provides a fitting stage as we recognise the talent and dedication shaping Muslim sport at every level.

As the newly appointed Chair of Muslim Sports Foundation, it is an honour to lead the organisation at such an exciting time. MSF's work continues to highlight the commitment, community spirit and excellence that define Muslim participation in sport.

These Awards celebrate success from grassroots clubs to elite competition. Behind every achievement lies sustained effort from players, coaches, volunteers and community organisations whose support enables athletes to grow, develop and reach the highest levels. Every milestone reflects individual talent and the strength of the wider sporting community.

This year's finalists embody these values through their performance and impact on others. Their achievements inspire young people to get involved, believe in their potential and work towards their goals.
I would like to thank our sponsors, partners, volunteers and the event team for their dedication in making this evening possible. Your support enables us to recognise and champion Muslim achievement in sport year after year.

To all our nominees and winners, congratulations. Your success inspires us all and strengthens the future of Muslim sport. I look forward to seeing how we continue to grow participation and achievement in the years ahead.

With warm regards

Dr Aaliya Goyal

Chair, Muslim Sports Foundation

MUSLIM SPORTS FOUNDATION

ALLY OF THE YEAR

mylahore
BRITISH ASIAN KITCHEN

ARCHERY GB

This Archery GB initiative, funded by SportsAid and named after the Arabic word for archery, successfully engages Muslim communities through a sport deeply rooted in their heritage and faith. The project increases participation, providing significant physical and mental wellbeing benefits to participants. It has built a more inclusive future for the sport by proactively developing a diverse range of new coaches, volunteers, and competitors, thereby establishing Archery GB as a leading organisation for engaging and serving ethnically diverse communities.

BE ACTIVE BEDS

Since 2005, Be Active has been dedicated to tackling deep-seated inequalities in physical activity across Bedfordshire. As the region's Active Partnership, they operate by uniting local organizations, clubs, and volunteers to inspire communities to move more. Through this collaborative model, Be Active is effectively building community resilience and achieving a significant, lasting impact by positively transforming lives.

PROFESSIONAL FOOTBALLERS' ASSOCIATION (PFA)

For over a century, the Professional Footballers' Association (PFA) has served as the world's oldest sports trade union, exclusively championing the rights of players in England. As the only organisation solely prioritising player needs, it provides indispensable support - from legal advice and wellbeing services to education and coaching grants—protecting members throughout their careers and lives, making its role vital to the sport's ecosystem.

BEST PRODUCT OR SERVICE

IMAAN ACTIVE

Imaan Active redefines modest activewear and swimwear, empowering Muslim women to embrace sport with confidence and style. Founded by Misbah, a Forbes 30 Under 30 honoree, the brand introduced the world's first Modest Hiking Collection in 2025, offering functional options for the outdoors. Imaan Active's innovative Modest Swimwear sets new performance standards, inspiring women to move boldly without compromising their faith.

MUSLIM FRIENDLY EMPLOYERS

Muslim Friendly Employers (MFE) fosters inclusive environments for Muslim employees and athletes. Nominated for Best Product or Service, MFE partners with organizations like the LTA to accommodate religious needs (prayer spaces, flexible scheduling). MFE's commitment is exemplified by facilitating a dedicated prayer room at the Bradford City FC Community Hub, setting a benchmark for practical inclusivity.

SUNNA SUPPLEMENTS

Sunna Supplements' mission is to make Halal wellness simple, trusted, and accessible. Founder Hamza Hanif reformed the industry by introducing clean, Halal-certified products for underserved Muslim consumers. The brand adheres to a strict "Halal 1st" standard, ensuring quality control and gaining over 100,000 customers. Offering a diverse range, Sunna Supplements empowers consumers to pursue health goals without compromise.

In partnership with the Muslim Sports Foundation (MSF), we've developed the **Mindful Sunnah campaign**. Together, we're raising awareness of mental, physical, and spiritual wellbeing, and reducing mental health stigma in Muslim communities.

MSF and Mind survey findings of 1200 respondents in 2025 found that:

78% thought that mental health is still a taboo in their community.

91% recognised that sport and physical activity positively impact mental wellbeing.

To find out more, scan the QR code or visit:
mind.org.uk/sport

CLUB/ORGANISATION OF THE YEAR

ASRA CLUB

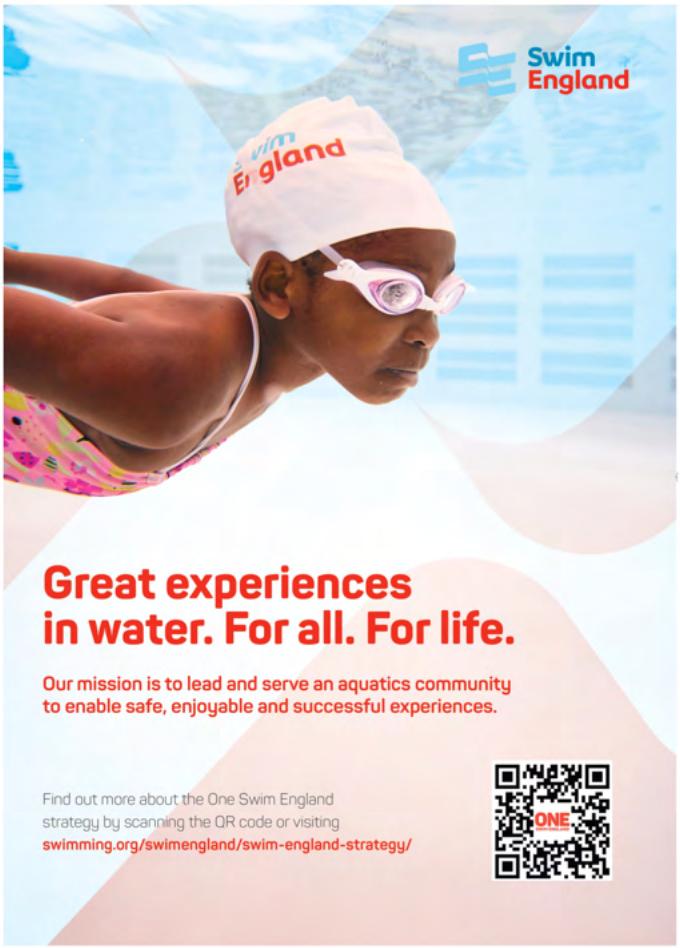
ASRA Club is a sports organisation and community space focused on empowering Muslim women through movement, wellness, and sisterhood. With a mission to reimagine the inner athlete, ASRA nurtures safe spaces to support spiritual and physical wellbeing. Through London and Banjul race programmes, inter-generational walks, and school initiatives, ASRA Club has successfully empowered a vibrant community of over 5,000 women across the UK, The Gambia, and beyond.

AURA MMA

Aura MMA, based in Birmingham, was established by friends dedicated to spreading the martial arts lifestyle while nurturing physical, spiritual, and educational development within the community. Aura delivers extensive charitable programmes, supporting children's hospitals, food banks, and masajid. Their comprehensive offerings include youth MMA, free Quran classes, GCSE support, and specialized women's classes. Beyond competitive success, Aura embodies excellence and community service, utilizing martial arts to drive positive social change.

THE PEEL PROJECT

The Peel Project is Hull's first Muslim-led community and youth organisation, founded during the pandemic to address the lack of culturally appropriate activities. Engaging over 1,000 children and young people, it has become a cornerstone of community recovery. Initiatives include football, jiu-jitsu, a women's gym, and ladies-only swimming. The Project now proudly operates five FA-affiliated football teams and has produced national medal-winning athletes. Driven by inclusion and faith-inspired values, The Peel Project redefines grassroots sport by creating safe, empowering spaces.



COMMUNITY INITIATIVE

EverGive

AMINAH ACTIVE CIC

Aminah Active CIC is a diverse and inclusive health, wellness, and fitness club for women based in Loughborough. Founded in 2021 by Samin Mughal, the club works to combat post-COVID social isolation and improve physical and mental health. Aminah Active has since empowered countless women and families through weekly activities, youth programs, and active retreats in the Peak and Lake Districts, successfully connecting the Muslim community with the great outdoors and boosting their confidence in nature.

ANSAR MADRASSA FOOTBALL LEAGUE

The Ansar Madrassa Football League (AMFL) is a Birmingham-based youth football organisation built on the belief that sport, guided by faith and community, is a powerful tool for transformation. Established in 2021, the AMFL provides structured and competitive football access for approximately 500 children from predominantly Muslim and ethnic minority backgrounds. Now in its fourth season, the league comprises 10 member organisations and 29 teams across four age groups, successfully enabling hundreds of young individuals to participate in organised sport.

EVOLVE CYCLING NETWORK

Evolve Cycling Network is a community-led organisation founded in 2020 to make cycling accessible for Muslim women and young people. Growing rapidly to over 300 women and 60 youth riders, Evolve champions representation in a sport long dominated by white men by designing modest kit and running inclusive coaching programmes. Guided by British Cycling-qualified female coaches, Evolve empowers riders of all ages—from leading 80 women in sportives to taking a youth team to the London Youth Games—redefining who belongs in cycling.

DISABILITY ALLY

PLAS Y BRENIN

360 ACTIVE

360 Active, founded in 2019 by Haseeb and Sophie Khan, combines Haseeb's 20+ years in PE with Sophie's business and child-focused expertise. The club offers inclusive football for ages 3-16, supporting all abilities, including SEND. Their holiday clubs host 100+ children daily, while young leaders volunteer and progress to coaching roles. Recognised for its welcoming, faith-based ethos, 360 Active is celebrated by families as "a true 360 family," fostering community, growth, and opportunity.

MAKE CHANGE BIRMINGHAM

Make Change Birmingham, operating since 2016, is an inclusive sports and community organisation. It delivers adaptive programmes that break barriers, reduce isolation, and raise awareness, ensuring everyone - regardless of disability, mental health, or personal challenges - can participate. The organisation fosters wellbeing, development, and connection, creating opportunities for people to thrive, enjoy sport, and experience the belief that anything is possible.

SUNNAH SPORTS COMMUNITY CIC

Sunnah Sports Community CIC has spent over a decade promoting physical, mental, and spiritual wellbeing through sports inspired by Islamic principles. Creating inclusive spaces, it offers youth development, fencing, archery, tennis, and outdoor activities to build confidence, teamwork, and personal growth. Committed to mentoring, volunteering, and outreach, Sunnah Sports empowers individuals, strengthens communities, and inspires positive change by blending faith-based values with active, healthy lifestyles.

DISABILITY SPORTS

AYMAN HAFIZ

Ayman Hafiz is a UK blind-footballer selected for the England Blind Women squad for the inaugural 2023 IBSA World Games World Championships. Diagnosed with visual impairment at 14, she adapted by joining Manchester City's visually-impaired team before achieving international status. Combining sport and psychology studies, Ayman inspires visually impaired and disabled Muslims. She also helped establish the first prayer room at St George's Park, blazing a trail for inclusion.

DR JUSTIN GRIFFITHS

Dr Justin Griffiths discovered wheelchair rugby after a promising schoolboy career was ended by injury and a Muscular Dystrophy diagnosis. He played for Cardiff Blues, Ospreys, and Endeavour, and founded both the Welsh national wheelchair rugby 5s team and the Vale of Glamorgan Rams. Despite daily health challenges, Dr Griffiths works globally to develop the sport, supporting initiatives in Uganda and Kenya, inspired by the transformative impact wheelchair rugby has on participants' lives.

SUMMER WAHEED

Summer Waheed is a resilient and humble British Pakistani Muslim athlete, advocating for mental health, neurodiversity, and SEND inclusion. A member of the GB Para Taekwondo Poomsae Squad, she has represented GB at European and World Championships, winning gold in Bahrain 2024 and retaining her European title in 2025. Passionate about accessibility, Summer uses her lived experience to inspire others, raise awareness, and make Taekwondo inclusive for those with Autism and learning disabilities.

FEMALE ELITE SPORTS ATHLETE OF THE YEAR

ACTION FOR HUMANITY

KHADIJAH MELLAH

Khadijah Mellah made history at 18 as the first hijab-wearing jockey to win a British horse race, claiming the prestigious Magnolia Cup at Goodwood in 2019. Rising from Brixton's Ebony Horse Club, she went on to co-found the Riding A Dream Academy, championing inclusion and representation in equestrian sports. A Mechanical Engineering graduate and award-winning advocate, Khadijah empowers young people to gain confidence, access, and opportunity in both sport and education.

MARIAM MAHMOOD

Mariam Mahmood joined Wrexham AFC Women in summer 2025 as the club's first British-Pakistani player, arriving after excelling with over 80 games for West Bromwich Albion Women and top-scoring in the 2022/23 season. She made an immediate impact at Wrexham with two goals on debut. Furthermore, Mariam scored twice for the Pakistan national team during the 2025 AFC Women's Asian Cup qualifiers, serving as a powerful and visible role model for British South Asian women in professional sports.

RAMLA ALI

Ramla Ali is a Somali-British professional boxer who made history as the first Muslim woman to win an English amateur title. She later became the first boxer to represent Somalia at the Olympic Games. Beyond her professional career, Ramla uses her profile as an award-winning advocate for inclusion and representation. She founded Sisters Club, a non-profit initiative providing free, female-only self-defense classes to empower women and promote community confidence through sport.

MALE ELITE SPORTS ATHLETE OF THE YEAR

DJED SPENCE

Djed Spence is an English professional football full-back currently contracted to Tottenham Hotspur. Making history as the first Muslim player for the England national team, Spence gained significant prominence during his successful loan spell at Nottingham Forest in the 2021/22 season. His dynamic performance was crucial in helping the club achieve promotion to the Premier League. Known for his electrifying pace and technical skill, Spence received his well-deserved first senior England cap in September 2025.

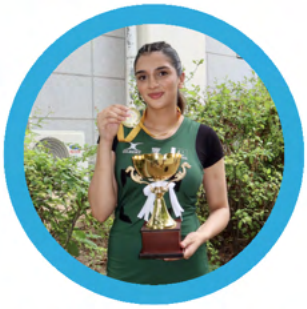
HAIDER KHAN

Haider Khan, 26, from Oldham, is recognized as the highest-ranked British-Pakistani MMA fighter competing globally. His athletic background includes a career as a professional rugby league player, from which he derives his explosive strength and unwavering resilience in the cage. Known for his composed, pressure-based style, Haider remains undefeated in the Professional Fighters League (PFL), having won both of his bouts convincingly. He is rapidly emerging as one of the division's fastest-rising and most exciting contenders on the global stage.

SHOAIB BASHIR

Shoaib Bashir is a talented off-spin bowler representing Somerset County Cricket Club and England national cricket team. Rising rapidly since his first-class debut in 2023, he made his Test debut in February 2024. Standing 6′4″, Bashir leverages bounce and control - in 2024 he became one of England's leading wicket-takers, earning multiple five-wicket hauls. Known for his calm temperament and skilful spin, he's viewed as a rising star in English cricket.

FEMALE RISING STAR



ALISHA AMER NAVEED

Alisha Amer Naveed, was vice-captain of the Pakistan National Netball Team, leading them to an undefeated Plate Division win at the Asian Youth Championships in South Korea. Pursuing Sport Science in Scotland, she coaches netball and empowers young Muslim girls, fostering confidence, skills, and self-belief. Through her achievements, leadership, and community impact, Alisha continues to inspire and serve as a role model for the next generation of athletes.

KENZA HUSSAIN

Kenza, 13, is a three-time world champion in martial arts. In under three years, she has won multiple regional and British titles and competed for Team England at the WMAC and WKU World Championships in Germany, securing two world titles, two silvers, and three bronzes. Her rapid rise demonstrates exceptional talent, dedication, and potential, with even greater achievements anticipated in the years ahead, Insha'Allah.

MEHEK KHALIL

Mehek Khalil, 18, is a Pakistani athlete, actress, and trailblazer in women's sport. A two-time international boxing champion and national titleholder, she aims for the 2028 Olympics and a professional career. Also, a footballer for Oldham Athletic Women, Mehek inspires South Asian women through her achievements, media appearances, and her platform and merchandise line, "One Woman, One Fight, One Legacy," empowering others to break barriers and pursue their dreams fearlessly.

MALE RISING STAR

NATIONAL CARE CONSORTIUM
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AARON SARWAR

Aaron Sarwar is a full-time elite boxer representing Scotland, a highly successful 2x British and 4x National Champion, he has competed in 51 fights across Europe and Argentina, winning multiple international titles. Aaron has been recognized locally with East Ayrshire Youth and Sports Council awards, showcasing his skill, dedication, and remarkable international success in boxing at just three years into his competitive career.

MUHAYMEN MAJEED

Muhaymen Majeed is a top-order batsman representing Scotland at multiple levels, including the U19 World Cup and Scotland A. Playing professionally across Scotland, England, and Pakistan, he coaches through Scot Pro Cricket. Muhaymen combines sporting excellence with community commitment, mentorship, leadership, demonstrating a passion for uplifting the next generation through cricket.

MUSA HUSSAIN

Musa Hussain is the UK's first Muslim event rider. Born in Manchester and raised in New Zealand and Yorkshire, he won the 2024 Young Rider 2-star at Bishop Burton International Horse Trials and aims for 4-star competitions. Through his achievements and Instagram (@themuslimhorseman), Musa champions his Muslim identity and actively inspires others from all backgrounds to engage with the equestrian sport.

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FEMALE SPORTS COACH OF THE YEAR

HAMARA

AISHAH BILAL

At just 18, Aishah has built an impressive sporting pathway, progressing from playing football to coaching at 15. She has coached multi-sports in Qatar, gained global experience, and now works with Fulham alongside her studies. Currently attending UCFB, a football-specific university, Aishah is committed to developing her skills, learning from professional environments, and working towards a full-time coaching career in elite football.

KHADEEJA SALEH

Khadeeja has volunteered as a coach at CKI School of Martial Arts for over 20 years, since age 14, alongside full-time work at Coleman Primary School. Committing over 20 volunteer hours weekly, she uses martial arts to promote wellbeing, inclusion and positive life pathways. Helping build CKI into a nationally recognised club with over 465 female members, Khadeeja leads with humility, dedication and community service, inspiring people from all backgrounds to thrive.

YASMIN HUSSAIN

Football has always been central to Yasmin's life. Forced to stop at 13 due to lack of safe spaces, she later chose to be the change. Starting with an FA Level 1 course, Yasmin became a champion for equality in football. As an FA Community Champion and Female Development Officer, she has mentored 60+ coaches and now inspires over 120 girls weekly through safe, inclusive football programmes.

MALE SPORTS COACH OF THE YEAR

BILAL MASOOD

Coach Billy (Bilal Masood), founder of Futtymania FC, is a dedicated community coach using football to inspire unity, discipline and positive change. What began as small sessions has grown into a thriving club welcoming children from all backgrounds. Beyond coaching, he mentors young people, leads charity initiatives and strengthens community bonds, creating a family-centred club where players feel supported, empowered and inspired both on and off the pitch.

JEHAD SHAMIS

Jehad Shamis founded Archery for All in 2002 and has dedicated over 20 years to widening access to archery while reviving traditional and horseback styles in the UK. A Level 2 coach and IHAA judge, he teaches in schools, delivers Archery GCSEs, runs youth camps and mentors across communities. Internationally active and featured by the BBC, Jehad has inspired thousands, using archery to build confidence, character, heritage and lifelong opportunity.

ZIYAAD RAWAT

Ziyaad Rawat, founder of ZR Training in Dewsbury, inspires children through sport. Growing from eight participants to over 100 weekly, his inclusive football and multi-sports sessions for ages 2–12 ensure every child feels valued. Ziyaad's girls-only sessions promote confidence and activity. A dedicated primary school teacher, he brings teamwork, respect, and growth to both classroom and community, making a lasting difference to young people and families across Kirklees.

FEMALE SPORTS PERSONALITY OF THE YEAR

HUMERA KHAN

Humera Khan is founder and CEO of Happy Healthy You Bradford & Beyond, a multi-award-winning community organisation improving lives through health, fitness and wellbeing. Inspired by her own journey, she supports diverse communities to overcome barriers to physical activity and mental health support. Working across mosques, gurdwaras, churches and community venues, Humera creates safe, culturally sensitive spaces that help people connect, thrive and believe positive change is possible.

JAMILA BI

Jamila Bi's journey into archery began due to barriers she faced as a Muslim woman, inspiring her to make the sport accessible, particularly for women. Seeing archery as a Sunnah rooted in faith, she founded Crescent Archers, a national network expanding access. It is the UK's only club offering dedicated female-only sessions. Jamila has introduced archery to over 10,000 people, trained 100+ instructors, and revived thumb-draw techniques while championing inclusion, wellbeing, and community empowerment across the UK.

RASHIDA SALLOO

Rashida Salloo is a respected leader in health equity, empowering Muslim and South Asian communities through sport and wellbeing. As Founder and Director of Ready Steady Active, she delivers faith-sensitive programmes addressing health inequalities and inspiring active lifestyles. Nationally recognised for her impact, Rashida also serves as Associate Non-Executive Director at Mid Yorkshire NHS Teaching Trust and a Board member of Yorkshire Sport Foundation, advancing inclusive public health and community engagement.

MALE SPORTS PERSONALITY OF THE YEAR

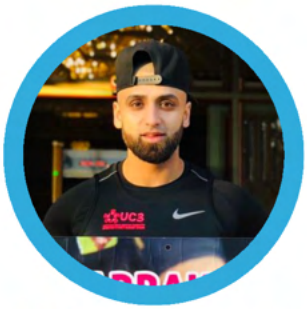
MERCY TO HUMANITY

AMIR MALIK

Amir Malik is Founder and CEO of the Muslim Golf Association, the world's first organisation transforming golf through faith, inclusion and community. Under his leadership, over 4,000 Muslim women and children have been introduced to golf, alongside global initiatives like The Race to Makkah. Recognised by England Golf and The R&A, and featured internationally, Amir continues championing golf as a bridge between cultures, identity and faith.

FARAKH AJAIB

Farakh Ajaib is a professional snooker player, known for his skill, focus, and dedication to the sport. He was the inaugural East Lancashire Snooker Champion in 2018. Twice he has secured a two-year Tour Card via Q School. He narrowly lost to Judd Trump at the 2022 European Masters in the deciding frame. In 2025, Ajaib reached the last-32 of the Saudi Arabia Snooker Masters and defeated Zhang Anda 5-4 at the Xi'an Grand Prix.



YASAR MOHAMMED

An inspirational leader, Yasar has dedicated himself to creating profound positive change, influencing communities both locally and on a global scale. Driven by his commitment to service, he consistently empowers individuals across all age groups through specialized coaching and mentorship, actively fostering growth and resilience. His initiatives are focused on personal and community development, successfully transforming countless lives. Yasar's dedication has earned him recognition through numerous accolades and continues to inspire others through the lasting impact of his work.

LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT

GLOBAL EHSAN RELIEF

ANWAR KHATTAK BEM

Anwar Khattak BEM is the founder of the BYSA, a dedicated leader who has devoted over 25 years to serving his community through the voluntary sector. Driven by a deep commitment to empowering young people, Anwar has overseen the delivery of a wide range of impactful programmes, including multi-sports sessions, mentoring, educational trips, and pathways into employment. His work has helped countless young people develop confidence, skills, and direction, often at the moments they needed it most. Anwar's hands-on leadership and unwavering belief in youth potential have changed lives and opened opportunities, creating lasting, positive change in his community.

MASJID/MADRASSAH OF THE YEAR

ISLAMIC RELIEF

DAR UL-ISRA CARDIFF

Dar Ul-Isra (DUI) is a key Muslim Educational and Welfare Centre in Cardiff, established in 1989. Beyond its religious and educational services, DUI is committed to health and Amateur Sport. The centre actively runs sports clubs, including football, cycling, wrestling, and martial arts classes for both men and women. DUI also played a role in establishing Haya Fitness, Wales' first gym for Muslim women. It provides a unique, faith-centered space for the community to engage in physical activities and improve wellbeing.

MASJID NUR THE LUX MOSQUE

Masjid Nur - The Lux Mosque is dedicated to building stronger, more vibrant, and connected communities by championing the wellbeing and future of the people it serves. Driven by Muslim ethos, the mosque actively tackles disadvantage and exclusion, providing safe spaces and provisions for essential care and support. Services range widely, including mentoring, counselling, education, employment support, and crucial sports and social activities. Masjid Nur is committed to granting the community access to the tools they need to succeed, proving it is "Not just another mosque!"

MINHAJ MUSLIMS GENERATIONS

Minhaj Muslim Generations (MMG) is a UK-wide youth organisation dedicated to nurturing the spiritual, social, and physical development of young British Muslims. Alongside faith-based learning and leadership training, MMG actively promotes social engagement and sports activities to build confidence, discipline, and unity among its members. With established teams across major cities—including Glasgow, Leeds, Birmingham, and London—MMG provides a vibrant, positive environment where young Muslims can grow, connect, and contribute positively to their communities across the country.

OVERSEAS AWARD

USI Money

PAKISTAN NETBALL ACADEMY

Pakistan Netball Academy (PNA) has established a powerful pathway for players to excel in the UK, focusing on talent development and high-performance excellence. Under CEO Haroona Zaman (also Vice President of the Pakistan Netball Federation), the Academy successfully bridges the gap between local and international opportunities, empowering athletes to represent Pakistan's National Teams. The year 2025 marked a historic milestone when the national team achieved Gold in the Plate Division for the first time ever. This groundbreaking victory celebrates Pakistan's progress toward world ranking recognition, inspiring the next generation and championing the empowerment of women in sport.

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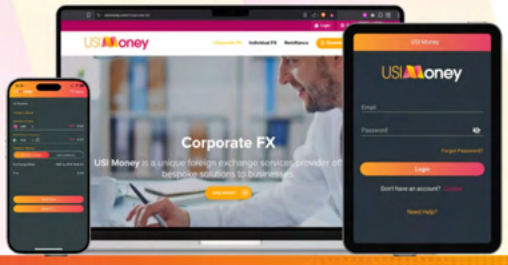

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SPORTS JOURNALISM

FADUMO OLOW

Sky Sports' Fadumo Olow is an important, trailblazing figure in sports media. Her impact stems from her powerful presence as a prominent Black journalist, providing critical insight and analysis. Her courageous reporting on sensitive subjects such as racism and misogyny directly helps to break down existing barriers. Olow utilizes her platform to inspire the new generation and hold the industry accountable, advocating for a more inclusive sporting world.

RUQAYYAH FOMBO

Ruqayyah Fombo is an educator and an emerging voice in sports media, bringing 14 years of youth engagement experience, including work at Premier League clubs, to her role. She is dedicated to amplifying diverse narratives by producing content focused on culture, faith, and representation. As an advocate for minorities, she drives the push for a more inclusive and representative sporting landscape through the BCOMS Media Academy and her own platform.

SHERRY ABBASI

Sherry Abbasi has built a distinguished and highly respected career in boxing media since 2014. Recognized as a prominent voice, he has provided global coverage of super fights and offered insightful analysis to premier platforms like Boxing News and Fight Hub TV. His influence spans contributions to British Muslim TV and frequent roles as an international event host, solidifying his deep impact on the sport.

TEAM OF THE YEAR

Inspire Capital SPORTS

FENCING WARRIORS

Fencing Warriors started as a small team of Asian Muslim women bound by their love of fencing. Their growth has established a group characterized by discipline, perseverance, and collective strength. Their active presence successfully challenges traditional norms and creates a welcoming space for all athletes. By embodying their faith through resilience and focus, they inspire significant change and prove that unity and belief can challenge every barrier.

FUTTYMANIA

Futtymania has grown from a small coaching group into a vibrant, community-driven football club. It unites children from diverse backgrounds, providing a positive environment where they develop through competitive teams, weekly training, and nationwide tournaments. With a core philosophy of "One Team, One Family," Futtymania uses football to instil discipline, confidence, and unity. Its expansion into creative leagues and charity projects has helped uplift the entire community.

SISTERHOOD FC

Sisterhood FC is a groundbreaking football club creating a safe, inclusive space for Muslim women to play the sport they love. By providing a culturally sensitive environment where players can thrive without barriers, the club empowers its members, fostering confidence, community, and physical activity. Its profound impact in challenging stereotypes and promoting inclusion in football makes Sisterhood FC a truly inspirational project.

VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR

Akhirah Foundation

JONIR ALI

Jonir Ali, a founding member of Cross Flatts FC, has selflessly dedicated himself to building a lifeline for his diverse community. His quiet leadership provides football, mentoring, and opportunity for over 70 individuals. By raising over £15,000 for humanitarian causes and organizing local clean-ups, he has demonstrated how sport can unite cultures and inspire purpose, creating profound change across communities.

KHADIJA PATEL

Khadija Patel, founder of KRIMMZ Girls Youth Club, has championed inclusion and created safe, culturally sensitive sporting spaces for girls and women in Bolton since 2009. She utilizes activities from cycling to cricket as tools for empowerment and community cohesion. Her passionate leadership has helped remove barriers and build confidence, ensuring that everyone in her community has the chance to belong and thrive through sport.

RAYYAN GANI

Rayyan Gani is a dedicated volunteer and his passion for football and community shines through. Through consistent mentoring, coaching, and organising tournaments, he has created a safe, inclusive space for young people from diverse backgrounds to thrive. Rayyan's reliable leadership and faith-inspired commitment have made him a trusted role model, embodying the spirit of service and delivering a positive community impact.

WAYS YOU CAN SUPPORT MUSLIM SPORTS FOUNDATION

You can support Muslim Sports Foundation throughout the year in a variety of ways. While the Awards are one way to get involved, other options include:

Support a local community project

Provide financial or investment support

Become an MSF partner

Sponsor an award in 2026

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MERCY TO HUMANITY

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BIMA
BRITISH ISLAMIC MEDICAL ASSOCIATION

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