

ISCA Awards 2025: Global IRTS

Apply here for your chance to win a cash award and an international trip where you can showcase your work and learn more!

ISCA Awards 2025: Global IRTS (Integration of Refugees Through Sport)

Apply here for your chance to win a cash award and a international trip where you can showcase your work and learn more!

1. We want to celebrate YOUR achievements – and you should, too!

Physical activity and sport for all is a fundamental right of every human being; and sport can be an effective tool for integration of refugees in their host communities.

We call this Integration of Refugees through Sport (IRTS), and we have built an international platform to enhance capacities, collaboration, visibility and support for this: <https://irts.isca.org/>

We want to celebrate your work in IRTS!

In 2021, ISCA awarded organisations and individuals who have delivered good practices in Integration of Refugees Through Sport (IRTS) in four categories IRTS Role Model (citizens' choice); IRTS cross-sector partnership; IRTS innovation during Covid-19 and Integration of women and girl refugees through sport. Read more [here](#).

We saw there was so much great work done in the sector, so we are here for round two!

This year we want to awards the good practices in the following four categories:

- IRTS Role Model (citizens' choice)**
- IRTS & Community**
- IRTS & Mental Health**
- Refugee-led initiatives**

2. Why apply?

Gain visibility and recognition for your achievements, and win a trip to Copenhagen

- All eligible applicants will have their initiatives listed on the ISCA Awards webpage.

- All shortlisted finalists (3 from each award category) will have a description of their initiative on the webpage.
- All shortlisted finalists will receive support from ISCA in their PR efforts to promote their awards and nominations.
- All shortlisted finalists will be awarded a trip to Copenhagen, Denmark to showcase their work on the global stage, and be announced as winners at ISCA's [**MOVE Congress 2025 29-31 October 2025**](#) (with flight, hotel and fee covered*).

* Flight, accommodation and event participation at the MOVE Congress 2025 covered by ISCA: For EU travels up to 300 € and outside of EU up to 1000 € of travel contribution to their travel costs, with their accommodation (2 nights with one or two additional nights IF needed due to travel) and event participation fully covered)

Win a cash prize

The winner from each category will receive a cash prize of 3000 euro

Professional development opportunity

During MOVE Congress you get inspired by following different panel discussions, listening engaging Keynote speakers and attend at various workshops. Attending MOVE Congress will give you a unique opportunity for high quality networking.

This is a call for applications from organisations and individuals that have delivered good practices in IRTS activities. We have designed a novel application process that makes it easy for you to apply and enables you to focus on your strengths.

Our jury will select three shortlisted candidates in each of the four categories. In the Role Model award, the winner among the shortlisted candidates will be found through online citizen voting. In the other three categories, the jury will select the final winner.

3. How many awards are on offer?

ISCA Awards 2025 will be presented in four categories in 2025:

- **IRTS Role model (citizens' choice)**
This category shines a spotlight on individuals whose inspiring leadership and dedication have created meaningful change in the world of inclusion through sport and recreation. These role models demonstrate the power of one person's vision to uplift communities and make a lasting impact on those who need it most.
- **IRTS & Community**
Celebrating initiatives that bring people together, this category honours projects that use sports and physical activity to strengthen bonds, foster

belonging, and create inclusive spaces where everyone feels valued. It's about the heart of community – collaboration, compassion, and shared joy.

- **IRTS & Mental Health**

This category recognizes programs that use sports and physical activity to support mental well-being, build resilience, and empower participants to thrive. These initiatives emphasize the vital role of movement in fostering balanced and healthier lives.

- **Refugee-led initiatives**

This category celebrates the courage and creativity of refugees who lead initiatives to rebuild lives and foster inclusion through sport. Their work demonstrates resilience and the ability to create new opportunities for themselves and their communities, proving that sport is a universal language of hope and connection.

4. Eligibility and award criteria

Eligibility criteria

To be eligible for evaluation by the jury, the applicants must fulfil the following criteria:

- Applications are open to organisations, individuals and institutions worldwide. They can be from the local, national or international level.
- Any entity or individual may apply – from NGOs, public sector, private sector, education etc.
- The application must be submitted in English with the completed data required, by the stated deadline. You can use e.g. [Google Translate](#) if needed.

Assessment questions

If an applicant has fulfilled the eligibility criteria, the jury will assess the applications. An application must showcase a good practice in one of the four award categories. An applicant can apply in more than one category but can only be shortlisted for one award. In the application form, we invite the applicants to touch upon the following questions:

- Who are you/your organisation?
- What do you want to achieve?
- What is the approach/work/activities you deliver?
- How are refugees and the local community involved in the design and implementation of activities?
- Who are your partners?
- What barriers have you overcome?

- What makes your work unique?
- What is the impact you have made?
- How do you ensure visibility and awareness to your project?

For the Role Model category, the nominating person will answer the questions on behalf of the nominee. It is also allowed to nominate yourself.

- Describe the outstanding work and achievements of the nominee in IRTS.
- How has the nominee made a significant impact on the lives of others through their initiatives or activities?
- What makes the nominee's work unique and deserving of recognition?
- How has the nominee demonstrated leadership, dedication, and innovation in the field of IRTS?

We have created a novel process for applying and evaluating submissions. This means that applicants can describe their work in their own way and focus on their strengths. Applicants decide how much information they deem necessary to have their work assessed, and they can provide links to pictures, videos and websites.

5. Application and selection process

1. **Application Form.** Please complete your application by using this form and submit it no later than **25 June 2025**. The number of characters for the summary is maximum 800 characters and the full description cannot exceed 5000 characters. But consider if you can make a concise and compelling description in less! You may provide up to 5 links to relevant videos, pictures and websites. Consider how you can best persuade the jury and make use of your existing materials.
2. **Notification from ISCA.** You will receive a confirmation e-mail when your application is submitted, and you will be notified of the results of the application and selection process.
3. **Need help or advice?** If you have any questions regarding this form or your application, please contact Liina Sepp ls@isca-web.org
4. **Selection:**
 - a. All eligible applications will be assessed by the jury and 3 shortlisted applications per category will be announced on **15 September 2025**.
 - b. The jury will select 3 winners (1 per category except for the Role Model category) and announce them at the award show on **29 October 2025 in Copenhagen**.

- c. **The people's choice award** voting will start among all shortlisted applications online on **15 September 2025** and will run until **15 October 2025**. The winner will also be announced on **29 October 2025**.
5. **Awards ceremony:**
 All 12 shortlisted candidates be invited to the ISCA Global IRTS Awards 2025 celebration in Copenhagen on **29 October 2025**. They will have their flight*, accommodation and event participation at the MOVE Congress 2025 covered by ISCA.

6. Evaluation process

- ISCA's secretariat will assess the eligibility of the applications based on the eligibility criteria outlined above.
- A jury will evaluate the remaining applications. They evaluate based on their expertise and the provided information and score each application. Final winners are selected after jury deliberations.
- The "Citizens Choice" voting online will determine the winner among the shortlisted candidates in the Role Model category.

7. Timeline

Date	Action
5 May 2025	Call for applications opens
25 June 2025	Deadline for submission of applications
15 July	Eligible applicants published on Website
15 September 2025	Announcement of the shortlisted candidates;
15 September 2025	Public voting for Role model starts
15 October 2025	Public voting closes
29 October 2025	ISCA Awards 2025 celebration in Copenhagen

8. Contact

If you would like more information about the ISCA Awards 2021, please contact Liina Sepp ls@isca-web.org

9. About ISCA

The International Sport and Culture Association (ISCA) is a non-governmental and not-for-profit umbrella association open to organisations working within the field of sport for all, recreational sport and physical activity. Established in 1995, ISCA now has 260 member organisations from 89 countries on five continents.

ISCA's vision is 'A world of physically active citizens in vibrant civil societies' and our mission is to 'Empower organisations worldwide to enable citizens to enjoy their human right to move'.

ISCA's tagline is MOVING PEOPLE. This means we empower physical activity stakeholders, starting with our members, to get more people active. We do this by creating opportunities for our members and partners to collaborate across sectors on projects, professional development training and new resources that strengthen their capacities and broaden their impact.