



2021

Business Woman of the Year Awards Submission Guide

Congratulations

This Submission Guide is for the reference of the nominees for the Sunshine Coast Business Woman's Network (SCBWN) Business Woman of the Year Awards. These Awards are designed as a true celebration of the enormous contribution Nominees make to the Sunshine Coast business community.

This Submission Guide provides you with the information you need to enter these prestigious Awards.

Submissions are due by 11:59pm on Wednesday 2nd June 2021.

Winners of each Category receives:

- a trophy and certificate, as well as their names added to the prestigious list of names on the perpetual trophy
- 12 months complimentary SCBWN Membership
- Choice of complimentary attendance at four (4) of the SCBWN breakfast, lunch or cocktail monthly events (there are nine (9) events held throughout the year for the winner to choose from)
- One (1) ticket to the 2022 Purple Room event
- One (1) ticket to the 2022 Awards Gala event

Past winners have told stories of their increased profile within the business community, enhanced business opportunities and profitability rises as a direct result of winning these Awards.

We wish to make this an enjoyable and friendly experience that will allow you to reflect on your business story and celebrate your achievements to date.

Best of luck!

Business Woman of the Year Awards Submission Guide

Guide Contents

Step One: Check you are eligible to enter	2
Step Two: Understand the Awards Process.....	3
Step Three: Choose your Category.....	5
Step Four: Prepare and collate your Submission	6
Contact Information	9

Step One: Check you are eligible to enter

You are eligible to enter if you:

- Are a female who is living in Australia and is either an Australian citizen or has Australian residency status; and,
- Have been associated with the nominated business, located within the boundaries of the Sunshine Coast Council or the Noosa Council, **since 1st August 2020**; and,
- Agree to the Terms and Conditions of Entry for the SCBWN Business Woman of the Year Awards as found on the SCBWN website; and,

AND you are NOT:

- an employee, or on the Executive Committee of, the SCBWN; or
- employee or business owner of a Sponsor of the SCBWN Business Woman of the Year Awards *for the specific category* for which you are entering; or
- a winner of the category you are proposing to apply for this year; or
- won Outstanding Business Woman (for any year).

Business Woman of the Year Awards Submission Guide

Step Two: Understand the Awards Process

There are a number of key dates and steps to the Awards Process that you can prepare yourself for now. We encourage you to put these key dates into your diary as soon as possible.

Stage	Key Dates	Your Actions
RSVP and attend a Zoom Workshop (Not mandatory)	Thursday 13th May at 5.30pm – 6.30pm This Workshop will assist you in your Submission process and provide a forum for your questions to be answered. Past applicants have informed us that this Workshop is valuable to their submission process.	RSVP to judge@scbwn.org.au by Monday 10 th May. A link to the workshop will be provided upon receipt of your RSVP.
Submission Due Date	Wednesday 2nd June 11:59pm Late Submissions are not accepted. Submissions that have started but not be formally submitted will not be included in the Judging process.	You must have formally submitted by this time.
Become a Finalist	By Wednesday 16th June You will be advised if you have become a Finalist by the Judging Chair and the results will also be published on SCBWN Website, SCBWN social media platforms and in My Weekly Preview.	<i>Celebrate!</i>
Update your Finalist Profile online	Upon announcement of your Finalist status we will prompt you to login to your original submission and answer questions for our publicity purposes.	Follow the prompts provided to you to complete your online bio.
Attend an official photo shoot and complete a short media questionnaire	My Weekly Preview will contact you to organise a time for a professional Head Shot photo shoot at their compliments. This head shot will be utilised for our 2021 Awards Process.	Schedule a 15-minute photo shoot with My Weekly Preview. They will contact you. Your Photo and Media Questionnaire will be used in My Weekly Preview and on the SCBWN Facebook page and website.
Attend a formal interview	When we contact you to advise that you have become a Finalist, we will also schedule your 30 minute interview on the dates of Tuesday 13th, Wednesday 14th or Thursday 15th July.	Place a note in your diaries now that you may be required for an interview on these dates if you become a Finalist.

Business Woman of the Year Awards Submission Guide

Stage	Key Dates	Your Actions
<p>Attend the Purple Room Event</p>	<p>Wednesday 28th July at 5.30pm The Event Centre, 20 Minchinton Street, Caloundra.</p>	<p>An invitation will be forwarded to you by the SCBWN for your RSVP.</p> <p>Meet the other Finalists, Current Business Woman of the Year Winners and Sponsors. We will answer all of your questions about the Gala Award Ceremony.</p>
<p>Attend the Gala Awards Ceremony</p>	<p>Saturday 7th August 2021 from 6pm The Event Centre, 20 Minchinton Street, Caloundra.</p>	<p>The process culminates on this Gala evening with the Category winners' announcement. Invite your friends and family, dress up, prepare your 2-minute acceptance speech and celebrate your achievements to date.</p>
<p>Become a Winner of your Category, Sustainable or Outstanding Business Woman of the Year</p>	<p>Winners will be announced at the Gala Awards Ceremony and will spend the twelve months post celebrating their achievements and becoming an Ambassador of the SCBWN.</p>	<p>As a winner you will be asked to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attend a minimum of four (4) SCBWN functions in 2021/2022 • Be available for your Category Sponsor for media opportunities • Deliver a short speech at a SCBWN Business Bootcamp event in February 2022 • Attend the 2022 Purple Room event • Attend the 2022 Gala Awards Ceremony to present the 2022 recipient with their Award

Business Woman of the Year Awards Submission Guide

Step Three: Choose your Category

There are four award Categories. As a Nominee you choose the Category that you would like to be judged, and are eligible for, dependent on your business situation.

Award Category	Category Guide
Young Business Woman of the Year Sponsored by Home Care Assistance Sunshine Coast	A Business Owner or Employee who is 19 – 35 years old as at 1st August 2021. A Young Business Woman can choose another Category to enter if they are eligible for that Category.
Corporate Business Woman of the Year Sponsored by The Events Centre	A Business Owner with more than five (5) full-time equivalent staff employed by the business.
Micro Small Business Woman of the Year Sponsored by University of the Sunshine Coast	A Business Owner who employees five (5) or fewer full-time equivalent staff.
Professional Business Woman of the Year Sponsored by Pacific Motor Group	An Employee who has no ownership in the business they are nominated for.

The recipient of **Sustainable Business Woman of the Year** is chosen from the above categories as the person who is most focused and active in creating a sustainable business for the future. This Category is sponsored by the Sunshine Coast Council.

The recipient of the award for the final category, the **Outstanding Business Woman of the Year Award** (sponsored by Garland Waddington) is selected from the Finalists across all categories by the Judging Chair, Written Judges and Interview Judges.

If you are unsure of your eligibility for a Category, please do not hesitate to contact the Judging Chair (judge@scbwn.org.au) for a discussion and confirmation of Category Choice.

Business Woman of the Year Awards Submission Guide

Step Four: Prepare and collate your Submission

There are three different types of Judges involved for this Award Process:

- Selection Panel – determines the Finalists from all submissions entered
- Written Judges – only sees the written submission of the Finalists and does not meet you face to face
- Interview Judges – only meets the Finalists face to face and does not see your written submission

We therefore encourage you to put your best foot forward in both the written and interview stages of judging and assume neither type of Judge knows anything about you.

Your online submission must include:

Section	Details
<p>Setting up your submission online</p>	<p>Visit the Sunshine Coast Business Women’s Network at https://scbwn.awardsplatform.com</p> <p>Login and create your user name and password on your first login</p> <p>Provide us with your:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Your full name • Your business name • The award category you are submitting for • If you are the owner of your business please also include the
<p>Tab One: Your Profile</p>	<p>To set the scene, please provide a 150 word profile about you – your industry, business and what you do.</p> <p>Your profile should include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Your name and title • Your business/company/organisation name • A brief description of what your organisation does and your current business role and responsibilities • A brief overview of your personal and business achievements • Any other information relevant to your career success <p>Please note this profile may be used for publicity purposes.</p>

Business Woman of the Year Awards Submission Guide

Section	Details
Tab Two: You	<p>Q1: How do you define and measure success, both personally and professionally?</p> <p>Q2: What is your personal point of difference, and how does it contribute to the success of the business (you own or the one you work in)?</p> <p>Q3: How do you manage to sustain yourself as an individual? Share with us your approach to your personal and professional growth, and how you build resilience and balance into your life?</p>
Tab Three: Your Business	<p>Q4: What are your three to five year business goals and how do you plan to achieve these?</p> <p>Q5: If you had to nominate five key elements of a successful business what would these be (including an outline of each and why each is necessary)?</p> <p>Q6: Share with us your values and how these align with the way you lead yourself and others to support positive social, economic and environmental impacts.</p> <p>Q7: How have you handled a difficult situation, giving an example?</p>
Tab Four: Your World	<p>Q8: How do you see your chosen industry developing over the next three to five years, and how will you plan for these changes?</p> <p>Q9: Nominate someone you see as a successful business person and describe the strengths and qualities this person demonstrates to you.</p> <p>Q10: What do you have in place, or plan to have in place, to ensure your business services /products /projects /initiatives or professional conduct, create the opportunity for greater sustainability outcomes for both your business and for the Sunshine Coast?</p>
Tab Five: Business Woman of the Year	<p>Q11: Why should you be recognised as the 2021 Sunshine Coast Business Women's Network Business Woman of the Year?</p>

Business Woman of the Year Awards Submission Guide

Section	Details
Tab Six: Brief History	Please provide a brief history of your professional career, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • organisations that you have worked with • a brief summary of your position in each organization • your professional education
Attachments	Please provide: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Three (3) business reference letters 2. Two (2) personal reference letters 3. Any certificates for qualifications or Awards that supports your submission 4. A professional photo 5. If applying for Micro Small or Corporate Business Woman, a Certificate of Registration of Company/ Business Name

You may save and exit your submission at any point.

Note: We strongly suggest you continue to check that you have maintained internet connection and save your work regularly. We have had instances of submissions being lost due to internet connection failures or the failure to save as you go.

Don't forget to officially submit your online submission by hitting the SUBMIT option prior to Wednesday 2nd June 2021 at 11:59pm.



2021

Business Woman of the Year Awards Submission Guide

Contact Information

The SCBWN is honoured to have your involvement in the 2021 Business Woman of the Year Awards. These Awards maintain their credibility in the Sunshine Coast community because of the integrity of process.

A Judging Chair is appointed to guide this process and maintain the integrity, credibility and prestige of these Awards for all past, future and current Awards holders. The 2021 Judging Chair is Michelle Hamer.

As Judging Chair, Michelle is available to answer any questions you may have and assist you throughout this exciting and rewarding process.

Other documents you may also wish to reference can be found on the SCBWN website including:

- Terms and Conditions of Entry
- Frequently Asked Questions

If you wish to contact Michelle at any point, please do not hesitate to do so.

Michelle Hamer

Judging Chair

Sunshine Coast Business Women's Network Business Woman of the Year Awards

0412 588 062

judge@scbwn.org.au