**Courage Center Award of Merit for Outstanding Leadership in Developing the Junior Division**

Each year the Junior Division recognizes one of its member organizations for its vision, leadershipand service with respect to the NWBA, the sport of wheelchair basketball and the development ofits athletes and coaches. The Courage Center Award of Merit for Outstanding Leadership inDeveloping the Junior Division is named after an organization that has truly been a leader indeveloping the sport, the division, and its athletes and coaches.With men’s and women’s (6 National Women’s Division Titles) wheelchair basketball as one of thefoundations of their sports program, the Courage Center began fielding a junior wheelchairbasketball team in the early 1980’s, prior to the official organization of the Junior Division. Sincethat time the Courage Center has been a leader in developing the Junior Division by:

* Fielding teams at every level including the Women's Rolling Timberwolves, Men’s Rolling Timberwolves, Men’s Rolling Gophers, Jr. Rolling Timberwolves - Varsity, Courage Lightning - JV, and the Rolling Rowdies – Prep.
* Hosting an annual Junior Division tournament, often acting as a Regional Qualifier for the NJWBT.
* In 2002, Courage Center hosted the FIRST National Junior Varsity Wheelchair Basketball Tournament.
* Since the origin of the NJWBT, the Jr. Rolling Timberwolves from Courage Center are one of only two teams who have qualified and competed in that national contest every year having won the coveted prize seven times in their history. The most among any team and program in the NWBA
* Courage Center's Volunteer Program recruits and trains skilled volunteer coaches who are the key to teaching these players the rules of the game and helping them develop their basketball and life skills to each person's full potential.
* Courage Center's adult and junior wheelchair basketball teams, players and coaches have traveled throughout the U.S. and abroad. Courage Center athletes and coaches have had representation on International and Paralympic teams as well as in the NWBA Hall of Fame.
* Courage Centers Sport & Recreation not only provides the opportunity to play great basketball, but promotes sportsmanship, social development, life skills, and building lifelong friendships and support systems with teammates, coaches and families. The results of this long standing program are that they are changing lives every day because of the sport of wheelchair basketball and its ability to cultivate sportsmanship, self-confidence, social skills, life skills and friendships.
* Volunteers and coaches from the Courage wheelchair basketball program have been actively involved in the Junior Division and have played key roles in the Junior Division Executive Committee, other Divisional Leadership, Committees and NWBA staff roles.

Every year the Junior Division will honor the Courage Center by presenting the Courage Center Award of Merit for Outstanding Leadership in Developing the Junior Division to an organization that embodies the characteristics of the Courage Center.

In order to nominate an organization for this award, simply fill out the Nomination Form and return it to the Junior Division Executive Committee Secretary, David Elbert (elbert@jhu.edu) no later than **Friday, March 3rd**.

The Junior Division Executive Committee will review the nomination forms and vote for the recipient of the award.

**Courage Center Award Nomination Form**

Please review the preceding page as it summarizes the accomplishments of the award’s namesake as well as the qualities that the Executive Committee will evaluate in order to choose the recipient of the award. Please keep these qualities in mind as you answer the questions in support of your nominee. The more information that you provide, the more able the panel will be to accurately and fairly choose the most deserving recipient.

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| Nominator |
| Program/Organization |  |
| Nominator |  |
| Title |  |
| Address |  |
| Address |  |
| City |  |
| State |  |
| Zip |  |
| Phone |  |
| Fax |  |
| Email |  |
| Nominee |
| Program/Organization |  |
| Nominee |  |
| Title |  |
| Address |  |
| Address |  |
| City |  |
| State |  |
| Zip |  |
| Phone |  |
| Fax |  |
| Email |  |

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| How do you know the nominee? |
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| How long has the nominee been involved with the NWBA Junior Division and the sport of wheelchair basketball? |
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| What impact has the nominee had on the program for which they are involved? The NWBA Junior Division? The sport as a whole? |
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| In reading over the accomplishments of the award’s namesake and the qualities that laid the foundation for that success, how does the nominee reflect those same qualities? |
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| Why do you think your nominee deserves to be the recipient of the award? |
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