



MEDIA RELEASE

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Embargoed until 5pm

EFL AWARDS 2018: SHORTLISTS REVEALED

Ruben Neves, Tom Cairney and Ryan Sessegnon to contest Sky Bet Championship Player of the Season

The shortlists have been revealed for the 2018 EFL Awards taking place on Sunday 15 April at the London Hilton on Park Lane. Awards will be given out across 12 categories at the star-studded event attended by players, managers, Clubs, legends of the game and media in central London.

Fulham's young star Ryan Sessegnon has been shortlisted for an impressive four awards, the 17-year-old, who has scored 14 goals in the League this season, is nominated for the Sky Bet Championship Player of the Season, EA Sports Young Player of the Season, LFE Apprentice of the Year and Football Manager Team of the Season.

Wolves' Ruben Neves is in contention for three awards with the Portuguese playmaker set to contest the Championship Player of the Season, Young Player of the Season and EFL Team of the Season. Whilst Fulham's creative midfielder Tom Cairney, who has been instrumental in Fulham's charge for the Play-Offs, is shortlisted for the Championship Player of the Season and Team of the Season.

In the flagship Player of the Season award in League One, Blackburn Rovers' highly rated attacking midfielder Bradley Dack has scored 16 goals this season to help Rovers into first spot and gain his place on the shortlist. Dack is joined by another creative midfielder, Wigan Athletic's Nick Powell, who has been a key figure in his side's charge for the Championship, the former Manchester United player has 14 goals so far this campaign. Making up the shortlist is Peterborough United's Jack Marriott, the striker is the leading goal scorer in League One with an impressive 25 goals scored in league competition.

The shortlist for the League Two Player of the Season features the League's top two goal scorers, Accrington Stanley's Billy Kee has 21 goals so far this season whilst Cheltenham Town's Mohamed Eisa is just one goal behind on 20. Wycombe Wanderers' Adebayo Akinfenwa is also shortlisted, the 35-year-old has used his physical prowess to give Wycombe Wanderers a great chance of promotion.



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All 72 EFL managers were invited to vote for their players of the season, with votes also compiled for the Championship, League One and League Two Teams of the Season (full details below). The overall EFL Team of the Season will be announced on the night of the awards.

Other awards to be announced on the night include the Realise Family Club of the Year, Checktrade Community Club of the Year, LFE Apprentice of the Year, SMG Insight Supporter of the Year, Sir Tom Finney Award and Contribution to League Football award. The Mitre Goal of the Year will also be voted for on the night.

Also announced will be players selected for a Special Recognition Award to celebrate the EFL's continued commitment to Youth Development. From 2018/19 season, all EFL Clubs will need to name at least one Club Developed player on each team sheet for any EFL League game and this award will recognise a star-studded Club Developed XI, showcasing players 'born and raised' in the EFL, as a result of the excellent work of EFL Clubs in developing some of the most talented footballers in the country.

2018 EFL AWARDS SHORTLIST

Sky Bet Championship Player of the Season*

Thomas Cairney – Fulham

Ruben Neves – Wolverhampton Wanderers

Ryan Sessegnon – Fulham

Sky Bet League One Player of the Season*

Bradley Dack – Blackburn Rovers

Jack Marriott – Peterborough United

Nick Powell – Wigan Athletic

Sky Bet League Two Player of the Season*

Adebayo Akinfenwa – Wycombe Wanderers

Mohamed Eisa – Cheltenham Town

Billy Kee – Accrington Stanley



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EA Sports Young Player of the Season*

James Maddison – Norwich City

Ruben Neves – Wolverhampton Wanderers

Ryan Sessegnon – Fulham

LFE Apprentice of the Year – Championship

Alex Hunt – Sheffield Wednesday

Danny Loader – Reading

Ryan Sessegnon – Fulham

LFE Apprentice of the Year – League One

Dru Yearwood – Southend United

Lewis Freestone – Peterborough United

Anthony Hartigan – AFC Wimbledon

LFE Apprentice of the Year – League Two

George Lloyd – Cheltenham Town

Jordan Ponticelli – Coventry City

Ben Wilmot – Stevenage

Checkatrade Community Club of the Year

North West – Blackburn Rovers

Yorkshire & North East – Middlesbrough

Midlands – Derby County

London – Charlton Athletic

South East – Portsmouth

South West & Wales – Bristol City

Sir Tom Finney and Contribution to League Football Awards

To be announced on the night



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Special Recognition Award – Club Developed XI

To be announced on the night

PFA Player in the Community

Divisional winners to be announced w/c 9 April. Overall winner to be announced on the night

SMG Insight Supporter of the Year

Divisional winners to be announced w/c 9 April. Overall winner to be announced on the night

Realise Family Club of the Year

Divisional winners to be announced w/c 9 April. Overall winner to be announced on the night

Mitre Goal of the Year

The EFL Awards audience will vote for the overall winner.

TOP 5		
Graham Carey	Blackpool v PLYMOUTH ARGYLE	30 December 2017
Olly Lee	LUTON TOWN v Cambridge United	18 November 2017
Marcus Maddison	PETERBOROUGH UNITED v Shrewsbury Town	28 October 2017
Aiden O'Brien	MILLWALL v Northampton Town	14 April 2017
Adam Reach	Aston Villa v SHEFFIELD WEDNESDAY	4 November 2017

EFL TEAM OF THE SEASON - Sky Bet Championship*

Goalkeeper	John Ruddy	Wolverhampton Wanderers
Defender	Ryan Fredericks	Fulham
Defender	Ryan Sessegnon	Fulham
Defender	Conor Coady	Wolverhampton Wanderers
Defender	John Terry	Aston Villa
Midfielder	Tom Cairney	Fulham
Midfielder	Ruben Neves	Wolverhampton Wanderers



MEDIA RELEASE

Midfielder	James Maddison	Norwich City
Striker	Bobby Reid	Bristol City
Striker	Albert Adomah	Aston Villa
Striker	Matej Vydra	Derby County
Manager	Neil Warnock	Cardiff City

EFL TEAM OF THE SEASON - Sky Bet League One*

Goalkeeper	David Raya	Blackburn Rovers
Defender	Nathan Byrne	Wigan Athletic
Defender	Charlie Mulgrew	Blackburn Rovers
Defender	Dan Burn	Wigan Athletic
Defender	Omar Beckles	Shrewsbury Town
Midfielder	Bradley Dack	Blackburn Rovers
Midfielder	Sam Morsy	Wigan Athletic
Midfielder	Jon Nolan	Shrewsbury Town
Striker	Nick Powell	Wigan Athletic
Striker	Jack Marriott	Peterborough United
Striker	Graham Carey	Plymouth Argyle
Manager	Paul Hurst	Shrewsbury Town

EFL TEAM OF THE SEASON - Sky Bet League Two*

Goalkeeper	Lee Burge	Coventry City
Defender	Dan Potts	Luton Town
Defender	Alan Sheehan	Luton Town
Defender	Jordan Willis	Coventry City
Defender	Jack Stacey	Luton Town
Midfielder	Michael Bostwick	Lincoln City
Midfielder	Sean McConville	Accrington Stanley
Midfielder	Luke Berry	Luton Town



MEDIA RELEASE

Striker	Adebayo Akinfenwa	Wycombe Wanderers
Striker	Danny Hylton	Luton Town
Striker	Billy Kee	Accrington Stanley
Manager	John Coleman	Accrington Stanley

*** Please note that loan players are ineligible**

---ENDS---

Notes to Editors

A Club Developed Player is defined as:

A Club Developed Player means a Player who has been registered with the relevant Club for a minimum of 12 months prior to the end of his U19 season (U19 season is deemed to conclude on August 31st as per the Youth Development Rules).

Subject to Regulation 33.11, with effect from the commencement of the 2018/19 season, each Club shall be required to nominate at least one Club Developed Player on their team sheet of players for all League competition matches (including play-off matches). Where any club does not name a Club Developed Player of the team sheet, that Club will only be permitted to name up to six substitutes on that team sheet (Rather than seven as permitted by regulation 33.4).

About EFL:

With 72 member clubs across three divisions, the EFL (English Football League) is the world's original league football competition. It is the largest single body of professional clubs in European football and is responsible for administering and regulating the Sky Bet EFL, Carabao Cup and Checkatrade Trophy, as well as reserve and youth football. The EFL, EFL Trust and our member clubs are at the heart of communities across the country, providing shared experiences for all and using the power of sport to improve lives.



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