

Nominee's Name:

Jonathon Woolridge

Organisation Name:

The Gym Group

Your Nominee's place of work/volunteering:

The Gym Group – Bristol City Centre

Please provide a narrative (500 words max) about your nominee:

Jonathan began his fitness industry career in 2015 with The Gym Group having no previous industry experience but has not let that hold him back hitting the ground running. Jonathan has had a keen interest in sport but took to ice hockey following his local team from a young age before taking up the sport and playing at a recreational level to socialise and be active.

Jonathan achieved AGM of the year 2017 within The Gym Group following a successful year at the club. He chose to integrate The Gym Group Bristol City Centre into the community working with the team and members to help charities in the community – Being Ben & Bristol Children's Hospital Charity, The Grand Appeal. Jonathan encouraged as many members to participate in our Movember campaign with gym challenges created to make it enjoyable while raising funds for a worthwhile charity. We had members cycling London to Paris on spin bikes, Climbing Mount Everest on a stair master and rowing to the home of Movember – Australia and back! Jonathan went above and beyond encouraging new and old members to participate and make a change with 22 on our team including Youtube personality Chris Trott. The Majority of our 5000 members rowed/cycled some distance to assist us with Jonathan pushing them to get involved, some had little experience in the gym but being part of this challenge has helped them grow in confidence. During the event we had more members asking how they could get involved with us to help than any other challenge we had done previously. The monumental effort put in paid off when Jonathan's team had an astonishing £10,806 for The Movember foundation and collectively moved 1109.43miles!

Jonathan works closely with SGS College in and has brought in 3 students with learning disabilities on work experience to The Gym and help them to move to better themselves learning about the industry and building confidence to develop key skills through exercise and physical activity.

Jonathan chose to sponsor The Bristol Pitbull's Ice Hockey team before their season began and had the team in to help with their pre-season training, this has no doubt paid a part in the team qualifying for their respected league playoffs.

Jonathan Is always looking to get more people, more active, more often with the work in the community he has done and continues to do. Whether it is working with charities, the local sports teams or SGS College to bring in work experience to help progress their students with their futures in sport or the leisure industry.

I believe Jonathan should win as he always goes above and beyond to help others in the gym and in the local community with the work he has put in for numerous charities throughout the year. He is a true ambassador for getting people active from The Gym, on a members first visit encouraging them to reach their goals and targets to pushing athletes to better themselves to improve performance.