

Recognizing a Community Leader

A 'surprise' award right in a home community often means a great deal more to people than more formal awards; it seems to touch people much more deeply. Here are a few ideas to get you started.

Start With

- Prepare a write-up of his/her accomplishments and the gratitude you and the community would like to express
- Find an event where there are a number of participants coming together where you know he/she will be attending
 - Tournament, at the medals ceremony
 - Community sporting event with lots of locals in attendance
 - Etc.
- Contact the event organizers and tell them you want 15 minutes to present an award to an outstanding community leader

The Award

- Prepare some kind of award (it doesn't have to be big or fancy)
 - Purchased trophy (see Baudville.com)
 - Super-big home-made card signed by:
 - People on his/her team
 - Community members
 - T-shirt that says something like "Our Hero" or "Best Coach Ever"
 - Home-made gold medal
 - Certificate of Awesomeness

The Presentation

- At the appointed time and place, announce that you are presenting a very special award
 - Read off the prepared write-up
 - It's also nice to choose someone who knows him/her to do the reading
 - Call him/her up to the stage
 - Have a few key people present him/her with the gift/award/etc.
 - Clap loudly and prepare for tears!
 - Get someone to take a photo

Tell Everyone

- Submit the photo and your write-up to the local paper/radio
- Tweet the story/photo
- Post the story/photo on Facebook
- Share with others in the community and area