



Stipendium

Nationale Loterij

Press communication

Official Stipendium 2018 Awards at the HQ of Panathlon International Vlaanderen



Paul Standaert (left), representative of the 3 rewarded cities (Antwerpen, Beerse and Sint-Pieters-Leeuw) and Willy Pennoit (right)

The official reward ceremony of the 2018 Stipendium was held on December 12, 2018 at the siege of Panathlon International Vlaanderen in Brussels in the presence of the mayor, alderman and sport officials of the participating cities.

Willy Pennoit, president of Panathlon International Vlaanderen brought a warm welcome to all participants and Paul Standaert, International Board member, congratulated the participants in name of international president Pierre Zappelli. The awards for most promising projects were handed over by Paul De Broe, honorary president of the Panathlon International Vlaanderen Stipendium, and Geert Crucke, director at the National Lottery to the representative of Antwerpen, Beerse and Sint-Pieters-Leeuw. During his speech Paul De Broe, founding member of the Stipendium, underlined the history of this ethical competition that was supported from day one by the National Lottery.

The stewards, a common usage in the football of today, was a result of a Stipendium winning project.

For more than 30 years the National Lottery is a partner in the promotion of ethics and fair play as the National Lottery attaches great importance to the values supported by Panathlon.

In addition, and thanks to her players she shoves her shoulders under a large number of social projects as culture, sport, scientific research, poverty reduction, solidarity actions. Every bet of a player no matter the size makes a big difference in supporting all of these goals.

The values of Fair Play and respect, especially in sport are of great importance in today's society. This is the base for the partnership, and for many years, between Panathlon and the National Lottery.

In the runup to the award ceremony Jan Cuypers, coordinator of the winning 2017 project reported about the realizations of the 2017 winning cities.

The cities of Dessel, Kasterlee and Retie joined forces in 2018 and proudly presented the results.

Under the largest Panathlon Flag (13 m²) every sportsman and woman of the city is presented a Wall of Fame, assembling 22 top athletes, coaches and entrepreneurs that carry further the message of ethics and fair play at any level. Tia Hellebaut, Joël Smets, Bart Wellens, Celine van Gestel (Volleyball player of the years), Julien Cools (Golden Shoe), Paul Van den Bosch (top coach), Victor Swerts (CEO of SOUDAL), Toon Claes (sport doctor) to name a few. Next to the publication of a Panathlon book with reflections about sport and fair play a video project titled Panathlon TV is under construction. This last project is oriented to the young sporting people.

Willy Pennoit congratulated Jan Cuypers and the winning team of 2017 for these realisations, congratulated the winners of 2018 hoping that they also will be successful in the out roll of their projects and closed the ceremony with the announcement that in 2019 a new Stipendium will be organized.