CONGRATULATIONS TO 2018 LA SPORTS COUNCIL'S EXECUTIVE OF THE YEAR:
TOM PENN
PRESIDENT & OWNER, LAFC

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THE 14TH ANNUAL

LA SPORTS AWARDS

MONDAY, MARCH 25, 2019
Dear Friends:

Welcome to the 14th Annual LA Sports Awards featuring the “Top 10 Greatest Sports Moments of 2018” for the Los Angeles/Orange County area and presentations to the local Sportsman, Sportswoman, Coach, and Sports Executive of the Year.

Each of tonight’s honorees will receive a special award created by Tiffany & Co.

Our 2018 Top 10 moments were selected by a blue-ribbon media panel. The panel’s selections were combined with the results of online fan voting. Balloting took place from February 11 - March 10 via the Sports Council’s social media platforms resulting in the ranking of the 10 moments that will be counted down during our show.

As reflected in tonight’s nominations, the greater Los Angeles/Orange County area is second to none when offering a wide variety of sports, with a dedicated fan base for each. For the excitement they gave us in 2018, we salute the athletes, coaches, executives and teams honored this evening. Their “greatest moments” were great moments for us as well.

Enjoy the evening!

Ronald F. Turner
Principal, Director of Sports
Gensler
Joel is the lead college football game analyst for FOX Sports, working alongside play-by-play announcer Gus Johnson to form one of sports television’s most acclaimed broadcasting teams. Showing impressive versatility, Joel also has served as a play-by-play announcer on the network’s tennis coverage of the U.S. Open Championship.

Klatt grew up in the Denver area and played quarterback for the University of Colorado (2002-05). He also played two seasons of minor-league baseball. He now resides in Newport Beach, Calif., with his wife Sara and their three sons.

For purposes of tonight’s event, a “great moment” can be a specific instant in time (a winning goal, hit or shot), an individual or team milestone, an upset victory, a remarkable game or series of games, a special event or a career achievement. Nominated moments must have taken place in the local area or have involved a local athlete or team.

The Los Angeles Sports Council Presents The 14th Annual LA Sports Awards March 25, 2019 At The Beverly Hilton

MASTER OF CEREMONIES, Joel Klatt
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WELCOME
MASTER OF CEREMONIES
Joel Klatt FOX Sports

REMARKS
Anthony P. Sciarrino
Chair, Los Angeles Sports Council
Ronald F. Turner
Dinner Chair

DINNER
REMARKS
Eric Garcetti
Mayor of Los Angeles

PRESENTATION OF AWARDS
Sportsman of the Year
Sportswoman of the Year
Coach of the Year
Sports Executive of the Year
The Greatest Moment of 2018

Special thank you to our television partner
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Principal
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Gensler

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Proceeds from this event will benefit the Los Angeles Sports Council, a private, non-profit corporation whose mission is to promote economic development through sports in the Los Angeles/Orange County area. On behalf of the community, the Sports Council bids against other cities for the right to host major sporting events, often staging or helping to stage events after successful bids. The Sports Council’s efforts have netted more than $1 billion in overall economic impact to the region.
Chloe Kim Wins Gold in Pyeongchang — At age 17, Southern California’s Kim became the youngest woman to win an Olympic snowboarding medal when she won the gold in the women’s halfpipe in South Korea. A four-time X Games gold medalist, she achieved a near-perfect score of 98.25 on her final run in Pyeongchang (February 12).

LeBron James Signs with the Lakers — The Lakers anunciing the signing of four-time NBA Most Valuable Player LeBron James to a four-year contract worth a reported $153.3 million. James is also a three-time NBA Finals MVP, a five-time NBA All-Star and two-time Olympic gold medalist (July 9).

Vladimir Guerrero Inducted to Baseball Hall of Fame — A nine-time All Star in his 18-year Major League Career, Guerrero led the Angels to five AL West championships and was named the League’s Most Valuable Player in 2004. On one of the most feared hitters of his generation, he is the first of Hall of Fame player to be inducted as an Angel (July 29).

Mike Scioscia Retires as Angels Manager — After 19 seasons, Scioscia ended the year a manager of the Los Angeles Angels. He led the Angels to their only World Series title in 2002 and ended his career with the highest percentage in franchise history (September 30).

Manny’s Home Run Lifts Dodgers to Victory in Longest-Ever World Series Game — Playing in their second consecutive World Series, the Dodgers’ only win over the Red Sox came in dramatic fashion on Manny Ramirez’s home run in the bottom of the 18th inning of Game 3. The game set World Series records for time (7 hours, 20 minutes) and number of innings (October 26).

LAFC’s Remarkable First Season — Los Angeles FC franchise successfully launched both a new stadium and a new team, Banc of California Stadium opened to wide acclaim as a soccer and concert venue (first match, April 29) while successfully launching both a new stadium and a new team. Banc of California Stadium

Shohei Ohtani Named American League Rookie of the Year — The Angels’ Ohtani led up to the honor by being the first starting pitcher in MLB history to regularly appear as the designated hitter on days when he didn’t pitch, drawing comparisons to Babe Ruth. Despite being sidelined with an injury for part of the year, he batted .285 with 22 home runs while also starting 10 games as a pitcher and compiling a 4.53 ERA (November 12).

Kobe Bryant described as a ‘giant’ — A game that was unexpectedly moved to the Coliseum due to poor field conditions at the planned Mexico City venue turned into a civic rallying point for Los Angeles into 2020. The Lakers forward averaged 25 points in 3 games to 1 victory, 2018-19 rings ceremony, April 13.

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Rams defensive tackle Aaron Donald is widely considered the game’s most unstoppable defensive force, wreaking havoc on opposing quarterbacks and shattering unprecedented records. Though often double-teamed, the fifth-year pro made a living in opponents’ backfields. Donald led the NFL with 20.5 sacks in 2018 – just two shy of the NFL record. His sack total marked the most ever recorded by an interior lineman and was the highest in franchise history. Donald also finished first in the NFL with 25 tackles-for-loss and added four forced fumbles en route to the Rams’ 13-3 regular season record and NFC Championship title.

The Pittsburgh native was the only unanimous selection for the 2018 NFL All-Pro team and his efforts yielded NFL Defensive Player of the Year honors for a second straight season. Donald, who signed a six-year contract extension at the start of the season, certainly delivered as he produced his best season yet and cemented himself as one of the top players of his generation.

Quarterback Philip Rivers’ 15th NFL season turned out to be one of his finest as a pro, leading the Chargers to a 12-4 regular season record – tied for the best mark in the AFC – and a playoff berth.

In a 45-10 rout against the Arizona Cardinals at StubHub Center, he produced the most efficient game in league history, setting NFL records for single-game completions (25) and completion percentage (96.6).

Rivers led the team to many notable wins in 2018, including a 25-17 victory at Seattle and dramatic primetime come-from-behind victories at Pittsburgh (33-30) and at Kansas City (29-28) to clinch the Wild Card.

The veteran signal-caller started all 16 games (for the 13th consecutive year), throwing for 32 touchdowns while posting a career-best 105.5 passer rating.

A future Hall of Famer, at season’s end Rivers was named to his eighth Pro Bowl.

CO-SPORTSMAN OF THE YEAR

Aaron Donald

Philip Rivers

PREVIOUS SPORTSMAN OF THE YEAR HONOREES

2017 - Cody Bellinger, Dodgers
2016 - Mike Trout, Angels
2015 - Blake Griffin, Clippers
2014 - Clayton Kershaw, Dodgers & Mike Trout, Angels
2013 - Chris Paul, Clippers
2012 - Jonathan Quick, Kings
2011 - Clayton Kershaw, Dodgers
2010 - Derek Fisher, Lakers
2009 - Rau Geddy, Lakers
2008 - Kobe Bryant, Lakers
2007 - David Beckham, Galaxy
2006 - Elton Brand, Clippers
2005 - Matt Leinart, USC football

TONIGHT’S SPECIAL HONOREES

CO-SPORTSMAN OF THE YEAR
Born in Long Beach and raised in Torrance, California, Chloe Kim started on a snowboard at 4 years old and cut her teeth on the SoCal slopes at places like Mountain High. Competing in her first Winter Games last February in Pyeongchang, South Korea — her parents’ birth country — Kim won the women’s halfpipe, and at age 17 became the youngest female ever to win an Olympic snowboarding medal. With victory already secured, on her third and final run of the competition Kim dazzled viewers by successfully landing her signature move — back-to-back 1080-degree spins, an extremely difficult and dangerous maneuver. It earned her a near-perfect score of 98.25 points. Her Olympic triumph landed her on the cover of Sports Illustrated and on the front of a Kellogg’s Corn Flakes cereal box, each considered iconic status for any athlete.

Following her Olympic triumph, Kim, a four-time X Games gold medalist, continued to make history and pave the way for women snowboarders. During training she put down a Front Double 10 and a Front 1260, two tricks that had never before been landed by a female.

Tony Lynn

With steady leadership from head coach Anthony Lynn, the Chargers completed the 2018 regular season with an outstanding 12-4 record — tied for the best mark in the AFC — and a playoff berth. The NFL’s most traveled team in 2018, Lynn’s Chargers secured victories in five different time zones across two continents including wins at Seattle, Pittsburgh and Kansas City, three of the League’s most difficult venues. They defeated the Baltimore Ravens in the Wild Card round of the AFC playoffs, but were then defeated by eventual Super Bowl Champion New England Patriots in the Divisional round. Under the direction of their second-year coach, a league-best seven players were picked to play in the Pro Bowl, the most for the team since 2008. Lynn finished runner-up in NFL Coach of the Year voting.

One of Lynn’s finest achievements of 2018 came during last year’s off-season when he fulfilled a family promise by earning his college degree from UNLV.
Not long ago, Tom Penn was perhaps best known as an ESPN basketball analyst, a hardcore hoops junkie seen nightly on SportsCenter opining on both the college and NBA game. But Penn put his TV career on the side burner to help create soccer history. As President of LAFC, Los Angeles’ newest MLS franchise, in 2018 Penn helped successfully launch both a new stadium and a new team.

Penn was integral in the design, build and completion of LAFC’s $350 million dollar home in the heart of Los Angeles: Banc of California Stadium. The world-class, 22,000-seat venue is the first open-air stadium built in the City of Los Angeles since 1962, and it opened to wide acclaim as one of the country’s premier outdoor venues.

Making history in their inaugural campaign, the Club sold out all 17 of its MLS home matches and set an all-time MLS record in points (57) for an expansion team while finishing the season in third place in the Western Conference with a 16-9-9 record and qualifying for the Playoffs.

LAFC and Banc of California Stadium became a true destination in L.A. for fans, families and casual bystanders, and Penn was instrumental in making it all happen.

PREVIOUS SPORTS EXECUTIVE OF THE YEAR HONOREES

2017 - Casey Wasserman, LA 2028
2016 - No Award Presented
2015 - Patrick Mcavoy, Special Olympics World Games
2014 - Dean Lombardi, Kings
2013 - Stan Kastan, Dodgers
2012 - Tim Lieweke, AEG
2011 - Arte Moreno, Angels
2010 - Tim Lieweke, AEG
2009 - Dr. Jerry Buss, Lakers
2008 - Mitch Kupchak, Lakers
2007 - Brian Burke, Ducks
2006 - Ned Colletti, Dodgers
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1935 - Dr. Jerry Buss, Lakers
1934 - Mitch Kupchak, Lakers
1933 - Brian Burke, Ducks
1932 - Ned Colletti, Dodgers
1931 - Arte Moreno, Angels
1930 - Dr. Jerry Buss, Lakers
1929 - Mitch Kupchak, Lakers
1928 - Brian Burke, Ducks
1927 - Ned Colletti, Dodgers
1926 - Arte Moreno, Angels
1925 - Dr. Jerry Buss, Lakers
1924 - Mitch Kupchak, Lakers
1923 - Brian Burke, Ducks
1922 - Ned Colletti, Dodgers
1921 - Arte Moreno, Angels
1920 - Dr. Jerry Buss, Lakers
1919 - Mitch Kupchak, Lakers
1918 - Brian Burke, Ducks
1917 - Ned Colletti, Dodgers
1916 - Arte Moreno, Angels
1915 - Dr. Jerry Buss, Lakers
1914 - Mitch Kupchak, Lakers
1913 - Brian Burke, Ducks
1912 - Ned Colletti, Dodgers
1911 - Arte Moreno, Angels
1910 - Dr. Jerry Buss, Lakers
1909 - Mitch Kupchak, Lakers
1908 - Brian Burke, Ducks
1907 - Ned Colletti, Dodgers
1906 - Arte Moreno, Angels
1905 - Dr. Jerry Buss, Lakers
1904 - Mitch Kupchak, Lakers
1903 - Brian Burke, Ducks
1902 - Ned Colletti, Dodgers
1901 - Arte Moreno, Angels
1900 - Dr. Jerry Buss, Lakers
1899 - Mitch Kupchak, Lakers
1898 - Brian Burke, Ducks
1897 - Ned Colletti, Dodgers
1896 - Arte Moreno, Angels
1895 - Dr. Jerry Buss, Lakers
1894 - Mitch Kupchak, Lakers
1893 - Brian Burke, Ducks
1892 - Ned Colletti, Dodgers
1891 - Arte Moreno, Angels
1890 - Dr. Jerry Buss, Lakers
CBS is proud to support the 14th Annual LA Sports Awards
The Auto Club proudly sponsors the 14th Annual LA Sports Awards and congratulates the 2018 honorees.

Sportsman of the Year
Aaron Donald of the L.A. Rams
Philip Rivers of the L.A. Chargers

Sportswoman of the Year
Chloe Kim, Olympic Champion Snowboarder

Coach of the Year
Anthony Lynn of the L.A. Chargers

Executive of the Year
Tom Penn, President of Los Angeles Football Club

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We are proud to sponsor the 14th Annual LA Sports Awards and congratulate all honorees for your distinguished achievements.

Tony Sciarrino, Sports Council Chairman
California Segment Head
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We are proud to support the Los Angeles Sports Council and all you do for our community.

Congratulations to this year’s honorees on your outstanding achievement!
THE LOS ANGELES CHARGERS PROUDLY CONGRATULATE PHILIP RIVERS AND ANTHONY LYNN

LA SPORTS AWARDS

CO-SPORTSMAN OF THE YEAR
PHILIP RIVERS / QB

COACH OF THE YEAR
ANTHONY LYNN / HEAD COACH

#FIGHTFOREAUCHOTHER

CONGRATULATIONS TO THIS YEAR'S HONOREES

FOX SPORTS WEST