

Evelin Ilves will hand over the Young Athlete's Awards on Wednesday 4 May at 13:00 in Kadriorg.

This spring's recipients of the Award are sisters **Nanette Christine** and **Naomi Charlotta Andersson** (1,789 euros), **Sten Christian Taal** (958 euros) and **Elisabeth Egel** (447 euros).

Sisters **Nanette Christine** (born 2002) and **Naomi Charlotta Andersson** are figure skaters from the Tritsutajad figure skating club in Tartu. Both girls are very hard-working and persistent young athletes, and they are committed to making progress in sports – their talent, skills and willpower will definitely contribute to their success. The sisters study in Tartu Catholic School and their results are outstandingly good. The sisters will use the Young Athlete's Award to fund their competition expenses.

Sten Christian Taal (born 1994) is a yachtsman in the Sailing Sports School of Kalev Yacht Club. Sten Christian is a young and motivated sportsman, and his studies never suffer because of his hobby. He studies in grade 10 of Viimsi High School and has graduated from each grade with honours. Sten Christian is a member of the Estonian representative team, and sailing is his passion. Sten Christian will use the award to update his competing equipment.

Elisabeth Egel (born 2000) has been swimming since 2005 and almost immediately started to participate in swimming competitions organised in Estonia for disabled people. Elisabeth has a serious visual impairment, however, she studies in the common class of the Old Town Educational College of Tallinn; she also studies piano in a music school and English language in a language school. Elisabeth will use the award to participate in an international championship in Germany.

The Young Athlete's Prize is presented by the First Lady's Foundation of the President of the Republic's Cultural Foundation and is intended to acknowledge young, under-21-year-olds with very good academic achievements. The prize is intended to cover training and competition

costs. The prize is financed by Nordea Bank and is awarded twice a year – in April and in November. The amount per recipient for the Young Athlete's Prize is up to 3,195 EUR (50,000 Estonian kroons; the accurate exchange rate will be applied upon the transfer of the award). The prize is being awarded for the fourth time.

Journalists who wish to provide coverage of the awarding ceremony are kindly asked to register beforehand by calling 631 6229 or sending an e-mail to piret.pert@vpk.ee by 9 o'clock, Wednesday morning (4 May), at the latest.

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