

Craigs Investment Partners Hawke's Bay Emerging Leader

2026 Nomination Information Pack

Presented within the Napier Port Hawke's Bay Primary Sector Awards.

Recognising early leadership, passion, and initiative across Hawke's Bay's primary sector.

Celebrate emerging leaders - and share their impact with Hawke's Bay.

1. Overview & Purpose

The Hawke's Bay A&P Society owns and manages the Napier Port Hawke's Bay Primary Sector Awards, which celebrate excellence, success, innovation, and growth across Hawke's Bay's rural industries. These awards have a long history of telling the story of excellence within rural Hawke's Bay and play an important role in recognising leadership, innovation, and contribution across the sector.

The Craigs Investment Partners Hawke's Bay Emerging Leader of the Year Award recognises an early-career individual who has shown exceptional promise, initiative, and leadership within Hawke's Bay's primary industries.

The purpose of this award is to identify, acknowledge, and celebrate emerging talent whose drive, innovation, and commitment are already making a meaningful impact. As a peer-nominated award, it highlights a nominee's character, work ethic, leadership potential, and contribution to the future of Hawke's Bay's primary sector.

2. Why Nominate?

Nominating an emerging leader is an opportunity to showcase their growth, potential, and contribution – giving recognition to future leaders who are already making their mark.

All nominees:

- Are invited to attend the Primary Sector Awards Dinner
- Connect with farmers, growers, businesses, sponsors, and industry leaders
- Contribute to celebrating and strengthening Hawke's Bay's primary industries
- Receive an annual membership to the Hawke's Bay A&P Society

Winner receives:

- Recognition as the 2026 Craigs Investment Partners Hawke's Bay Emerging Leader at the Napier Port Hawke's Bay Primary Sector Awards Dinner
- Entry into the Emerging Leader alumni network of past winners
- Media exposure and promotion across the region

3. Eligibility & Nomination Conditions

The award is a peer-nominated award recognising early-career professionals who show future leadership potential within the primary sector.

Nominees must:

- Be currently working within the Hawke's Bay primary sector
- Be reasonably new to the primary sector, having started within the last 2–5 years
- Be an individual demonstrating commitment, passion, and leadership in their chosen career path
- Be nominated by a peer, colleague, or organisation, with the nominee's knowledge and consent

Nominations are open to individuals across all areas of the primary industries.

Nominees do not submit their own nominations.

The winner must be available for media enquiries and promotional opportunities if required.

4. Nomination Criteria

The Emerging Leader will have demonstrated:

- Shown strong future leadership potential within the primary sector, typically demonstrated within the first 10 years of their career
- Demonstrated commitment and passion for their organisation and the wider primary sector
- Displayed the ability to work with others and help build successful teams
- Shown initiative, integrity, and a willingness to learn and improve
- Made a positive contribution to their workplace, community, or the wider sector

These criteria reflect the qualities considered during judging and are assessed based on the information provided in the nomination.

5. Judging Criteria & Process

Nominations will be assessed by a panel of three: a representative of Craigs Investment Partners, a representative of the Hawke's Bay A&P Society, and an independent primary sector leader.

The judging panel will consider:

- Overall achievement and contribution to the primary sector
- Leadership qualities and future potential
- Teamwork, initiative, and commitment to learning and improvement

How Judging Works:

- The judging panel reviews all written submissions
- Shortlisted nominees may be invited to an interview with the judging panel
- Final results reflect both the written nomination and, where applicable, the interview
- The recipient of the award will be announced at the Primary Sector Awards Dinner

6. What You Need to Prepare Before Nominating

To help you prepare, the online nomination form will guide you through providing the following information about your nominee and their contribution to the primary sector:

Nominee Information	This section captures basic details about the nominee, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Contact details• Current role and employer
Nominator Details	This section captures basic details about the nominator, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Contact details• Relationship to the nominee
Nomination Statement	This section asks you to explain why the nominee should be recognised, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Why you are nominating this person• How they demonstrate leadership and commitment• The impact they have had within the primary sector• Their background and leadership record <p>You will be asked to provide a written response of approximately 150-500 words.</p>
Referees	You will be asked to provide details for two referees who can comment on the nominee's leadership and contribution.
Supporting Material	You may upload any supporting material that strengthens the nomination, such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Testimonials or letters of support• Case studies or project summaries• Articles, media coverage or workplace recognition• Industry awards or governance involvement• Other relevant documents

All nominations will be kept confidential unless used for agreed promotional purposes. Runner-up names will remain anonymous.

7. How to Nominate

1. Complete the online nomination form
2. Upload the required files listed in "What You Need to Prepare Before Nominating" as part of your online nomination
3. Confirm that the nominee has given consent to be nominated
4. Ensure the nominee is available to attend the Awards Dinner (2 April 2026)

8. Key Dates - 2026

Nominations Open	1 October 2025
Nominations Close	28 February 2026
Judging	March 2026
Awards Dinner	2 April 2026

9. Contact

For questions or more information, contact:

Kahlia Ritchie – Event Manager, Napier Port Hawke's Bay Primary Sector Awards

Email: psa@hbap.co.nz Phone: 027 342 6071

10. Acknowledging Our Sponsors

With thanks to Napier Port, Craigs Investment Partners, and our valued sponsors who make these awards possible.