

## Pilgrim Bandits Ambassador named finalist for 2017 Soldiering On Awards

Thursday 23 February, 2017

Pilgrim Bandits Ambassador Tyler Christopher has been named a finalist in the Sporting Excellence category of the 2017 Soldiering On Awards.

Christopher was one of 46 finalists in ten categories honoured at a House of Lords reception on 9 February. The evening was hosted by Awards patron, the Rt Hon Earl Howe PC, and celebrated individuals and organisations for their inspirational and outstanding achievements in support of the Armed Forces Community.

“The Soldiering On Awards recognise the amazing contribution that former members of the Armed Forces – and animal partners – continue to make to society and also those individuals, charities and groups in the wider community who support their journey,” said Earl Howe. “We believe that we are all part of one community and are stronger together supporting each other.”

Put forward for the Award by a relation, the nomination read:

*“Tyler lost both legs above the knee in 2009. He played roller hockey before injury and found Ice sledge Hockey afterwards. He started playing for a local team and was soon scouted by GB and is now ranked 3rd in Britain. He went to Japan in November for the world championships in a bid to get closer to the Winter Paralympics.”*

Pilgrim Bandits CEO Steve Beard said “Tyler is an inspiration to all that know him. Being nominated for the award is a wonderful tribute to the man and his can-do philosophy in life. Pilgrim Bandits is proud to have him as an ambassador – we all wish him all the best in the finals.”

Finalists were nominated by members of the public and more than 40 charities and not-for-profit organisations either representing or associated with the wider Armed Forces Community. Winners are selected by a distinguished Independent Judges Panel, co-chaired by General the Lord Dannatt GCB CBE MC DL and Debra Allcock Tyler, Chief Executive of the Directory of Social Change.

This year’s winners will be announced at the 2017 Soldiering On Awards on Friday, 24 March at the Park Plaza Westminster Bridge Hotel, London.

The Soldiering On Through Life Trust encourages support for the UK’s Armed Forces Community by nationally recognising the achievements of groups or individuals supporting this Community through the annual **Soldiering On Awards**.

Soldiering On Awards: National Recognition for the Armed Forces Community.

For highlights of the 2016 Soldiering On Awards visit: [www.soldieringon.org](http://www.soldieringon.org)

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### [Soldiering On](#)

E. [info@soldieringon.org](mailto:info@soldieringon.org)

W. <http://www.soldieringon.org>

### Additional Contact(s):

Kaija Larke

Communications

07841 166232

Registered Address: First Floor, 6-7 Market Place, Devizes, Wiltshire, SN10 1HT | Charity No. 1144828

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