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MEDIA RELEASE

Full house at The Fullerton as the Institute of Financial Professionals Australia (IFPA) crowns the 2025 Australian Financial Industry Awards winners

IFPA's Australian Financial Industry Awards brought the profession together in force on Friday, 31 October 2025, filling The Fullerton Hotel Sydney for a gala attended by hundreds of practitioners, partners and media from across the country. The black-tie celebration recognised outstanding performance across tax, accounting, superannuation and financial advice, with finalists and winners reflecting the highest standards of professionalism, personal responsibility and enterprise.

Ky Wilson, Chief Executive Officer of IFPA, said:

"Last night showed a profession that is confident, skilled and serious about results. Our winners and finalists invest in their people, deliver measurable outcomes for clients, and hold the line on quality. That is how a strong private sector builds trust and lifts standards, and IFPA is proud to showcase it."

Stephen Ware, Chair of IFPA, said:

"This year's awards was a full house and a clear win for the profession. Hundreds turned out to celebrate results that were hard earned. Our members are the backbone of small business growth across Australia, and IFPA is proud to recognise their achievements, their standards and their contribution."

Michael Driessen, Australian Financial Professional of the Year, said:

"I am honoured to accept this award. It is recognition of a team that turns technical skill into practical outcomes for clients, day in and day out. We believe in personal responsibility, straight talking and advice that stands up to scrutiny, and we invest in our people so that standard never slips. Thank you to IFPA, the judges, my peers, our clients and my family for their support. The real credit belongs to the clients who trust us with their future, and to the many professionals who keep lifting the bar across our industry."



Headline winners

A selection of the many outstanding results announced on the night:

- **Australian Financial Professional of the Year:** Michael Driessen, GDA Financial Services
- **Australian Financial Practice of the Year:** TAG Financial Services
- **Financial Adviser of the Year:** William Johns, Health & Finance Integrated
- **Accountant of the Year:** Krishan Sharma, KNS Accountants
- **SMSF Adviser of the Year:** Michael Driessen, GDA Financial Services
- **Independent Dealer Group of the Year:** Finchley & Kent
- **CEO Certificate of Meritorious Service:** Scott Heathwood

Please visit the Awards hub to view every winner and finalist:

<https://online.ifpa.com.au/2025finalists>

IFPA acknowledges the support of its partners, including moneyGPS as Premier Partner, and sponsors AuditSave, Scientiam, Harvey Norman, The Auditors Institute, Listed, Bennelong, Entry Counts, Lifestyle Asset Management, Tech Femme Fusion, and Digital Chameleon whose commitment helped deliver a first-class evening that properly honours the contribution of independent practitioners and growing firms.

About The Institute of Financial Professionals Australia

The Institute of Financial Professionals Australia (originally known as Taxpayers Australia, and more recently Tax & Super Australia) has been serving members for over 100 years and is a leading financial professionals association dedicated to fostering excellence and professional development in the tax, superannuation, accounting, financial planning, and advisor fields. With membership and subscriber base of over 15,000 practitioners and a strong commitment to advancing knowledge, promoting ethical practices, and providing valuable resources, the Institute of Financial Professionals Australia empowers professionals to excel in their careers and make a significant impact in the financial industry.

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