



The 6th annual British Sport Book Awards were hosted yesterday by the National Sporting Club at their Cafe Royal headquarters.

Sir Bobby Charlton beat the bookmakers Ladbrokes favourite Sir Jackie Stewart to the best autobiography of the year award. Sir Bobby was present to collect the award for 'My Manchester United Years' and thanked his co-author James Lawton and his publisher Headline.

Hot favourite for the Best Biography prize was Duncan Hamilton's 'Provided You Don't Kiss Me' (Fourth Estate) the history of his twenty years spent in Nottingham with Brian Clough but this was edged out by Richard Moore's brilliant study of Scottish racing cyclist Robert Millar 'In Search of Robert Millar' (HarperSport). However Duncan Hamilton didn't go away empty handed as he was voted Best Football Book by the football writers judging panel.

Former West Indies cricket captain Clive Lloyd announced that Sir John Major had won the best cricket book of the year for his history of cricket's early years 'More Than Just a Game' (HarperPress) - unfortunately Sir John was away on a family holiday and was unable to attend but Surrey coach Alan Butcher was on hand to collect the award on his behalf.

Andy Ripley won the new category of Best Rugby book for his autobiography 'Ripley's World' (Mainstream) for what the judges described as his 'emotional and inspirational' story.

The British Sports Book Awards had a record attendance of over three hundred at the lunch and was shown on Sky Sports.

For further information, to arrange author interviews or for photographs of the event please contact Rachel Nicholson - rachelnicholson@mac.com - 07912 899 588.

British Sport Book Award Winners 2008

Best Autobiography

My Manchester United Years by Sir Bobby Charlton - Headline

Best Biography

In Search of Robert Millar by Richard Moore - HarperSport

Best New Writer

The Pyjama Game by Mark Law - Aurum Press

Best Illustrated Title

Goodbye Gay Meadow by Matthew Ashton - M Ashton and Shrewsbury Town FC

Best Football Book

Provided You Don't Kiss Me - Duncan Hamilton - Fourth Estate

Best Rugby Book

Ripley's World by Andy Ripley - Mainstream

Best Cricket Book

More Than A Game: The Story of Cricket's Early Years by Sir John Major - HarperPress