

Life Membership Guidelines

Life membership is an honour bestowed on individual association member representatives, past members or staff whose exceptional, loyal and outstanding service and contribution has provided measurable benefit to the association over an extended period of time.

Criteria

Life Membership should not be considered as a competitive matter and nominees must be considered individually and on their personal attributes and achievements and not in comparison to others. While it is inevitable comparisons will be made with past recipients, direct comparisons should be avoided.

Granting Life Membership is a balancing exercise. Criteria are provided as guidance, but it is the overall contribution of the nominee that must be evaluated. There is necessarily some subjectivity in the granting of life membership, nominee's strengths against the various criteria will vary.

To assist with the nomination, some or all of the following criteria should be considered.

For any of the relevant criteria the nominee should have demonstrated an exceptional contribution beyond the ordinary for an extended period of time, which has a measurable benefit to the association and membership.

1. A long or exceptional period of service in specific roles that contribute to the benefit of the association. These roles may include but not be restricted to – service on the board, board office holder positions, committees or staff.
2. Has the nominee represented the association with distinction and advanced the causes of the association.
3. Has the nominee provided valued leadership around the association and is considered a role model?

Process for Nomination

1. Any member representative, past member or staff person can be nominated by any current Full or Associate member with the nomination seconded by at least one other Full or Associate member.
2. Nominations should include the nominator's reasons for putting forward the candidate with the support of favourable applications demonstrating minimum service requirements and examples meeting the criteria.
3. This should be a written (including electronic) document and signed by the nominating members and passed to the secretary to be tabled at the next board meeting.
4. Life Membership cannot be nominated by or supported by an immediate family member or work colleague.
5. In the event the nominee is serving on the board at the time of nomination, that person must be removed from any voting in respect of the nomination.

6. If appropriate, at this time the board may appoint an individual or subcommittee to further research the nomination and report back to the next board meeting.
7. In the event the board believes the nomination is worthy of life membership a two-thirds majority is required to formalise the nomination.
8. The board will present the nomination to the annual general meeting or special general meeting for final ratification of the nomination and awarding of life membership.
9. Life Membership must be recorded in the association's official records.

Life Membership Benefits

The main benefit will be recognition by association colleagues of the exceptional service provided by the life member. In addition the life member will:

- Be entitled to attend any annual conference held by the association, at no charge,
- Be listed on the associations website as a life member.

Dated 17 June 2021