

# Life Membership Guidelines



## **Purpose:**

The purpose of this policy is to set out the minimum criteria to be eligible for nomination for an award of life membership of the Werribee Hockey Club.

## **Scope:**

This guideline applies to all members at Werribee Hockey Club.

Life Membership is the highest Award and may be granted by the Club to a member who has given outstanding and distinguished services to the club over a period of time, above and beyond a playing capacity and in a voluntary capacity.

- Life Membership is open to anybody regardless of age, race, colour, religion or sex.
- Life Membership is NOT automatically given to a spouse. A spouse must be nominated in their own right.
- Life Membership cannot be nominated by or supported by an immediate family member.
- In the event that the nominee is serving on the general committee at the time of nomination, that person must be disqualified from any deliberation on the nomination.

## 1. Conditions

- 1.1. Must have been member of the Werribee Hockey Club for a minimum of 10 years.
- 1.2. A nomination for Life Membership must be proposed and seconded by two (2) financial members of the Werribee Hockey Club Inc.
- 1.3. The nomination must be supported by letters from at least 2 sources listing reasons/sufficient evidence as to why life membership is considered appropriate. Dates and specific involvement(s) are required to be listed in such letters. The length of membership alone is not appropriate.

## 2. Process

- 2.1. The nominations will be submitted to the Board. A simple majority of a quorum of the Board is sufficient for the nomination to be pursued.
- 2.2. At this time, the Board shall appoint a subcommittee to further research the nomination and report back;
  - a) A group of at least 3 of the Management Committee plus one - two Life Members, as nominated by the Committee, will scrutinise the nominations.
  - b) The group will prepare their findings on the nomination with their recommendation to proceed with life membership or not.
  - c) If, it is agreed to proceed, the nomination will be verified at the next Committee Meeting where, if two-third majority is returned, then Life Membership will be sanctioned and awarded at the Senior Presentation Night.
- 2.3. Life Membership must be recorded in the club's official records.
- 2.4. The granting of life membership and the recipient's service to the club should be publicised in the club's media and any other club communication tool considered appropriate.

## 3. Criteria

- 3.1. 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 that comparisons will be made with past recipients, direct comparisons should not be made.
- 3.2. 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. Nominees' strengths against the various criteria will vary.
- 3.3. To assist with the nomination, some or all of the following criteria should be considered.
- 3.4. 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 club and membership.
  - a) Minimum 10 years in specific roles that contribute to the benefit of the club. These roles may include but not be restricted to – service on the Board, coordinator roles, fundraising activities, promotional and marketing, committee and/or event coordinator roles, and committee and/or event support roles.
  - b) Has the nominee represented the club as a player in local and regional competitions?
  - c) Has the nominee demonstrated an attitude and demeanour that reflects the dedication to the values of the club, including good sportsmanship?
  - d) Has the nominee provided leadership around the club and is considered a role model?
- 3.5. The result is to be passed to the Board, which will inform the originator of the outcome.
- 3.6. Life Membership is awarded at the Senior Presentation Night. The process to review and verify the nomination takes about 6-8 weeks. In most cases, if a member is nominated in one year, they receive the award in the next year.

#### 4. Benefits

- 4.1. In addition to the status of membership of a select group within the Club, Life Membership will be recognised by:
  - a) Award of the Life Membership badge at the Senior Presentation Night
  - b) Exemption from club fees (except for turf fees) associated with the Club
  - c) Listing on the Club Honor Board