



Criteria for bestowing Honorary Life Membership Awards

Honorary Life Membership Awards

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1. Life Membership Guidelines

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

Honorary Life Membership is recognized by Equestrian South Australia as the highest recognition that can be awarded onto a member in acknowledgement of exceptional service and contribution; it should retain its prestige and not be awarded easily.

1.1. Criteria and Procedure

1.1.1. 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 that comparisons will be made with past recipients, direct comparisons should not be made.

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. Minimum 15 years concurrent membership.
2. Minimum 10 years in specific roles that contribute to the benefit of the sport, these roles may include but not be restricted to – service on the committee, coordinator roles, fund raising activities, promotional and marketing, committee and/or event coordinator roles, committee and/or event support roles.
3. Has the nominee represented the Association with distinction on committees, national sports committees etc.?
4. Has the nominee represented the Association as an athlete in local, national and/or international competitions?
5. Has the nominee demonstrated attitude and demeanour that reflects dedication to the values of the Association including good sportsmanship?
6. Has the nominee provided valued leadership around the Association and is considered a role model?

1.1.2. Nomination

Any full or retired member can be nominated by any current full member with the nomination seconded by at least one other full member.

1. 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.
2. This should be a written document and signed by the nominating members and passed to the Executive Officer to be tabled at the next meeting.
3. Life Membership cannot be nominated by or supported by an immediate family member.
4. In the event that the nominee is serving on the Branch Board at the time of nomination, that person must be disqualified from any deliberation on the nomination.
5. A simple majority of a quorum of the Branch Board is sufficient for the nomination to be pursued. At this time, the Board shall appoint an individual or subcommittee to further research the nomination and report back to the Board.
6. In the event that the committee believes the nomination is worthy of life membership a $\frac{3}{4}$ majority is required to formalize the nomination.
7. The general committee will present the nomination to the annual general meeting or special general meeting for the final ratification of the nomination and awarding of life membership.
8. Life Membership must be recorded in the official records.
9. The granting of life membership and the recipients service to the Association should be published in the Association's media and any other communication tool considered appropriate.

1.1.3. Retractions of Honorary Life Membership

In the case of an objection, the objecting member has to provide strong reasons and/or evidence that counteracts the fundamentals of the Life Membership selection criteria. The committee needs to provide and document evidence the final decision was based on.

Retraction of Life Membership bestowment may occur where the recipient has conducted him/herself in a manner that reflects directly and adversely on the image or activities of the Association. This provision will only be exercised in exceptional circumstances and will require the full support of the committee. As part of the deliberation the 'Honorary Life Member' in question is also to be given an opportunity to present his/her case for retention of his/her status.

1.1.4. Honorary Life Membership – Benefits

1. Full membership for life with no fees.
2. A commemorative badge.
3. Recognition on the Honour Board.