



POLICY - LIFE MEMBERSHIP OF QUEENSLAND MASTERS ATHLETICS ASSN INC

Life Membership is an honour bestowed by QMA on individual club members who have demonstrated exceptional service and contribution to Master's Athletics providing measurable benefit to the club over an extended period of time.

Honorary Life Membership is recognized by the Queensland Masters Athletics Association as the highest recognition that can be awarded to a member; it should retain its prestige and not be awarded lightly.

Nomination and Approval

- I. Any financial or retired QMA member can be nominated by any current financial member with the nomination seconded by at least one other financial member. Life Membership may be awarded posthumously.
- II. Nominations should include the nominator's reasons for putting forward the candidate with the support of favourable examples demonstrating minimum service requirements and meeting the selection criteria.
- III. This should be a written document signed by the nominating members and passed to the QMA Secretary to be tabled at the next QMA Management Committee meeting.
- IV. Nominations must be received at least **3 months** before the date of the next Annual General Meeting in order to be considered.
- V. Life Membership cannot be nominated by or supported by an immediate family member.
- VI. In the event that the nominee is serving on the QMA Management Committee at the time of nomination, that person must be disqualified from any deliberation on the nomination.
- VII. In the event that the committee believes the nomination is worthy of life membership, the support of **three quarters** of the committee is required to formalize the nomination. This vote is conducted via secret ballot.
- VIII. The QMA Management Committee will present the nomination to the next Annual General Meeting for the final ratification of the nomination and awarding of life membership. A **three quarters vote** in favour by members present at the AGM is required for Life Membership to be awarded. This vote is conducted via secret ballot.

Criteria

In considering the award of Life Membership, an individual should have demonstrated significant, sustained and high quality service enhancing the reputation and future of Queensland Masters Athletics (QMA).

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, nominees' strengths against the various criteria will vary.

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

- I. Minimum **15 years** concurrent club membership.
- II. 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 committee, coordinator roles, fund raising activities, promotional and marketing, committee and/or event coordinator roles, committee and/or event support roles.
- III. Has the nominee represented the club with distinction on regional committees, associations, councils etc?
- IV. Has the nominee represented the club as an athlete in local and regional competitions?
- V. Has the nominee demonstrated attitude and demeanour that reflects dedication to the values of the club including good sportsmanship?
- VI. Has the nominee provided valued leadership around the club and is considered a role model?

Retraction of Life Membership

Retraction of Life Membership may occur where the recipient has conducted him/herself in a manner that reflects adversely on the image or activities of QMA. This provision will be exercised in exceptional circumstances and requires the unanimous agreement of the QMA Management Committee. As part of the deliberations, the Life Member in question is to be given an opportunity to present his/her case for retention of Life Membership.

Benefits of Life Membership

Life membership will be recognised by:

- Awarding of a QMA Life Membership badge
- Lifetime exemption from membership fees
- Listing on QMA web site, newsletter and official documents and records
- Invitations, at no charge, to attend all official QMA functions

Policy revised 13 June 2018.