



Physical Disability Rugby League Australia Inc.
trading as NSW Physical Disability Rugby League Association Inc.
ABN - 59 780 863 640

Member Bulletin – Regulation Matters

No 1.

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Under section 38.4 of the Constitution the matters in this Bulletin are binding on members.

LIFE MEMBERSHIP NOMINATION, CONSIDERATION, APPOINTMENT AND REGULATION

This Bulletin looks at the matters surrounding Life Membership to Physical Disability Rugby League Australia Inc. (the Association) - nomination, consideration, appointment and regulation.

The Board adopted by circular motion (Board Minutes No. 95) that -

The *Procedure and Guidelines - Life Membership* document 28/03/2019 be adopted and be included in the Regulations.

Following is the contents of *Procedure and Guidelines - Life Membership* and under the Constitution it is binding on all members.

Procedure and Guidelines - Life Membership 28/03/2019

Purpose

Life membership is an honour bestowed on individual Association members and natural persons. Whose continuous, loyal, meritorious and outstanding service and contribution to the Association or Physical Disability Rugby League has provided a measurable benefit and advancement to the Association or Physical Disability Rugby League in Australia over an extended period.

It is recognised as the highest recognition awarded by the Association in acknowledgement of exceptional service and contribution; it should retain its prestige and not be awarded easily. These procedures and guidelines will assist in retaining the award's status and support the processes/criteria set out in the Association Constitution.

Nomination Process

1. Any financial or retired member or other natural person can be nominated by a current financial member with the nomination seconded by at least one other current financial member.
2. Life Membership cannot be nominated by or supported by a family member, associate or friend.

3. Nominations are made in confidence and should include the nominator's reasons for putting forward the candidate; demonstrating minimum service requirements and examples of how the candidate meets the life membership criteria in this document and the Association's objectives (Constitution), values and mission.
4. Nominations should be a written document and signed by the nominating members and submitted to the Board Secretary to be tabled at the next Board meeting.
5. Should the nominee be serving on the Board or Subcommittee at the time of nomination, that person must be disqualified from any deliberation on the nomination.
6. Any nomination for Life Membership will be considered by the Administration and Finance Subcommittee to further research the nomination and report back to the Board with a recommendation for consideration.
7. Should the Administration and Finance Subcommittee report the nomination is worthy of Life Membership and the Board also agrees a 75% majority Board vote is required to approve the nomination for tabling with the membership.
8. The recommendation of the Board must be by special resolution; therefore the Board will table the Life Membership nomination at an annual general meeting or general meeting for members to vote by secret ballot on the final approval of the nomination and awarding of life membership - should the nominee accept.
9. The resolution containing the nomination is considered passed by the membership if a quorum is reached for the meeting and voting is counted as carried unanimously or by a 75% majority.
10. Life Membership must be recorded in the Association's official records (Membership Register) immediately on receipt of written acceptance by the nominee. From the time of entry on the Register the person will be considered a Life Member.
11. The granting of life membership and the recipient's service to the Association should be publicised in the Association's media and any other Association communication tool considered appropriate.

Selection 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, **direct comparisons with past recipients shouldn't be made.**

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

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

For any of the relevant criteria below the nominee must have demonstrated an exceptional contribution, beyond the ordinary for an extended period of time, which has a measurable benefit to the Association and its membership and/or physical disability rugby league in Australia.

1. A period of 10 years of active financial membership is an indicator of a long-term commitment.
 2. Specific roles that contribute to the benefit of the Association or physical disability rugby league in Australia may include but not be restricted to – service on the Board and/or a committee, financial, administration or governance roles, wellbeing roles, team and game day roles, fund raising activities, promotional and marketing roles, event coordination or event support roles.
NOTE: Roles or membership to the Board or a committee does not on its own mean a person has made significant contributions. Quality of service is the indicator.
 3. Persons may hold roles of limited tenure and yet perform outstanding, meritorious service during their term. Under these circumstances other criteria, besides length of service, should be used to determine whether the person is deserving of nomination for Life Membership.
 4. Criteria relating to roles and otherwise will relate to the quality of the service performed by the person under consideration. That is, a demonstrated measurable significant contribution over most of the years of active financial membership. Participating to a much greater extent than the average member as a regular, consistent and reliable volunteer.
- Criteria also to value highly and consider is - if the nominee:
5. represented the Association with distinction on regional committees and/or branches, associations, councils, NRL committees, physical disability rugby league committees etc.
 6. represented the Association and demonstrated its values as a player in local, regional, state, national and/or international competitions
 7. demonstrated within the membership, an attitude and conduct that reflects dedication to the values of the Association including good sportsmanship and fostering Association and NRL values, policies and rules

8. provided valued leadership and is considered a role model in the Association and/or the physical disability rugby league community.

Objections of Life Membership

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

Retractions of Life Membership

Retraction of Life Membership bestowment may occur where the recipient has conducted themselves in a manner that reflects directly and adversely on the Association's values, brand, members, activities and image - including within the rugby league community. This provision will only be exercised in exceptional circumstances and will require the full support of the Board. As part of the deliberation for retraction the 'Life Member' in question is also to be given an opportunity to present their case for retention of his/her status.

Life Membership – Benefits

1. Full membership to the Association for life
2. Seasonal player or volunteer registration fees to be paid by the Association - if the Life Member confirms they will be playing or volunteering during the season.
3. A commemorative plaque around A5 to A4 size.
4. Association website (if it exists) to list the name of life members and their service.

This bulletin has been approved by the Board (3/4/2019) and issued by the Secretary/Public Officer

Regards



Daniel Frost
Secretary/Public Officer

Physical Disability Rugby League Australia Inc

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