



# Redlands Rugby League Club Inc.

Pinklands Sports Grounds, 226 Cleveland-Redland Bay Road, Thornlands

## Redlands Rugby League Club

### Life Membership Guidelines (updated June 2019)

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

Honorary Life Membership is recognised by the Redlands Rugby League Club as the highest recognition that can be awarded to a member in acknowledgement of exceptional service and contributions. As such, it should retain its prestige and not be awarded easily and the club and its committees should in no way feel that a life member needs to be inducted each year.

#### Processes and Criteria Nomination

- a) Any full or retired member can be nominated by any current full member with the nomination seconded by at least one other full member.
- b) Nominations can be made at any time during the football season and the deadline for nominations in any given year is July 31<sup>st</sup>. The opportunity to nominate will be advertised to members on an annual basis. This deadline is necessary to allow adequate decision-making time prior to the annual awards night.
- c) Nominations should include the nominator's reasons for putting forward the candidate with additional information demonstrating minimum service requirements and how the nominee meets the Life Membership criteria.
- d) The nomination should be a written document and signed by the nominating and seconding members and passed on to the Club's President or Secretary.
- e) Life Membership cannot be nominated by or supported by an immediate family member.

#### Nomination Assessment

- a) All nominations received will be considered at the next scheduled Committee meeting. The Committee will decide whether the application meets the selection criteria. 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.
- b) A simple majority of a quorum of the general committee is sufficient for the nomination to be pursued. If endorsed by the general committee, the nomination will be forwarded to the previously appointed life members sub committee, who will further research the nomination and report back with their conclusion to the general committee.
- c) The sub committee must contain a minimum of 4 existing life members and membership of this group will be reviewed annually by the General Committee.
- d) Life membership applications will be considered by the sub committee as they are received and then a final

review of all recommendations will be done in August each year, following the nomination deadline. Following this final review, the sub committee will provide the General Committee with a list of all nominations received in the year, together with their conclusions on each application and a final recommendation of those to be awarded life membership in that year.

- e) To award life membership the sub committee must carry a 75% or greater majority in the affirmative to do so. Their recommendation must be considered and endorsed by the majority of the general committee.
- f) Once awarded, recipients of the Life Membership must be recorded in the club's official records.
- g) 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 after being firstly presented to the recipient at a suitable club windup function.

## Criteria

Life membership should not be considered a competitive process and nominees must be considered individually and on their personal attributes and achievements and not in comparison to others. Whilst it is inevitable that comparisons will be made with past recipients, direct comparisons should not be made if possible.

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 and nominees' strengths against the various criteria will vary.

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

- a) A minimum of 10 years' service 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, merchandising, stock control and marketing roles, event coordinator roles, mentoring roles, coaching, dealing with associations and councils.
- b) In special circumstances a nomination may be considered with the nominee having provided 8 years of such service that meets the criteria required, and in which the person nominated is judged to have made a significant and notably outstanding contribution to the club.
- c) Evidence that the nominee has demonstrated attitude and demeanour that reflects dedication to the values of the club including good sportsmanship
- d) Evidence that the nominee has provided valued leadership around the club in certain areas

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.

## Objections and Retractions of Honorary Life Membership

In the case of an objection following the awarding of a life membership, the objecting member should provide reasoning and evidence that demonstrates why the life member's nomination is contrary to the selection criteria and should not have been awarded. Any such information received will be considered – in confidence – by the sub committee with a report made to the General Committee following this process. The final decision to retract life membership must be 100% supported by the sub committee and then also upheld unanimously by a quorum of the general committee.

Retraction of Life Membership bestowment may also occur where the recipient has conducted him/herself in a manner that reflects severely, directly and adversely on the image and or activities of the club, post being awarded life membership.

The provision to retract life membership under either scenario will only be exercised in exceptional circumstances. 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 to the sub committee who will make their decision on the case and report their reasoning back to the general committee for consideration in making their final decision on the case.

#### Honorary Life Membership – Benefits

- a) Full membership for life with no fees.
- b) Free individual access to club facilities and functions.
- c) Recognition on the Club Honour Board.