Altona Junior Football Club

LIFE MEMBERSHIP POLICY

Life Membership is an honour bestowed on individual association members for exceptional, loyal and outstanding service. Their contribution will have provided measurable benefit to the AJFC over an extended period of time.

Honorary Life Membership is recognised by AJFC as the highest recognition awarded to a member, in acknowledgement of incomparable service and influence.

It should retain its prestige and not be awarded easily. Life Members have full membership for life, full voting rights, and receive a commemorative badge.

Criteria

Life Membership should not be considered as a competitive matter. Nominees must be considered individually and on their personal attributes and achievements and not in comparison to others. 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 the following criteria should be considered:

(a) An exceptional contribution beyond the ordinary for an extended period of time, which has a measurable benefit to the AJFC and member involvement.

(b) Exceptional service in specific roles that have contributed to the benefit of the AJFC. These roles may include but are not restricted to:

- Service on the Executive Committee that has propelled the club forward
- Seen the implementation of pivotal strategy and processes to the club
- Strengthened the club's culture
- Service in Coordinator roles
- Unwavering contribution and dedication to fundraising activities, coaching, mentoring, assistant coaching for an extended period
- Giving back to the club in an adult capacity
- Past junior player, playing senior milestone games with Altona Football Club and/or played their entire football career at Altona
- Selfless volunteering around the club
- Representing the club in a distinguished capacity at a league/regional level

The nominee will be:

- Selfless
- Loyal
- Have integrity
- Have values in line with AJFC's mission statement
- Will not have a personal agenda
- May be a leader or role model

Process

1. Any full or retired member can be nominated by any current full member.
2. The nomination shall be;
    a. attached to the Life Membership Nominee Form
    b. signed by four {4} current members
    c. including extensive written supporting evidence, and
    d. forwarded to the Administrator to be tabled at the next general meeting.
3. Life Membership cannot be nominated by or supported by the nominee's immediate family members.
4. Supporting evidence should include clear reasons for putting forward the candidate. This will support the application and demonstrate the exceptional and outstanding service.
5. In the event the nominee is serving on the general committee at the time of nomination, that person must be removed from any deliberation on the nomination.
6. A simple majority of a quorum of the general committee is sufficient for the nomination to be pursued. If appropriate, at this time the general committee shall appoint an individual or subcommittee to further research the nomination and report back to the committee.
7. In the event the committee believes the nomination is worthy of life membership a two-thirds majority is required to formalise the nomination.
8. The 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.

9. Life Membership must be recorded in the association's official records and will be added to the Honour Board.
10. The granting of life membership and the recipient's service to the association should be publicised in the association media and any other association communication tool considered appropriate.

Objections and Retractions of Honorary Life Membership

In the case of an objection, the objecting member has to provide strong reasons and 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 themselves in a manner that reflects directly and adversely on the image or activities of the AJFC. This provision will only be exercised in exceptional circumstances and will require the full support of the committee. As part of the deliberation the 'Life Member' in question is also to be given an opportunity to present their case for retention of their status.

Review and Compliance

This Club Awards and Life Membership policy will be reviewed every 3 years by the committee to ensure its effectiveness.

Non-compliance with this policy may result in appropriate action, up to and including removal from the position of authority within the club.