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## LIFE MEMBERSHIP POLICY

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This policy sets out the minimum criteria to be eligible for an award of Life Membership of the Yarrambat Junior Football Club.

This award exists to recognise the valuable contribution of individuals to the current and future existence of the club. These criteria have been endorsed by YJFC committee to assist with the selection of individuals for the award of Life Membership of our Club.

### Goal

Life membership is awarded to individuals who have made a significant and meaningful contribution to the club. The aim is to make life membership sufficiently difficult to obtain so that it is respected by club members and valued by recipients. The hurdle needs to be achievable and relevant to the person receiving it whilst recognising service that is above and beyond the normal expectations of the club.

### General Considerations

In considering the award of Life Membership an individual should have demonstrated significant, sustained and high level quality service enhancing the reputation and future of the overall club. The points to be taken into account when considering and nomination should include:

- The general attitude and overall demeanour of the nominee to ensure that the attitude is one that reflects a dedication to the values of the club.
- Commitment to the principals of good sportsmanship
- Valued leadership and good role modelling that reflects credit upon the club.

### Qualification for Life Membership

- Have actively served the Club as an administrator, player, official including coach or volunteer (or a combination of) for a minimum of 8 years, not necessarily consecutively. *Paid positions are not taken into consideration.*
- Be considered to have made a meaningful contribution to the development of the sport at Club level through their work with players, coaches, officials and administrators – e.g. one or combination of:

- Has been actively involved in the development of players especially as coach, administrator or official in the service of the Club in an outstanding manner beyond the normal expectations of that role.
- As a coach, has actively promoted the Club at games and coached the players in a committed manner, always exhibiting the clubs values of player development, good sportsmanship and commitment to the club. Has represented the Club in other forums including interleague or at clinics and seminars with significant meaningful contribution to the code and also the club. Through coaching, has achieved widespread recognition and respect internally and externally for the club.
- As an official, has made a significant and outstanding contribution beyond that of the normal role to the Club in developing the game through their officiating and teaching.
- As an administrator, has been unselfish in their work and dedicated to the ideals and success of the Club. Has contributed in a manner that creates a significant passage of history in the development of the Club.
- As a volunteer, has contributed significantly and beyond measure in their support of the Club.
- Is considered to have enhanced the standing of the Club at Regional, State and possibly National levels through their excellent work.

Achieving minimum service levels does not automatically guarantee the awarding of Life Membership. If there is a history of unlawful serious misdemeanours or offences, then this will be considered seriously in the Committee's determination on eligibility for Club Life Membership Applications should demonstrate attainment of the minimum service requirements and other details of exemplary and significant service that are considered above and beyond the normal expectations of the role.

## **Process**

Applications for Life Membership should be forwarded to the President of the club by 31 July each year.

Nominations from people outside the Committee will be considered, but the awarding of life memberships remains the sole discretion of the Executive Committee (nomination process) and Life member panel for ratification.

The Executive Committee will assess all nominations for Life Membership confirming that the nominee has met the qualifications required to be nominated for consideration to be awarded life membership of YJFC. A

formal vote will be taken on any applications received which are considered worthy of Life Membership and the successful nominations will then be presented to the Life Member Panel for their official vote and confirmation of the awarding of life membership.

To be awarded Life Membership Nomination the supporting vote must be 75% or more within the Executive committee

To be awarded Life Membership the nominee must achieve 5 out of the 6 votes from the Life Member Panel. The decision of the Life Member Panel is final.

Whilst current committee members can be considered they cannot vote on the awarding of life membership for themselves and must remove themselves from any discussions regarding their own award. The decision of the life member panel is final.

The official registration of Life Members into club records will take place at the club's AGM each year.

**Benefits In addition to the status of Life Membership, the recipient will be recognised by:**

- Award of Life Membership at the YJFC Presentation Day.
- Presented with a Life Membership label badge.
- Listing in the clubs website and other official documents.
- Invitation to all Club functions. (excluding the annual Sportsman / Sponsor day luncheon which will be offered at 50% discount for life members)

## Notes relating to the Policy

The inaugural Life Member Panel has been selected by the Executive Committee of YJFC in the year of 2019.

The term for each panel member will be a minimum of 2 years and maximum of 4 years for the inaugural panel and then 3 years for future members of the panel. It is suggested that each year (after the initial minimum two years of the panel existence) two new members replace two existing panel members. This allows new panel members to work with existing members in understanding the policy and process rather than simply installing a new panel every three years.

Future members of the panel will be selected by each individual member of the panel when their term is due to expire. Therefore other than the inaugural panel all members of future panels will be controlled by the Life Members themselves and will only involve the executive if a panel member requests assistance in nominating a replacement for themselves at the expiration of their term.

The make-up of the life member panel should cover a range of eras from within the Life Member club.

The Life Member Panel should appoint a nominated Chairperson for the Panel.

Life Members may serve more than two terms on the panel however they cannot be consecutive terms.

A life member nominee who is not successful in achieving Life Membership may be considered again in future years.

The executive committee will have a nominated contact for the Life Member Panel.

The nomination brief will be provided by the Executive and will be factual in its basis. Qualifications will be outlined in the brief along with a brief statement from the Executive on why the nominee is being put forward.

The award is about above and beyond service, simply holding a role/s for a length of time should not on its own be considered to be worthy of nomination.

All Committee & Panel members should be aware that it is not necessary for a Life Membership to be granted each year

Communication between the Executive Committee and the Life Member Panel should be treated as confidential in nature. Nominations and Awarding / Rejections need to be treated with the upmost confidentiality