

## Club Whittley Queensland

### Life Membership Criteria

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

### **Procedures and Criteria for Awarding Life Membership**

1. At its AGM, Club Whittley Queensland (CWQ) may bestow Life Membership on one person.
2. The Life Membership Committee will consist of the current CWQ committee of the club, including the Commodore and Secretary.
3. Any nomination for life membership should be made at least one committee meeting prior to the Annual General Meeting (AGM).
4. Nominations must be forwarded to the CWQ Secretariat of the CWQ on the Life Membership Nomination Form in writing (or via electronic means). All Nominations are to be treated with the strictest CONFIDENCE.
5. The nomination can come from any currently financial Club member to be known as the nominator of the nominee.
6. It is the responsibility of the nominator to present evidence to the Committee regarding the nominee that will allow an informed decision by the Committee, based on the criteria set out below, as to the worthiness of the nominee as a life member of the Club. The reason for placing the responsibility on the nominator is to ensure adequate information is provided about a nominee to ensure that an informed decision by Committee members can be made.
7. Once a nomination has been received by the Committee, the Secretary shall have the responsibility of adding it to the agenda for the next committee meeting, or if necessary, calling on a special meeting where the Committee members will decide on the nomination. This should be done in conjunction with the nominator to allow time to gather the relevant information. A second special meeting may be held if necessary.
8. While members not on the Committee should be encouraged to provide information to such meetings, only the Committee should be present at the meeting, unless the Committee feels there are special circumstances requiring another person to attend.

9. At the relevant meeting the Committee shall discuss the nomination and make a determination by vote as to whether the nominee has met the criteria and is worthy of the honour. The emphasis in this determination should rest heavily on a critical appraisal of the level of service to the Association required to be a Life Member. If there is any doubt of such a level being achieved, or lack of information about the nominee that makes such a conclusion impossible, then Committee members should consider voting in the negative.

10. Criteria for consideration are as follows:

- A. Trip Co-Ordinator;
- B. Managing and /or assisting in Regatta's;
- C. Administration/Committee positions held;
- D. General contribution to the Club (including fund-raising, supporting and other issues that a Committee may see as relevant);
- E. Consideration of the Length of active membership – to have contributed to the Club the degree necessary for Life Membership. A nominee will almost likely have been a Member and involved for a significant period of time. While there is no 'minimum' period of membership, a period of 10 years active membership is an indicator of a long-term commitment;
- F. Must be a current owner of a Whittley boat;
- G. Positions held and length of time – the nominee should have made a significant contribution to the Club over a majority of those years of membership.

This may include:

- Significant contributions while holding positions on the Club committee;
- Making significant contributions in National or State committees and/or roles affiliated with the organisation (bearing in mind that their mere membership of such committees does not of its own mean a person has made significant contribution);
- Participate to a much greater extent than the average Member as a regular, consistent, and reliable person in Club Whittley Queensland (CWQ);
- Contributed to the harmony, camaraderie and spirit of CWQ.

11. The nominee must have made an outstanding contribution in at least one of the criteria and at least some contribution in two of the other criteria or having deemed to have made an appropriate contribution at the discretion of the Committee. In determining the level of significance, the Committee members should consider this in the light of a very high-level quality-of-service. While a reasonable length of time (to be determined by the Committee) of service is important, the overarching criterion is the quality-of-service.

12. Once the nominator has presented the information and all questions and comments have been made, the Committee shall decide on the worthiness of the nomination.

13. In the unusual circumstance where there is a tied preliminary vote or the Committee considers more than one nomination is worthy, the Committee may

determine that 2 life memberships may be awarded. However, this must be only in extremely special circumstances, and no more than two can be awarded in any year.

14. There can be any number of nominations put forward for this award but only two can be passed by the committee to be added to the agenda at the next AGM.
15. Alternatively should a Committee find it has three possible life members, it may consider setting a recommendation for the following year's Committee that one of the nominations be forwarded to the following year. Such a recommendation should then be considered by the following Committee separately and prior to any other nominations for that year.
16. The responsibility should be on the outgoing Secretary to ensure any such recommendation is received by the incoming Secretary for action.
17. The Commodore/Secretary should take the final votes at the committee meeting and count them. Life members must be voted on by a minimum of four Committee Members and with a minimum of 75% agreeing with the nomination. Given the importance of the decision, Committee Members present at the meeting are not allowed to abstain from voting.
18. All Committee members should be aware that it is not necessary for a Life Membership to be granted each year.
19. Successful nominees will be presented to the AGM for a vote at the meeting. A secret ballot vote will be conducted at the AGM requiring a minimum of 85% of those voting in favour for the motion to be passed.
20. In the event the nomination is passed at the AGM, their status of Life Membership of CWQ will be presented and acknowledged at the AGM.
21. Successful nominees for Life Membership at the AGM will receive a CWQ Life Membership Certificate of Recognition, and their names will be entered on the CWQ Life Member Honour Roll and on the CWQ website and in the CWQ Annual Report.
22. Forfeiture of Life Membership: CWQ Life Membership may be forfeited upon any failure to observe the CWQ Constitution by-laws or the CWQ Code of Ethics. It will be forfeited upon the passing of a special resolution for the removal from Life Membership for reasons not limited to but including bringing the name of CWQ into disrepute.