



# Western Australian Rugby Union Referees Association



## WARURA LIFE MEMBERSHIP – GUIDELINES FOR SELECTION

### Constitution (Extract)

#### 14 Membership

14.1. The membership of the Association other than Life Membership shall be open to any person approved by the Executive Committee. The membership of the Association shall be divided into the following classes:

- (a) Life Membership: Any person who has rendered distinguished and outstanding service to the Association or rugby union football in general as nominated by a financial member of the Association. The following conditions shall be observed in the election of Life Members:
  - (i) the nomination of any member of the Association as a Life Member shall be considered at an Executive Committee meeting prior to the last general meeting to be held prior to the Association's annual dinner or, in the event that an annual dinner is not held, at the Association's Annual General Meeting.
  - (ii) the Executive Committee shall consider the nominations.
  - (iii) the members present at the last General Meeting as described in sub- paragraph (i) shall consider and vote on the recommendations of the Executive Committee.
  - (iv) any election may be posthumous in order to place the proposed name on any honour roll maintained for such purposes.

### Nominations

Nominations for Life Membership can be proposed for a current member by any member of the Association, supported by at least one other member of the Association as a seconder. The proposal should be made in writing to the Executive Committee and include a citation describing the nominee's achievements and contributions to the Association.

There is no requirement to award a Life Membership each year.

### Candidate Selection in Practice

The normal practice is for the Executive Committee to consult the existing Life Members regarding any nominations or potential nominations. The Life Members then discuss the candidates and provide advice to the Executive Committee regarding whether a candidate meets the expectations of the Association to be accepted as a Life Member. The Life Members are recognised as the best store of the history, ideals and values of the Association.

### Qualifying Guidelines

In 2014, to enable greater objectivity and accountability, the Executive Committee and Life Members agreed to establish guidelines for minimum qualifying criteria for Life Membership. A sub-committee was established consisting of:

Maurie Day – Life Member, representing the views of other Life Members at the time, following canvassing amongst them.

Brendan Fitzgerald – Honorary President, 2014

Peter Hilgendorf – Honorary Vice President, 2014



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## Qualifying Guidelines (cont'd)

In February 2025, the Life Members met to review these criteria and their practical application. It was agreed that the criteria should be used as a guide in considering a candidate's suitability. Also, a suitable candidate would be expected to possess achievements or display characteristics that approach or exceed the following:

- Significant service (typically 10 years) in a leading role in the Association, such as an Exec committee member, on the CAB or other significant role;
- Regular active participation in Association activities and seen as a role model and/or mentor by other Referees / Ref Coaches;
- Distinguished career as a Referee and /or Referee Coach and seen as an ambassador for the Association.

Note: It was agreed that long service as a Referee or Referee Coach by itself is usually not sufficient for recognition as a Life Member. Additional contributions to the Association over and above these are generally expected.

## Consultation on Candidate Suitability

The Executive Committee will consult with the Life Members regarding the suitability of any candidates. If the Executive so wish, a sub-committee of the Honorary President, Honorary Vice President and a representative of the Life Members can be formed to discuss the matter.

Discussion amongst the Life Members can be by round robin email, telephone calls, face to face meetings or other means as appropriate. The guideline criteria may be applied with some discretion, if the Life Members so choose.

The Life Members will agree which of their number will convey their views to the Executive Committee. There is no requirement for the Life Members to record formally the results of such canvassing, but any record they may wish to present to the Committee would be welcome.

## Meritorious Service Award

The Life Members recommend that a Meritorious Service Award be established to recognise long and distinguished service as a Referee and / or Referee Coach.

Criteria Established: 6 November 2014

Document Prepared: August, 2024. Updated: October, 2024 and February 2025.