



**TOWNSVILLE
ROCKWHEELERS
MOUNTAIN BIKE CLUB**

Policy for Award of Life Membership

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POLICY FOR AWARD OF LIFE MEMBERSHIP**

1.0 PREAMBLE

Honorary Life Membership is an honour bestowed on individual club members who's exceptional, loyal, and outstanding service and contribution has provided a measurable benefit to the club over an extended period.

Life Membership is the highest level of recognition awarded to a Townsville Rockwheelers Club member.

2.0 ELIGIBILITY

Any current club member can be nominated for Life Membership by another current club member, with the nomination seconded by another club member.

3.0 CRITERIA

Life Membership should not be considered as a competitive matter and nominees must be considered individually on their personal attributes and achievements and not in comparison to other Life Members, nominees or persons not nominated.

3.1 Length of active membership

To have contributed to the club to the degree necessary for Life Membership, a nominee will necessarily have been an active member for a significant time. While there is no 'minimum' period of membership, a period of 7 years' active membership is an indicator of a long-term commitment.

It should be noted that achieving the minimum duration of membership will not in any way automatically guarantee the award of Life Membership.

3.2 Positions held and length of time.

The nominator should be able to demonstrate a significant contribution by the nominee to the running of the club over most of those years of membership.

Incumbency of one or more demanding, active roles over a long period of time would be an obvious indicator of outstanding service.

3.3 Major contribution to the club as a volunteer

A primary example of a significant contribution would be service in a Management Committee role which required many hours of voluntary work. This voluntary work may involve administrative duties, physical duties or leadership and communication duties. Contributing their time and efforts to the club maintaining trails and the trail network.

A significant contributor would participate to a much greater extent than the average member as a regular, consistent, and reliable volunteer.

3.4 Other specific achievements may be considered.

4.0 NOMINATION PROCESS

4.1 The Life Membership Committee will consist of 2 executive members from the affiliated club, the President, and Secretary of the Club.

4.2 Nominations must be forwarded to the club Secretary and received before 31st December of the current year.

4.3 The nomination will contain evidence of the candidate's satisfaction of the criteria listed in Clause 3.

4.4 The nomination may be proposed by any current club member.

4.5 Any nomination, including supporting evidence, will be circulated by the Secretary to the full Management Committee by email once received.

4.6 The Management Committee will vote on the nomination at the clubs monthly in February the next year..

4.7 The ballot will be open, not secret.

4.8 At this meeting to decide on the nomination/s the Committee shall, regarding the following criteria, determine if the nomination is worthy. The emphasis in this determination should be heavily on critical appraisal of the level of service to the club 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.

4.9 The nominee must have an outstanding contribution in at least one of these areas and at least some contribution in two of the other three areas or contribution deemed appropriate 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-quality service. While a reasonable length of time (to be determined by the Committee) of service is important, the overall riding criterion is the quality of service.

4.10 Any Committee member who votes against the nomination must provide reasons and/or evidence for their rejection of the nomination. If no reasons are provided, the vote will be treated as informal and will not be counted.

4.11 As stated in Clause 3, nominees must be considered individually on their personal attributes and achievements and not in comparison to other Life Members, other nominees or persons not nominated.

If a vote against a nomination is based on such grounds, the vote will be treated as informal and will not be counted.

4.12 If the Management Committee meets to discuss an objection to a nomination, and unanimous support for the nomination cannot be reached, the objection shall be moved and put to the vote of members present at the meeting. If a majority of two thirds or more of those present vote against the objection, then the objection shall be dismissed, and Life Membership recommended to the Annual General Meeting.

5.0 FORM OF THE AWARD

A Life Member will be presented with:

Club membership paid for, for remainder of active years.

A Life Membership plaque.

A Life Member medal.

6.0 OTHER BENEFITS OF LIFE MEMBERSHIP

6.1 A Life Member shall be eligible to be elected to any position on the Management Committee. Whether or not elected to a Management Committee position, a Life Member shall have the full rights of membership of the club, including eligibility to attend and vote at Management Committee and general meetings of the club.

6.2 A Life Member and their partner will be invited to attend any formal club functions.

6.3 The award of Life Membership to a club member will be published on the club's website and Facebook pages and the recipient will be included in the club's list of Life Members on the club's home page.

7.0 NO RIGHT OF APPEAL

Decisions of the Management Committee regard to Life Membership decisions will be final.