

HEATHCOTE GOLF CLUB PROCEDURES AND CRITERIA FOR AWARDING LIFE MEMBERSHIP

General

Life Membership is awarded to members of the Heathcote Golf Club in recognition of **outstanding** commitment and service to the club over an **extended period of time**. There is no higher honour awarded to a member of the club.

Committee members and Members should be aware that there is no requirement to nominate a Life Member at every AGM.

There is no set limit to the number of annual awards but the committee should be aware of the significance of the award and limit them to those truly deserving the honour.

There is no limit to the total number of Life Members.

Nominations

Any two current members can nominate any other member for Life Membership.

A member cannot nominate themselves.

A member cannot nominate a family member or be part of the discussion about the nomination of a family member.

Currently serving committee members cannot nominate or second a nomination for Life Membership.

The nominee should not be made aware of the nomination if possible.

Submission of nomination

The attached form must be compiled and submitted to the committee, signed by both nominating and seconding members no later than the first of September. The club Secretary may assist (if requested) with the compilation of the nomination form and is to keep records of all nominations.

Criteria

There are three primary areas of service within the club that should be detailed in the nomination:

1. Playing
2. Administration
3. General Contribution

(see note for explanation)

The nominee must have made an **outstanding contribution** in at least two of these areas and at least some contribution in the other area over an **extended** period of time.

Each nomination must be considered on its merits. In determining if the contribution has been outstanding the committee must consider that the overriding criterion is quality of service, the benefit provided to the members and the club as a whole.

Length of membership, service on the committee, financial contributions or popularity alone are not sufficient.

The committee may consider service or contributions deemed as relevant even if not mentioned in the nomination.

Consideration and decision.

The committee will consider nominations at a committee meeting. The nominating members may be asked to attend the meeting and present their nomination but are not required to do so. If they attend, they cannot vote and are to leave the meeting after they have answered any questions, before the committee discusses the nomination.

The committee must decide if the nominated member has provided the necessary contribution and service, **to the required level, over an extended period**, to be awarded a Life Membership.

Once the relevant presentation of the nomination has been discussed each nomination is put to a vote (by secret ballot) and the vote decided by a simple majority. In the case of a tie, the matter is decided in the negative. In such a case the Secretary is to inform the nominating members.

Committee members cannot abstain from such a vote.

Award

The award of Life Membership is made at the club's AGM in October. The President will read a prepared statement detailing the nominee's contributions and reasons why the committee has agreed to the member/s appointment to Life Membership.

Benefit

Life Members are exempt from paying membership subscriptions. Playing Life Members are still required to pay associated affiliation fees for Golf Australia, Golf Central Victoria and Miscore. The member will be awarded a Life Member's badge and be listed on the Honour Board.

Criteria Notes:

1. **Playing.** *A playing contribution could include a **consistent** level of elite golfing at club and/or district and state level representing the club. It could include representing the club at any level at tournaments and events at other golf clubs. Such a contribution could also include **continued** participation at any level in club weekly competitions events and tournaments. It could also include **constant** assistance to the Captains and Match Committee in the direct management of golf events and the administrative tasks that support them.*
2. **Administration.** *An administrative contribution could include **outstanding** service on the committee or sub-committees (whether a member of the committee or not) for an **extended** period. It could include **constant** assistance with the day to day management of the club such as (but not limited to) promoting and managing membership, negotiating contracts, obtaining supplies and equipment, promoting the club, liaising with other organisations, devising management procedures, managing IT assets and the like.*
3. **General Contribution.** *A general contribution could include **ongoing** fund raising, direct personal donations of significance, supporting and other issues that the nominators see as relevant. This could include obtaining and managing sponsors,*

obtaining grants, **extended** volunteering on course, machinery management, bar and/or kitchen operations, function management, course and clubhouse maintenance and improvement and so on.

4. It is significant that a nominated member has demonstrated an attitude and demeanor that reflects dedication to the values of the club including good sportsmanship, club spirit and integrity.
5. Of greatest importance is the notion of **continued service and contribution**. It must be over an **extended period of time**. A one-off donation of a significant sum of money is not sufficient in and of itself. simple length of membership and general popularity are not alone acceptable criteria. Life Membership recognises service and commitment of an **extended** nature.