



Water Polo
WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Life Membership Policy

Version	Approved Date	Effective Date	Content reviewed/purpose
1.0	14 th August 2025	15 th August 2025	Introduction of policy

PART 1 - GENERAL INFORMATION

1.0 Purpose

Life Membership of Water Polo Western Australia (WPWA) is the highest honour awarded to individuals in recognition of an extraordinary contribution to the sport of water polo for a sustained period of time with a significant and outstanding positive impact or influence on the game and its development in Western Australia. Life Membership is awarded in exceptional circumstances.

1.1 Authority

Life Membership is a class of associate membership of Water Polo Western Australia. Life members may be appointed by the Association in accordance with Clause 3.7 (c) of the Water Polo Western Australia constitution

2.0 Eligibility

- 2.1 A nominee may be any individual who has been elected, appointed, volunteered or otherwise served the sport of water polo within Western Australia including a player, coach, referee, technical official, volunteer / committee member, administrator or employee who undertakes voluntary service, above and beyond their paid service.
- 2.2 A nominee must be a current registered member of Water Polo WA (or a previously registered member if being nominated posthumously).

3.0 Procedure

- 3.1 The nominator must complete the prescribed Nomination Form as set out in Appendix A detailing why the nominee should be awarded Life Membership.
- 3.2 A Nomination Form must be submitted by a recognised Affiliate as defined in the Water Polo Western Australia constitution.
- 3.3 Nominations stating why a nominee should be considered for Life Membership must include detailed reasons for, and examples of, the nominee's service. This information must explain how the nominated individual has made a significant, sustained and lasting contribution to water polo in Western Australia. This service must be considered to be above and beyond that which would be expected in the normal function of their duties.
- 3.4 Any Nomination Form must be seconded by another Affiliate and be accompanied by a letter of support.
- 3.5 Nominations for Life Membership may be made at any time but must be received by 31 August for the Life Membership to be considered for appointment at the Annual General Meeting for that year. Late nominations will not be considered.
- 3.6 The WPWA Governance and Risk Committee (the "Committee") shall review all nominations received to ensure each nomination meets the criteria as set out in the Nomination Form and, if appropriate, put forward such nomination for

recommendation to the Board. The Committee may request additional information from the nominator if doing so would assist its deliberations.

- 3.7 The WPWA Board shall consider all recommendations for life membership received and will either submit or not submit the nomination to the Annual General Meeting for voting. The Board is not required to give reasons for not approving a nomination.
- 3.8 If a nominee is recommended for appointment to Life Membership by the Board, the Board will present its recommendation for consideration at the Annual General Meeting. A nominee may be elected to Life Membership at an AGM by Special Resolution, being a resolution passed at a General Meeting and by the votes of not less than three-fourths of the members who cast a vote at the meeting.

4.0 Benefits

- 4.1 Life Members shall be entitled to the following benefits:
- A memento and certificate of induction as a Life Member of Water Polo WA;
 - Life Members may attend General Meetings and receive notification of all General Meetings;
 - Free annual registration to WPWA and retention of all membership rights and privileges as though they had paid the fees;
 - Receive annually a copy of the Annual Report;
 - Receive an invitation to WPWA events or functions; and
 - Receive an invitation to the WPWA Grand Finals

5.0 Retraction of Life Membership

- 5.1 Disciplinary action or expulsion of a Life Member may occur where the recipient has behaved in a manner that reflects directly and adversely on the sport, image, activities and reputation of the Association.

This provision will only be exercised in exceptional circumstances and will require the full support of the Board. As part of the deliberations, the Life Member in question is to be given an opportunity to present their case for retention of their Life Membership status.

- 5.2 A Life Member can resign their Life Membership by giving notice to the Association in writing.

6.0 Other

WPWA will review and update this policy as required from time to time.

Appendix A – Prescribed Nomination Form



LIFE MEMBERSHIP NOMINATION FORM

Please fill in the details for your Life Member Nominee.

NOMINATIONS CLOSE 5pm 31st August to allow submission to the Annual General Meeting

WPWA Life Membership Selection Criteria Guidelines:

- 1) Life Membership of Water Polo Western Australia (WPWA) is the highest honour awarded to individuals in recognition of an extraordinary contribution to water polo in Western Australia for a sustained period of time or significant and outstanding positive impact or influence on the game and its development in Western Australia. Life Membership is awarded in exceptional circumstances.
- 2) Nominations must be submitted by a recognised Affiliate of WPWA using the official WPWA nomination form.
- 3) Nominations must be accompanied by a letter of support from a second Affiliate.
- 4) The nomination must include a brief history of the nominee's service and commitment and include a list of notable achievements that clearly demonstrates an outstanding commitment to water polo in WA for the general betterment of the game. Supplementary information such as articles highlighting the work of the nominee or further letters of support or testimony are not essential but could be beneficial to the strength of candidacy of a nominee.
- 5) A minimum of ten (10) years service is recognised as a sustained contribution. The intermittent contribution by a nominee over several periods of time may be considered and the WPWA Board reserve the right to determine if Life Membership can be awarded to a nominee who has provided less than the minimum number years of service.
- 6) A longer contribution of paid service to water polo would be necessary to earn Life Membership than a wholly voluntary contribution.
- 7) Life Membership may be awarded posthumously.
- 8) There is to be no restriction on the number of Life Members appointed each year, and there will not necessarily be appointments every year, but in general the calibre of nominees would have to maintain the extremely high standards of those people previously awarded Life membership.

9) Long service in a specific field at a single Affiliate is unlikely to be recognised with WPWA Life Membership as life membership of the specific Affiliate would then be most appropriate. Nominations should be on behalf of people who have contributed significantly beyond the requirements for Life Memberships of their own organisation for the benefit of water polo in WA generally.

10) A nominee must be a registered member of Water Polo WA or a previously registered member if being nominated posthumously and must have demonstrated the core values of WPWA and acted in accordance with the WPWA Code of Conduct.

Name of Nominee: _____

Affiliate (Club/Association): _____

Nominator – must be a recognised Affiliate as defined in the Water Polo WA Constitution.

Please attach:

- 1) Letter of support from Nominator, signed in accordance with the Affiliate’s constitution.
- 2) Letter of support from a seconder of the Nomination.

Life Membership

Details of any existing Life Memberships awarded (including year awarded).

History

Provide a brief description of the nominee’s service and commitment, including years of service, highlight the nominee’s roles and responsibilities and official positions the nominee has been involved in, list of notable achievements that demonstrate an outstanding commitment to Water Polo in Western Australia.

(Please attach additional pages if required)

Nominator Name: _____

Name of authorised official of Nominator: _____

I acknowledge that this nomination was signed in accordance with a resolution of
_____ (Affiliate) on _____ (date)

Position: _____

Date: _____

Nomination Form submitted to natalie.butler@waterpolowa.asn.au

RECEIVED Date: