



Policy and Procedures Relating to Constitution Section 5.4 Life Membership

Introduction

This Policy has been prepared to assist Members of the Board, nominees and referees concerning the nomination and consideration processes for Life Membership of Queens Park Golf Club.

The Constitution of the Queens Park Golf Club Inc. (the Constitution) states that Life Membership may be bestowed for longstanding and valued service in accordance with the Policies.

Life Membership

Queens Park Golf Club recognises Life Membership as the most prestigious award available to the Club to offer a member. It is bestowed upon individual members who have provided ***longstanding, exceptional and valued service*** to the Club.

Criteria for Life Membership:

Considering and ultimately granting Life Membership is a serious matter requiring a combination of objective and subjective material. Each nomination should be treated on its individual merits.

The Board wishes to make it clear that when they endorse a nomination for Life Membership, they are providing to the Members a confirmation that such nomination in their majority opinion meets the standard of *longstanding and valued service*. Under no circumstances should such endorsement be seen as a recommendation by the Board to Members to vote in a particular way.

The points to be considered for a nomination include:

Length of Service:

- Be a current financial member and have a minimum of 15 years continuous financial membership.
- Demonstrated an exceptional personal contribution of service to the Club over an extended period of time (a minimum of 10 years).
- Continuous financial membership will not be affected by an unavoidable period of Leave of Absence taken by the member.

General Considerations:

- The service and contribution of the nominated member is recognised as having measurable benefit to the Club and to the Membership.
- Good standing within the Club and the community.

- Demonstrated attitude and personal conduct standards that reflect commitment to the values of the Club, and dedication to the values of the game of golf, including good sportsmanship and community spirit.
- Regarded as a role model within the club and displayed valued leadership.

Specific Criteria:

- Had multiple years in specific roles that contribute to the benefit of the Club. Those roles may include:
 - service to the Board and committees,
 - organising and assisting with Club social activities,
 - assisting with new members,
 - fund raising or promotional roles,
 - volunteer work on the golf course,
 - mentoring,
 - youth development,
 - welfare support for Club members – for example; phone or personal welfare checks for members who require support, assistance to members who are unwell, including transport, shopping, meals.
- Represented the Club with distinction in the broader golfing community both on the course and/or by service on various governing bodies.
- Had major personal participation in one or more important club projects.
- Other special achievements for the Club which may be either on or off the course or both.

Note: In addition to meeting these criteria, a member may not have been found guilty of any high grade Code of Conduct infringements or disciplinary matters during the time of his/her membership.

Nominations and Process for Life Membership:

- Any current fully financial member can nominate any current member. Current Board Members are excluded from being nominated.
- The nomination must be seconded by at least one financial member plus at least one current Board Member.
- The nomination must be in writing and (accompanied by any relevant documentation), must be lodged with the Secretary at least three months prior to the date of the next Annual General Meeting (AGM).
- The candidate should generally meet the guidelines stated in the criteria. The person submitting the nomination must provide an adequate level of information, including examples, to support why the nominee is considered to have met the criteria and is worthy of this award.
- The Secretary will then include the Life Membership nomination in the agenda for the next Board meeting for assessment.

- The Board may appoint an individual or subcommittee to further research the nomination if necessary.
- For the nomination to be endorsed at Board level, a majority vote from all Directors is required.
- As set out in the Constitution (subsection 5.4(c)), the club's Membership will confirm or decline the proposal by way of a special resolution at an AGM. At least 75% of those members entitled to vote and who are present at the AGM, must vote in favour of the granting of Life Membership to a nominee.
- If/When approved at an AGM, the granting of Life Membership and the recipient's service to the Club shall be publicised through the Club's Media and Communication tools.
- At any one time the recommended number of life members of the Queens Park Golf Club is to be held at ten (this will exclude those life members who are deceased, although they will still be recognised as life members.)
- Life Membership cannot be nominated by or supported by a direct or indirect family member of the person being nominated.
- All nominations for Life Membership of Queens Park Golf Club will be treated in the strictest confidence until the AGM.

Benefits of Life Membership:

- The member will be awarded a Life Membership Badge.
- The member will be provided with full membership of the club for life without annual membership fees.
- The members name will be included on the Life Members Honour Board and/or website listing.
- A personal invitation to any special event organised by the Club.
- Free individual access to Club functions.

Cessation of Life Membership:

- The Board of the day shall have the right to revoke Life Member status at any time in the future if, in the opinion of the Board, the Life Member has acted in a manner that is unbecoming of a member and would justify a revocation of the Life Member status.
- In the event of a Life Member losing that special membership status, he/she may return to the normal membership in a category of his/her choice and pay the annual fees relevant to the category chosen.

Recognition of Long Service – Certificate of Appreciation.

The Queens Park Golf Club Board recognises that there will be members who have been members for a long time but may not necessarily qualify for life membership.

A Certificate of Appreciation may be awarded to such members.

Consideration Guidelines:

The points to be considered for a nomination are:

- A minimum of **30 years of continuous membership**.
- Demonstrates integrity and fairness of play.
- The general attitude and overall demeanour of the nominee shows a dedication to the core values of the Club set down in the Strategic Plan.
- The nominees' period of membership must reflect favourably on and have brought credit to the Club.

Nomination and awarding of Certificate of Appreciation Process:

- Nominations can be made by current, financial Queens Park Golf Club members who have known the nominee as a club member for at least five years.
- The nomination must be seconded by at least one financial member.
- Nominations must be kept in strictest confidence – this includes the nominated club member.
- The nomination must be in writing and be lodged with the Secretary at least two months prior to the date of the next Annual General Meeting (AGM).
- The Secretary will then include the nomination for the Certificate of Appreciation in the agenda for the next Board meeting.
- The Board will assess all nominations in camera. The Club President or Club Secretary may delegate the assessment of a nomination to a panel of no less than five Board members from the Board if a nominee is a current Board member.

QPGC Life Membership Policy			
Version	Date	Author	Notes
0.1	04/07/24	Janet Flitton	Draft reviewed by Governance Co.
0.2	15/07/24		Draft reviewed by Board, minor changes
0.3	08/08/24		Draft reviewed by Governance Committee
1.0	23/09/24		Approved by Board, minor changes