



# PERTH SOCCER CLUB (INC)

## GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE GUIDELINES

### FOR

## MERIT AWARD, PLAYER LIFE MEMBER, AND LIFE MEMBERSHIP

### INTRODUCTION

As is a key feature of well run and administered organisations of its nature, the Perth Soccer Club recognises outstanding and distinguished service to the Club. This is done via a number of award categories and in two steps. The first step is attainment of a Merit Award or a Player Life Member. The second step is Life Membership.

### WHAT CONSTITUTES DISTINGUISHED SERVICE?

The following qualities/features of service are required when determining distinguished years of service:

- For both, Merit Award or Life Membership, the Nominee would have actively and positively contributed (service) to the Club for a set period of time. The years that are counted to determine years of service are those where a person has committed to, and provided a service for the entire duration of either a season or year. Of note, part years or seasons don't contribute to the tally.
- The Nominee has actively participated in Club activities.
- The Club has gained clear benefits by the Nominee's participation/services.

### WHO QUALIFIES?

By and large the Merit and Life Membership are awarded to Ordinary Members of the Club for their distinguished service to the Club. The Merit Award requires five (5) years of service – not necessarily continuous, whereas Life Membership requires fifteen years – again not necessarily continuous.

However, there are many occasions where people render distinguished service to the Club who initially did not consider applying for Ordinary Membership. These people may still qualify for a Merit Award, however, there needs to be a progression towards, and becoming an Ordinary Member. In such cases, the service record needs to be five continuous years – with at least the last two years as Ordinary Member. After attaining a Merit Award, a further ten (10) years of meritorious service as an Ordinary Member is required before one can qualify as a Life Member. A Player Life Member is required to provide a further 5 years of meritorious service (post their Player service) as an Ordinary Member to qualify as a Life Member.

### MERIT AWARD

- To be awarded to a person who has served a minimum of five (5) years distinguished service to the Perth Soccer Club
- As with Life Membership, Nomination for a Merit Award shall be proposed by an Ordinary or Life Member and seconded by another Ordinary or Life Member. It shall be submitted to the Governance Committee (a Board sub-committee) for review. Application shall be on the Club's Nomination for Merit Award Application Form which requires:
  - Full name and address of the nominee,
  - A seconder,
  - Statement listing all achievements and service to the Club,



- The completed years / seasons of service (part season/years will only be accepted if it was not possible for the Nominee to complete the full year due to e.g. major illness or other material reason which made it difficult to continue their service to the Club).
- Nominations for Merit Awards close on 1st October, unless the Board grants an extension.
- Once the Governance Committee has reviewed the Merit Award nomination, it shall submit the application to the Board along with its recommendation. The Merit Award nomination must be approved by a 2/3<sup>rd</sup> majority of Board Members.
- An announcement is made of the bestowal at the Annual General Meeting.
- A Plaque will be presented in recognition of a Merit Award.

## **LIFE MEMBERSHIP**

To qualify for Life Membership, a person must first have been awarded a Merit Award. An additional 10 years of distinguished service is required. The years of service subsequent to a Merit Award do not have to be continuous, but the person must have been an Ordinary Member.

- Only recipients of a Merit Award granted by the Perth Soccer Club are eligible to be nominated for full Life Membership.
- Any person who has a Merit Award and has rendered no less than fifteen years distinguished service to the Perth Soccer Club may be granted Life Member at an Annual General Meeting.
- Nomination for Life Membership shall be proposed by an Ordinary or Life Member and seconded by another Ordinary or Life Member. It shall be submitted to the Governance Committee (a Board subcommittee) for review. Application shall be on the Club's Nomination for Life Membership Application Form which requires:
  - Full name and address of the nominee,
  - A seconder,
  - Statement listing all the achievements and service to the Club,
  - The completed years / seasons of service (part season/years will only be accepted if it was not possible for the Nominee to complete the full year due to e.g. major illness or other material reason which made it difficult to continue their service at the Club).
  - For Player Life Member, five years is the minimum requirement for service/achievements i.e. in addition to their player service requirements.
- Once the Governance Committee has reviewed the nomination, it shall submit to the Board along with its recommendation. The Board has discretionary powers to approve Life Membership Nominations that do not specifically meet all set criteria.
- An Ordinary Member or Life Member shall be entitled to nominate or second one person for Life Membership each year.
- Any Life Membership nomination must be approved by 2/3<sup>rd</sup> majority of the Board before it is eligible to be presented to the Annual General Meeting. The Board may consider any additional information which challenges the nomination.
- Only two persons may be awarded Life Membership at an Annual General meeting in any one year.
- Bestowal of Life Membership must be approved by 75% of financial Ordinary Members and Life Member present at an Annual General Meeting.
- Nominations for Life Membership close on 1st October, unless the Board grants an extension.
- Life Members are entitled for the rest of their lives to:
  - All the privileges of an Ordinary Member,
  - Season tickets for all home games



## **PLAYERS LIFE MEMBERSHIP**

- Life Membership for Players will be awarded to a Player who has played for the League Team for no less than ten (10) Seasons, or has participated in a minimum of 200 League Games. Games included are League Home & away, all cup games, and state team appearances.
- There are no limits as to how many players may be nominated for Player Life Member in any one year.
- Player Life Members are entitled for the rest of their lives to Season tickets for all home games.
- Player Life Member may become a Life Member of the Club, by providing the Club with an additional five (5) years of meritorious service as an Ordinary Member.

## **BOARD DISCRETION**

- Player Life Nominations require “a majority” support from the Board.
- When reviewing the merits of Merit Award, Player Life Member, and Life Member nominees, the Board will consider whether there have been noted/recorded:
  - any serious breaches in the Club’s Code of Conduct,
  - any flaws in the accuracy of information provided,
  - any instance whereby the Nominee has brought the Club or the game in disrepute.
- The Board, upon recommendation of the Governance Committee, may consider revoking a Merit Award or Life Membership or Player Life Member where the person has:
  - Brought the Club or the game in disrepute,
  - Been convicted of serious misconduct.