



THORNLEIGH SPORTS & RECREATION CLUB INC

CRITERIA FOR LIFE MEMBERSHIP AND OTHER AWARDS

INTRODUCTION

This policy sets out the minimum criteria to be eligible for nomination for an award of life membership or other awards of the Thornleigh Sports and Recreation Club.

These awards exist to recognise the valuable contribution of individuals to the current and future existence of the Club. In particular, the awards system described below is intended to recognise a wide range of contribution - more than simply being a long-term member of a team.

It also seeks to create a progressive scale of award so that large and small contributions to the Club can be recognised appropriately. The hierarchy of awards is:

- **Sports Club Certificate of Appreciation**
- **Sports Club Award**
- **Sports Club President's Award**
- **Life Membership**

Other NSW and Federal Government sponsored Awards exist and are subject to separate criteria. These awards may be used to recognise the service of individuals not otherwise covered by this policy.

DEFINITIONS and EXCLUSIONS

The following definitions are to be applied to all criteria:

- *On Field Role* – appointment by a Divisional Committee as a coach, manager, scorer, umpire of a Divisional sports team
- *Off Field Role* – appointment to a role on Divisional or Sports Club Committees by election at an Annual General Meeting (eg. President, Treasurer, delegate to League Committees, fund raising, social convenor, grounds coordinator)

Periods of minimum service may be served concurrently.



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On field Service by junior players as a player only while in an under 16 or below age competition will not be counted towards any of the awards specified below. The 10-Year Award Scheme and the Plaque system currently acknowledge these contributions by juniors.

These awards exist separately from awards that individual Division's may choose to bestow (eg. Divisional Presidents Awards, Coach of the Year Awards etc.)

SPORTS CLUB CERTIFICATE OF APPRECIATION

This is the minimum Award available and is intended to provide encouragement and recognition for individuals who have volunteered their service to a Team or a Division beyond the role of parent/supporter.

Junior players who are appointed by Division Committees to coach or umpire in younger age groups will also be eligible for this Certificate.

Service for this Award is required as follows:

- *A minimum of 3 years in an On Field role*

OR

- *A minimum of 2 years in an Off Field role*

This Award can be considered and approved at Divisional Committee level.

SPORTS CLUB AWARD

This Award is intended to recognise those individuals who have continued in their service to the Club and have extended their commitment to include both an On Field and Off Field role. The requirement to have service in both roles reflects the importance of the contribution of both to the future existence of the Sports Club.

Service for this Award is required as follows:

- *A minimum of 5 years On Field service*

AND



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- *A minimum of 5 years Off Field service.*

This Award can be considered and approved at Divisional Committee level.

SPORTS CLUB PRESIDENT'S AWARD

There will be occasions where individuals have served in more than one Division and/or on the Sports Club Executive.

Individuals will normally be eligible for this Award when they have been awarded at least a Certification of Appreciation in one Division and a Club Award in another Division.

Individuals who provide service to the Sports Club Executive (without a link to any Divisions) over a minimum of 5 years may also be eligible for this award.

The President of the Sports Club only will approve this award.

LIFE MEMBERSHIP

Life Membership is the highest Award available to recognise the exceptional contribution of individuals to the Thornleigh Sports and Recreation Club. It is therefore only to be awarded in exceptional circumstances.

General Considerations

In considering the award of Life Membership an individual should have demonstrated significant, sustained and high quality service enhancing the reputation and future of their chosen Division or the overall Club.

The points to be taken into account when considering any nomination should include:

- the general attitude and overall demeanour of the nominee to ensure that the attitude is one that reflects a dedication to the values of the Sports Club
- commitment to the principals of good sportsmanship
- valued leadership and good role modelling that reflects credit upon the Sports Club.

These points apply in whatever role the nominee has participated in during their service in the Sports Club.



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Length of Service

The length of service to the Club should be at least 15 years in either or both an On Field or Off Field roles with such service in either role being taken concurrently.

There must also be service with or for a governing Sporting Association (On field or Off field role) in conjunction with their involvement with the Sports Club. This service must have reflected favourably and brought credit upon Thornleigh Sports Club.

Prior Awards

From December 2002 onwards, the nominee must have been awarded each of the 'Sports Club Awards', excluding that of Life Membership, contained within the "Criteria for Life Membership and Other Awards" Final Version dated October 2001 or any authorised amended versions issued thereafter.

Process for Assessing Applications for Life Membership

Applications for Life membership should be forwarded by a Divisional President to the President of the Sports Club Committee by 31 October in each year. Applications should demonstrate attainment of minimum service requirements and other details of exemplary service.

A Life Membership Committee will assess all nominations for Life Membership. The committee will consist of at least two current Divisional Presidents and two current members of the Sports Club Executive. The Life Membership Committee will assess all nominations and only put forward those nominations that are considered worthy of Life Membership. Achieving minimum service levels does not automatically guarantee the award of Life Membership.

The final list of endorsed nominations for the award of Life Membership will be submitted to all Divisional Committees for agreement by 31 December.

Subject to agreement by ALL Divisions, Life Membership will be awarded at the next Sports Club Annual General Meeting (normally held in February). Where a Division formally raises an objection, the nomination will be referred to the Sub Committee for reconsideration.

Retraction of a Life Membership Award may occur where the recipient has conducted him/herself in a manner that reflects directly and adversely on the image or activities of the Sports Club or a specific Division. This provision will only be exercised in exceptional circumstances and will require the full support of the Thornleigh Sports Club Executive to be enacted. As part of the deliberations, the Life Member in question is



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also to be given an opportunity to present their case for retention of their Life Membership status.

Benefits of Life Membership

In addition to the status of membership of a select group within the Sports Club, Life Membership will be recognised by:

- Award of the Life Membership at the Sports Club Executive Annual General meeting
- Exemption from fees associated with the Sports Club (separate from Divisional fees)
- Listing in the Sports Club Web site and other official documents.

POLICY INTRODUCTION

This Awards policy will be effective from 1 March 2003. Awards will only be made to individuals who have achieved these awards subsequent to that date. Retrospective allocation of these Awards to individuals no longer involved in Divisions or the Sports Club Executive will not be made.

This policy will be reviewed two years after introduction.

Roger Norton
President