



## NORTH-EASTERN DISTRICT GOLF ASSOCIATION

### LIFE MEMBERSHIP POLICY

#### PURPOSE

Awarding Life Membership is the highest award possible within the North-Eastern District Golf Association (NEDGA) and therefore serious consideration is required for any nomination. The purpose of this document is to provide guidelines to affiliated club members as to the requirements and process for nominating a member for Life Membership and the incumbent Committee on the process for reviewing.

#### POLICY

##### 1. NOMINATION

- a. The Nominee can only be nominated and seconded by affiliated members or Life Members, one of which must be actively involved in the activities of the District at the time of nomination.
- b. The nomination must then be sponsored by one current NEDGA committee member who will present the nomination to the committee, with the support of nominator/s.
- c. Nominations must be submitted to the committee at a least eight weeks prior to the Annual General Meeting to allow sufficient time for deliberations.
- d. The nomination must clearly articulate the reasons why Life Membership is considered appropriate and comply with regard to the criteria as set out in section 2.

##### 2. CRITERIA

- a. The Nominee for must have maintained a minimum 15 years of membership of an affiliated club unless exceptional circumstances can be cited however, length of membership alone is not sufficient.
- b. The Nominee is not required to be a current financial member of an affiliated club.
- c. Service – there are four key areas of consideration (to be considered on a District level);
  - i. Playing;
  - ii. Coaching/Managing;
  - iii. Administration;
  - iv. General Contribution (including fund-raising, voluntary support, member engagement and other issues the committee see as relevant).
    - The nominee must have an outstanding contribution in at least one of these areas and at least some contribution in two of the other three areas or contribution deemed appropriate at the discretion of the committee.
    - In determining the level of significance, the committee members should consider this in light of a very high quality service. While a reasonable



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length of time of service is important, the overriding criterion is on quality of service.

- The nomination is to provide where possible specific examples of the nominee's meeting of the criteria.
- The nomination is to clearly demonstrate how the work and/or involvement has significantly progressed the District's development.

### 3. PROCESS

- a. Nomination form to be completed by eligible nominating members and then submitted to a current NEDGA committee member
- b. All nominations are to be treated with the strictest of confidence
- c. The nomination is to be tabled at the next special meeting (committee meeting) at which the nominators are welcome to present the case to the committee otherwise the Sponsor will present
- d. A minimum of five votes (including proxies) is required to hold a valid vote
- e. The committee at this time are welcome to ask questions and if required, a carry-over to the next meeting can occur to provide time to present further evidence
- f. Once the case is finalised and the committee have no further questions, the committee shall conduct a secret ballot.
- g. Existing Life Members are entitled to vote and are to be invited to attend the meeting to cast their vote, or they may appoint a proxy to vote on their behalf
- h. The ballot will be conducted by an executive member of the committee, excluding any current nominee
- i. Only current committee members and life members are eligible to cast votes. Any nominee on the committee is ineligible to vote.
- j. Votes are to be tallied and the nomination will be presented to the district members if 80% or greater vote in favour.
- k. Committee members are not permitted to abstain from voting. Voting is not compulsory for Life Members.
- l. The nomination is to be presented to the Members at the next AGM for voting. The required affirmative votes for successful nomination is 75%.

### 4. ENTITLEMENT

- a. An official Life Membership plaque and badge will be presented at the next District event.
- b. The Life Members have the right to attend and speak at all general meetings of the Association, but not vote unless otherwise qualified.
- c. The Life Members name will be displayed on the club website.
- d. The Life Members affiliation fee will be waived indefinitely.
- e. The life Members competition fees at all District events will be waived indefinitely.



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### **5. OTHER**

- a. If a nomination is not endorsed, an additional nomination may be submitted in future financial years.
- b. Life Membership is absolutely forfeited upon any failure to observe any by-laws or constitutional requirements and upon the passing of a special resolution for the removal from Life Membership for reasons not limited to, but as to bringing the name of North-Eastern District Golf Association into disrepute.

### **6. RELATED DOCUMENTS**

- Life Membership Nomination Form
- Life Membership Proxy vote form
- Life Membership ballot paper