

# Audax Australia Life and Outstanding Membership Policy

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## 1 Life Membership

### 1.1 Process for Nominating and Granting Life Membership

- 1) Clause 6.2(f) of the Constitution provides that Life Membership may be granted by the National Committee in recognition of services rendered to the Association.
- 2) Nominations for Life Membership should be lodged with the Audax Australia Secretary. The nominator is to provide a written submission addressing how the nominee measures up against the Life Membership criteria
- 3) The Secretary shall promptly pass the nomination to the current President who is the Chair of the Life Membership subcommittee which comprises the President, Vice-President and a Past President. Should a member of the subcommittee not be available for a substantial part of the period allocated for consideration, the remaining members may co-opt another subcommittee member with suitable background.
- 4) The subcommittee shall consider the nomination against the Life Membership criteria in light of the general principles. Each nomination shall be considered on its merits. In considering the nomination, members of the subcommittee are not to be influenced by any personal relationship with the nominee and are not to make direct comparisons with other Life Members, nominees or persons not nominated. The subcommittee may request additional information from the nominator if that would assist its deliberations.
- 5) The subcommittee shall decide whether or not to grant the nominee Life Membership and provide its decision to the National Committee within three months of receipt of the nomination by the President. The subcommittee shall provide a statement of reasons for the decision. The decision may address any other relevant aspects of the proposed Life Membership (e.g. method and timing of its granting and announcement).
- 6) The National Committee shall ratify the decision at its next meeting. It may, on motion of one, seconded by another and passed by a vote of 80% of those voting, veto the decision of the subcommittee on reasonable grounds. It may only do so at its first meeting after receipt of the decision. In such an event, the National Committee shall discuss and determine a course of action.
- 7) If the nominee is a member of the parties considering the nomination (i.e. on either the subcommittee or the National Committee), the nominee is to stand aside from deliberations and decision-making. If the nominee is on the subcommittee, the remaining subcommittee members shall co-opt another suitable member.
- 8) The granting of a Life Membership and the recipient's services to the Association should be publicised in any communication tool considered appropriate.
- 9) The Life Membership shall be recorded in the Association's official records.
- 10) Recipients of Life Membership are provided with free membership for life.

### 1.2 General principles to consider in granting Life Membership

- 1) The granting of Life Membership is a great honour and should not be treated lightly. No more than one Life Membership if any is likely to be awarded each year.

- 2) Life Membership should not be considered as a competitive matter and nominees shall be considered individually and on their personal attributes and achievements and not in comparison with others. While it is inevitable that comparisons will be made for example against the types of achievements of past recipients, direct comparisons should not be made.
- 3) Granting Life Membership is a balancing exercise. Criteria are provided for guidance, but it is the overall contribution of the nominee that shall be evaluated. There is necessarily some subjectivity in the granting of Life Membership. Nominees' strengths against the various criteria will vary. Some nominees will be extremely strong in some criteria but weaker against others, others will be more rounded.
- 4) Life Membership is reserved for those whose contribution goes beyond the ordinary or even the excellent for an extended period of time, not just a few years.

### 1.3 Criteria to be considered in granting Life Membership

- 1) Length of active membership:  
To have contributed to the Association to the degree necessary for Life Membership, a nominee will almost necessarily have been an active Member for a significant time. While there is no 'minimum' period of membership, a period of 10 years' active membership is an indicator of a long term commitment.
- 2) Positions held and length of time:  
The nominee should be able to demonstrate a significant contribution to the running of Association at a National or Regional level over a substantial period of time.  
This may include:
  - a. significant contributions while holding positions on the National Committee and/or a Regional Committee (bearing in mind that mere membership of such committees does not of its own mean a person has made significant contributions),
  - b. making significant contributions in national roles such as ride calendar co-ordination, membership secretary, editor of Association publications, Chair of a delegated committee etc.
  - c. participating to a much greater extent than the average Member as a regular, consistent and reliable Ride Volunteer.
- 3) Multiple active roles benefitting a large number of people in Audax Australia over a long period of time are the most obvious indicators of outstanding service to the Association.
- 4) History of organising rides:  
The nominee should be able to demonstrate active contribution to the core activity of the Association – distance riding – by being a regular and consistent ride organiser..
- 5) History of active riding:  
Nominees should be or have been active Audax riders. Nominees should be able to demonstrate significant long distance riding accomplishments. Ideally nominees not only have a long history of riding with the Association but continue to do so at the time of nomination (i.e. it would be appropriate to acknowledge their efforts while they are able to enjoy the honour).

## 2 Outstanding Member

### 2.1 Outstanding Members – Recognition and Reward

1. The Association now has well over 1,000 Members. Among them are those whose commitment to the Association, whose Regional or National service, or whose cycling successes make them legendary.
2. We want to recognise and celebrate their contributions and achievements at the National level.
3. Life Membership is awarded rarely and for significant contributions across several areas of service benefitting a large number of people for an extended time.
4. Recognition of Outstanding Members enables a broader range of committed Members to be recognised at the National level for their contributions and achievements.
5. Outstanding Members are provided with free membership for 12 months.

### 2.2 What is being recognised?

1. Reasons for being recognised and rewarded as an Outstanding Member of Audax Australia are many, varied and flexible. There is a value judgment to be made by cycling peers recognising and rewarding meritorious service to the Association and cycling achievements.
2. Recognition could be for service to Audax Australia in the local Region or at the National level - including but not limited to contributions to running the Association, working on committees, organising rides, volunteering as a support person, organising others, managing the behind the scenes work, going the extra mile and taking on the extra tasks, being an exemplar Audax rider, encouraging and motivating and assisting others.
3. Recognition could be for achieving extraordinary riding success – in recognition that we are a long distance cycling club, where endurance riding is the objective. The recognition may be for Audax riding achievements beyond the ordinary but may also be for appropriate other achievements in endurance cycling.
4. While more Outstanding Member awards will be made than Life Memberships awarded, recognition should still only be for truly impressive contributions and achievements.

### 2.3 How does it happen? Recognising and rewarding Outstanding Members

1. Regional Committees may choose recipients from Members in their Region on an annual basis and advise the National Committee (by advice to the President and Secretary) at least two weeks prior to the Annual General Meeting.
2. The National Committee may also choose recipients with a more national role.
3. Regional Committees shall include in their advice to the President and Secretary a complete list of nominated recipients for that year and an appropriate recitation for presentation and publication.
4. The President should present the award formally at the Annual General Meeting or it may be presented by the National or Regional President as part of an Awards Presentation at a major Association event or Association dinner.
5. As a guide, larger Regions may make up to 2 to 3 awards each year and smaller Regions up to 1 each year. There may be years in which no awards are made. There may be exceptional years in which slightly more awards may be made; bearing in mind the numbers of awards made should not devalue their significance.
6. Recipients shall be given a year's Free Membership.
7. Recipients shall be included on an Honour Board on our new Website – showing the award citation, photo, and date of award.

#### 2.4 Other criteria in selecting Outstanding Members

1. Life Members are not eligible to be nominated as Outstanding Members.
2. An Outstanding Member may later be nominated / awarded Life Membership.
3. There is no minimum period of Membership for eligibility – recognition is of effort and achievement which may be achieved in a short time.
4. While a Regional or National Committee member is eligible, the relevant person shall be excluded from any discussion concerning their selection and their contribution or achievement shall be unquestionably outstanding.
5. Outstanding Membership may be awarded more than once to the same recipient but not in consecutive years.