



## 13.0 HONORARY LIFE MEMBERSHIP POLICY

Policy number:	13.0	Version:	1-2016
Approved by Board on:	28 Jan 2016	Scheduled Review Date	Jan 2017

### OVERVIEW

The Board of Muscular Dystrophy Western Australia acknowledge that the efforts and commitment of its voluntary workforce should be recognised, acknowledged and promoted. The Association shall recognise exceptional service with the presentation of Honorary Life Membership, which will be presented to a limited number of persons annually.

### EXPECTED OUTCOMES

- That exceptional service, significant, sustained and long lasting contributions given to Muscular Dystrophy Western Australia will be recognised and acknowledged by way of a formal process.
- That a clear process will exist to determine Honorary Life Members
- That by presenting Honorary Life Memberships, Muscular Dystrophy Western Australia will continue to build upon its culture, legacy and history.

### ELIGIBILITY

All members of Muscular Dystrophy Western Australia, whether paid or unpaid, who have given exceptional service, significant, sustained and long lasting contributions to the Association will be eligible for nomination for Honorary Life Membership.

To be eligible for nomination, nominees need to have been engaged with the Association for at least ten (10) years. Nominations will also be accepted on behalf of members who have given 'exceptional service' over a lesser time and who cannot continue with their involvement due to illness or other unavoidable reasons.

Honorary Life Membership may be awarded posthumously.

The number of honorary life memberships presented annually shall be limited to a maximum of three (3), however the Board reserves the right to increase or decrease the number presented in any one year where exceptional circumstances prevail.

### PROCEDURES OF POLICY IMPLEMENTATION

Any member of the Association (paid or unpaid) may complete an 'Application for Nomination' form for another member, in accordance with the nominee having met the eligibility criteria.



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Nominations may be received at any time throughout the year, but would close one month before the date set for the Annual General Meeting of that year. Nominations received after this date would automatically become eligible for the following years nominations.

In February of each year the Board of Muscular Dystrophy WA notify the membership of the date Honorary Life Membership nominations for that year will close.

The nominations received will be assessed by the Board of MDWA. The decisions reached by the Board will be final and will be kept confidential until the AGM. It is the responsibility of the Board to ascertain all relevant information in order to be able to make an informed decision. This may include seeking input from staff and interviews with appropriate other persons.

Nominations will be judged using the following criteria:

- Length of contribution to the Association
- Continuity of service
- Involvement in chosen area(s) (i.e. research, community service, fundraising)
- Significant achievements within MDWA & externally (e.g. awards received)
- Involvement in the broader neuromuscular network (e.g. subcommittees, working parties, social clubs & other like groups)
- General demeanour (how has the candidate affected other members, the general work environment)

Honorary Life Memberships will be announced and presented at the Annual General Meeting each year.

## **HONORARY LIFE MEMBER RECOGNITION**

All honorary life members will be acknowledged and recognised in the following manner:

- A framed certificate of life membership shall be awarded to each recipient
- The name of the recipient shall be placed onto the Honorary Life Members honour board
- A badge (pin) indicating Honorary Life Membership will be designed and presented to each recipient
- Honorary Life members will be automatically invited to attend formal Association functions, including annual recognition events, even if they are no longer an active member.