

Procedures and Criteria for Awarding Life Membership New Plymouth Contract Bridge Club

October 2017

Introduction

- Life memberships are prestigious honours that are not awarded lightly nor earned of right but are awarded for long, well documented and meritorious service
- Recipients must have advanced or improved the NP Bridge Club significantly, such that their contribution is widely recognised as outstanding
- The Life Membership will be determined by the current Club Committee
- Life members within the NP Bridge Club will be typically between 2 and 6 persons at any time. It is not necessary for a Life Membership to be granted each year.

Nomination

1. Any nomination for life membership should be made at least two meetings prior to the Annual General Meeting (by September 30th)
2. While the nomination can come from any current member, it must be 'sponsored' by a Committee member but should remain confidential
3. It will then become the responsibility of that Committee member to present evidence to the Committee regarding the nominee based on the criteria set out below. This will allow an informed decision as to the nominee's life member worthiness.
4. Information may be sought from other non Committee club members if required. This should be done in conjunction with the nominator to allow time to gather the relevant information.
5. Once a nomination has been received the Secretary shall forward all relevant information Committee members prior to the next meeting, If necessary a special meeting will be called to decide on the nomination. The nominee may be invited to present the case.
A special meeting may be held if necessary

Criteria

The following four areas of club service must be considered:

- Playing
- Coaching/Managing
- Administration
- General contribution (including fundraising, supporting and other issues that the Committee may 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. While a reasonable length of time (to be determined by the Committee) of service is important, the overall riding criterion is the **quality of service**

Awarding Life Membership

1. At the meeting to decide on the nomination/s the Committee shall, based on the above criteria determine if the nomination is worthy of Life Membership.
If there is any doubt of the criteria being achieved, or lack of information about the nominee that makes such a conclusion impossible, then Committee members should consider voting in the negative
2. Once the nominator/sponsor has presented the information and all questions and comments have been made, the Committee shall conduct a secret ballot on the worthiness of the nomination
3. The President/Secretary should take the final votes and count them. A quorum must be present with a minimum of 85% agreeing with the nomination. Given the importance of the decision Committee Members are not allowed to abstain from voting

Awarding Life Membership

- Life Membership will be awarded at the AGM and be recognised on the club Life membership Honours board
- An official listing and CV profile will also be included on the club Life Membership web page. Other rewards include free annual subscription
- Life members may be called upon to assist with special projects or for guidance and advice in areas

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Life Membership Nomination Form

Club member nominated: _____

Nominated by: _____

Committee Sponsor: _____

Reason for nomination of Life Membership:

Describe outstanding club service in the following four areas:

Playing
Administration
Coaching/Managing
General contribution (including fundraising, supporting and other issues that may be relevant)

Forward to Committee secretary before the 30th September