



MEREWETHER HIGH SCHOOL P&C ASSOCIATION

LIFE MEMBERSHIP POLICY

LIFE MEMBERSHIP

Life Membership of the Merewether High School P&C Association is an honour awarded to outstanding members in recognition of the substantial contribution they have made to the current and future wellbeing of the P&C and the school community, well beyond that of a typically active member. It is therefore only to be awarded in exceptional circumstances.

LIFE MEMBERSHIP AWARDS PANEL

P&C members of the Life Membership Awards panel will be elected each year, following the receipt of a nomination for Life Membership.

The panel will consist of three persons:

- The Principal
- One member of the Executive
- One financial P&C member

The Panel must not include a person who has nominated or seconded someone for Life Membership or anyone who may have a potential conflict of interest with a nominated person.

It is not the role of the Panel to approve a person for Life Membership, only to determine whether that person has met the minimum requirements. The ultimate decision rests with the P&C Association's financial members.

CRITERIA CONSIDERATIONS

A nominee must satisfy the following criteria:

- The nominee has been a member of the Merewether High School P&C Association for a minimum of four years and has served in a leadership role for a minimum of one year.
- The nominee has made an outstanding contribution to Merewether High School and the P&C above and beyond that of an average active P&C member.
- The contribution has achieved some particular noteworthy outcome for Merewether High School and/or the P&C.

PROCESS FOR ASSESSING APPLICATIONS FOR LIFE MEMBERSHIP

The Life Membership nomination process is:

- The Secretary (or delegate) of the Merewether High School P&C Association will invite nominations for Life Membership at each August P&C meeting.
- Nominations must be forwarded on the Life Membership Nomination Form. Another P&C member must second the nomination and it must show the name and signature of both the nominator and seconder.
- The Nomination form will be available for download on the Parents Homepage of the MHS website.
- Nomination forms should be forwarded to the Secretary (or delegate) no later than the October P&C meeting.
- Nominees must not be present during discussions about the nomination, nor are they able to vote on it. Nominees may be asked to leave the room during discussions about Life Membership.
- The Life Membership Panel will assess all nominations and only put forward those nominations that are considered eligible for consideration of Life Membership.
- A vote for Life Membership will be made at each November P&C meeting and a two-thirds majority vote, of those members of the association present at the meeting, is required for the nomination to be successful.
- Life Membership is to be conferred at the next Annual General Meeting or a special meeting convened for such purpose.
- The Secretary will maintain a list of Life Members on the Parents Homepage of the MHS website.

BENEFITS OF LIFE MEMBERSHIP

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

- Award of a Merewether High School P&C Life Membership certificate (supplied by the NSW P&C Federation) and a Life Membership badge.
- Life Members may attend and speak at P&C meetings but are not entitled to vote or hold office unless they are also ordinary members.

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 P & C Association or school community. This provision will only be exercised in exceptional circumstances and will require a two-thirds majority vote of the Merewether High School P&C Association members present at the time of the meeting. As part of the deliberations, the Life Member in question is also to be given an opportunity to present their case for retention of their Life Membership status.