

EUROBODALLA DRESSAGE ASSOCIATION

LIFE MEMBERSHIP

This award exists to recognise the valuable contribution of individuals to the current and future existence of the Club. It is therefore only to be awarded in exceptional circumstances, with the Award being the highest honour the Club can bestow upon a Member.

This policy sets out the minimum criteria to be eligible for the “Life Membership” Award of the Eurobodalla Dressage Association.

CRITERIA FOR LIFE MEMBERSHIP

Generally only one recipient should receive this Award in any one year period. The Club recognises that exceptional circumstances may arise when there may be two worthy nominees. It will then be at the discretion of the current Life Members whether one or both nominees will be recommended for the Award.

It should also be recognised that Life Membership does not have to be awarded each year. The Life Membership Award is not a long service award – involvement with, for and on behalf of the Club needs to be outstanding.

In being considered for the Life Membership Award an individual should have demonstrated significant, sustained and high quality service enhancing the reputation, promotion and future development of the Club.

The points to be taken into account when considering any nomination include:

- The nominee should have provided extensive service to the club as an instructor, committee member, executive committee member and/or volunteer. The period of service to the club does not need to be continuous. If a nominee has left the Club and returned, their entire service will be noted.
- However the Club also recognised that there may be exceptional circumstances where a nominee has made and continues to make valuable contributions and demonstrated their commitment to the Club on an on-going basis in a shorter period of time. Their contribution may also be taken into consideration.
- The general attitude and overall demeanour of the nominee shows a dedication to the values of the Club.
- The nominee demonstrates a commitment to the principals of good sportsmanship.
- The nominee is an accepted leader and credible role model whose actions reflect positively upon the Club.

BENEFITS OF LIFE MEMBER

The following benefits will be bestowed upon the recipient following the presentation of Life Membership at the Annual Awards night.

- Exemption from membership fees associated with the Club.
- Listing on the Club's website and social media pages.
- Status of being one of a few to have achieved the recognition of Life Member.
- Ability to include Award recognition on Curriculum Vitae.

CRITERIA FOR DECISION MAKING

- The Committee members who will decide on the merits of the applications will comprise of at least two (2) current Life Members.
- Following the close of nominations, it will be necessary for the two Life Members to review the Life Member nominee applications.
- The current Life Members have the power, under Clause 13 of the Constitution to discuss each application on its merit. The current Life Members will make an informed and unbiased recommendation on behalf of the Club as to whether any of the persons nominated meet the criteria as set out and whether they would be a worthy recipient of the Award.

PROCESS FOR LIFE MEMBERSHIP NOMINATIONS

Nomination forms for Life Membership are available from the Club Secretary. They should be completed and returned to the Secretary in a sealed envelope no later than the 31st July each year. Late nominations will not be accepted.

The nominations are to be opened by the two current (2) Life Members appointed.

Review of nominations needs to occur by the end of August annually.

The two current Life Members will make the decision as to whether the recipient will be recommended for the award of Life Membership taking into consideration that it is the highest honour the Club can bestow on a member and it is to be restricted accordingly.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF LIFE MEMBERSHIP RECIPIENTS

At the Annual General Meeting the current Life Member/s will give their recommendation to the Club members. By Special Resolution the Club members will then accept and validate the recommendation of the person so nominated.

The recipient of Life Membership will receive their Award at the Annual Awards night.

UNSUCCESSFUL LIFE MEMBERSHIP NOMINATIONS

If a nomination for Life Membership is unsuccessful, a subsequent nomination may be submitted the following year.

REVIEW OF LIFE MEMBERSHIP CRITERIA

This Life Membership Criteria document and the Life Membership Nomination Form may be reviewed from time to time and amended as and when required by the Committee and Members of the Eurobodalla Dressage Association.