



Life Membership

Title	Life Membership Policy				
Intended Audience	All RAMS Members				
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1. Purpose of Policy

To provide guidelines around the management of Life Members of Redlands Aero Modellers (RAMS) members.

2. Qualification

To be eligible to receive a Life Membership the RAMS Member would have demonstrated a substantial contribution to the club over a sustained period of time. The definition of ‘substantial’ and ‘sustained period of time’ is up to each committee to determine.

3. Nomination Process

3.1. Rules

- Nominations must be in writing
- A member cannot nominate themselves
- Nominator must be a financial member of RAMS
- Nomination must cite specific evidence supporting the nomination
- Nomination must include;
 - Name of the person making the nomination
 - Name of the person to be nominated
 - Reasons supporting the nomination including;
 - Duration based information (time serving, how long, etc.)
 - Achievement based information (what the person specifically achieved / created)
 - Evidence supporting the nomination (if there was any ambiguity over the breadth and depth of the contribution of the nominee)

3.2. Process

The nomination of a Life Membership can be made by email or letter to any member of the RAMS committee and must abide by the nomination rules.

4. Review Process

The nomination is tabled at the following RAMS Committee Meeting

The RAMS Committee will decide upon the nomination considering only the information provided within the nomination (This is to ensure any future committees can look back on the decision and understand the basis for the decision should there be any questions or concerns)

4.1. Nomination passed

The RAMS Committee will notify the nominator of their decision and will contact the Nominee to advise they have been nominated and their nomination has been accepted.

4.2. Nomination Declined

The RAMS Committee will notify the nominator of the reason and rationale as to why the nomination was declined.

The reasons for declining the nomination will be minuted in the applicable RAMS Committee Minutes.

The Nominee will not be contacted by the RAMS Committee.

4.3. Appeal

In the event the Life Membership nomination is declined the nominator has the right of appeal however this must be based upon the tabling of additional supporting evidence or information not previously tabled for review with the initial nomination.

The appeal must be presented to the RAMS Secretary in writing and include the evidence as referenced above.

The appeal will be considered at the next scheduled RAMS Committee Meeting. The outcome of the appeal will follow the Nomination Passed or Nomination Declined process.

The outcome of the appeal is final and no further correspondence will be entered into.

5. Entitlement

Upon renewal of the newly appointed Life Member, RAMS will not charge the Life Member the RAMS Club fee however the member will still be required to pay the MAAQ and MAAA fees while they wish to remain club members.

6. Sustainability

6.1. Member

Life Membership remains in effect for the lifetime of the member.

Each year the Life Members will be contacted to validate if they wish to continue their membership. They can do so in the capacity of a flying Life Member (Equivalent to a Senior Membership) or they can do so as a non-flying Life Member (Equivalent to a Social Member). Non flying Life Members will lessen the financial impact to the club.

Life Members will still be required to complete a RAMS Membership Application form (inclusive of a signature and up to date information) as this is still a legal requirement acknowledging compliance to the applicable rules and regulations around membership for another 12 months.

6.2. Club

If the club membership falls below a sustainable level, and is therefore is deemed to be in financial jeopardy, Life Members may be requested to pay the club portion of the membership renewal.

The determination of what is considered sustainable is a committee based decision and takes into consideration;

1. Annual Revenue
2. Annual Expenses & commitments
3. Cash at bank
4. Safe Operating buffer
5. Cost of ongoing maintenance of existing club facilities

7. Revocation Process

A life member can lose life membership if their club membership is revoked, for the same reasons as all club members, and they will have the same right of appeal according to the RAMS Constitution.

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