Victorian Athletic League Inc. (VAL)

Criteria for Life Membership

Purpose

Life Membership is the highest individual honour conferred by the Victorian Athletic League Inc. (VAL). It recognises exceptional, sustained and meritorious service to the League, its purposes, its members, affiliated clubs, registered athletes and trainers, and the broader professional footrunning community.

General Test

A nominee must have made a continuous, outstanding and meritorious contribution to the VAL over an extended period.

These criteria are intended to guide the assessment of nominations and are not mandatory requirements. Nominations will be assessed holistically, having regard to the totality of the nominee's contribution and the purposes and objectives of the League.

1. Service and Contribution

The nominee:

- Has rendered significant and sustained service at League, club, state or national level that has directly benefited the VAL or advanced professional footrunning in Victoria.
- Has made a meaningful contribution to the governance, administration or development of the VAL, including service to affiliated clubs, committees, officials, stakeholders, peak bodies or other organisations connected with the sport.
- Has demonstrated contributions that are specific, demonstrable and of a level beyond the ordinary expectations of the role or positions held.

2. Governance, Integrity and Compliance

The nominee:

- Has consistently demonstrated a commitment to good governance, integrity, fairness and compliance with the VAL Constitution, Regulations, policies and objectives.
- Has consistently conducted themselves in a manner aligned with the values, standards and reputation of the VAL.
- Has not engaged in conduct that would bring, or be likely to bring, the League into disrepute.

3. Leadership, Development and Best Practice

The nominee:

- Has introduced, championed or implemented innovative practices that have improved the administration, governance or operation of the VAL.
- Has demonstrated a willingness to identify and adopt relevant best practice from other sporting bodies where appropriate and beneficial to the League.
- Has mentored, encouraged or supported others in developing initiatives that strengthen the VAL, its affiliated clubs or its events.
- Has demonstrated outstanding leadership, service or contribution in one or more areas of the League, including administration, officiating, event delivery, athlete or trainer support, club development, promotion or community engagement.

4. Engagement, Promotion and Community Impact

The nominee:

- Has advanced the profile, reputation and participation base of professional footrunning through promotion, recruitment, event support or engagement with the athletics community.
- Has enhanced communication, cooperation and engagement between the VAL, its members, affiliated clubs, registered athletes and trainers, officials, volunteers and the wider community.
- Has delivered outcomes that have had a demonstrable positive impact on the sport, the League or the broader community.

5. Standing and Other Relevant Matters

The nominee:

- Is of good standing within the VAL and the wider community.
- Any disciplinary, compliance or conduct matters may be taken into account when assessing whether the nominee meets the standards expected of a Life Member.
- May be assessed against any other matter that the Committee or Board considers relevant and appropriate to the nomination.

Assessment and Discretion

The VAL Committee or Board retains discretion in assessing nominations and applying these criteria, acting in good faith and in accordance with the VAL Constitution and applicable Regulations.

Satisfaction of one or more criteria does not automatically entitle a nominee to Life Membership.

Life Membership may only be recommended where the Committee or Board is satisfied that the nominee's overall contribution warrants recognition as a Life Member, having regard to the purposes, values and best interests of the League.

A resolution to confer Life Membership on the recommendation of the Committee must be passed by a special resolution at the Annual General Meeting.

See VAL Life Membership Nomination Form.