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1. Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to define clear and consistent criteria and processes for awarding Life Membership of Archery Victoria. Life Membership is the highest honour the organisation can bestow and recognises individuals who have delivered extraordinary, sustained, and transformative service to archery in Victoria.

2. Scope

2.1 This policy applies to all Archery Victoria members, volunteers, officials, administrators, and affiliated clubs. It operates in conjunction with the Rules of Archery Victoria Inc 2019, and relevant governance requirements.

2.2 This Policy and the associated Forms enter into force and apply to Archery Victoria, Clubs and Members as of 30 November 2025. It will be reviewed on or before 30th November 2027. Unless required by changes to legislation, changes to the Rules Archery Victoria or Archery Australia policies, or as determined necessary by the Archery Victoria Board.

2.3 Copies of all documents can be obtained from the Archery Victoria website. Additional information is available from the Secretary, Archery Victoria.

3. Principles

3.1 Life Membership of Archery Victoria:

- Is reserved for exceptional service that significantly advances archery at a state level.
- Recognises contributions that go far beyond normal volunteer, committee, or administrative expectations.
- Should be awarded sparingly and only when the nominee's impact is substantial, long-term, and widely acknowledged.
- Is determined through a rigorous, transparent, and fair process.
- Only four Life members may be elected in any one year.
- Life members may attend the Annual General Meeting and Special meetings and be involved in debate, but are unable to vote unless as a proxy.

4. Eligibility Criteria

4.1 To be eligible, nominees must have:

- A minimum of 10 years of involvement with Archery Victoria or affiliated clubs; and
- A demonstrated commitment to the development and advancement of archery across Victoria.

4.2 In exceptional circumstances, the Board may consider nominees with fewer years where their contribution is of extraordinary significance.

4.3 Nominees must have provided sustained and exceptional service, such as:

- Significant volunteer leadership at state level, including service on the AV Board, committees, working groups, or operational roles.
- Major contributions to:
 - athlete development and performance pathways,
 - coaching, officiating, or judge development programs,
 - club governance support and mentoring,
 - the growth of participation and inclusion initiatives across Victoria.
- Delivery of programs or initiatives that materially strengthened the sport's profile, governance, safety, integrity, or community impact.
- Representation of Archery Victoria in high-impact national initiatives or on Archery Australia committees.
- Contributions that have been made in return for monetary compensation should not be considered as grounds for Life Membership.
For example.
Payments made for coaching
Payments made for supplying equipment or services
Payments made in employment by Archery Victoria.

4.4 Nominees must:

- Be members in good standing with no outstanding disciplinary matters.
- Demonstrate conduct reflecting the values of Archery Victoria, including respect, integrity, inclusiveness, and responsibility.
- Comply with all Archery Victoria and Archery Australia policies, including safeguarding children and young people, member protection, and codes of behaviour.

5. Nomination Process

5.1 The following may make nominations to Archery Victoria Board:

- The Archery Victoria Board, an affiliated club, or three or more financial members (one of whom may be the seconder), may lodge a nomination.
- Nominations must be seconded by at least one additional financial member or club representative.

5.2 Nominations must:

- Be submitted in writing to the Archery Victoria Secretary using Archery Victoria Life Membership Nomination Form.
- Provide a detailed summary of the nominee's contributions and achievements at state level.
- Include supporting evidence (e.g., service records, leadership roles, program involvement, testimonials).
- Be lodged at least 8 weeks prior to the Archery Victoria Annual General Meeting.

5.3 The Archery Victoria Board will consider all nominations in confidence:

- The Board may contact nominators or clubs to seek additional information.
- The Board will assess the nominee's contribution against this policy.
- A Board resolution recommending Life Membership must be supported by a minimum two-thirds majority, unless otherwise required by the Constitution.

6. Approval Process

6.1 Only nominees endorsed by the Board may proceed to Life Member consideration by the affiliated clubs at the Annual General Meeting.

6.2 The recommendation will be presented for approval to the voting membership at the Annual General Meeting.

6.3 Life Membership will be conferred upon the passing of a special resolution, typically requiring more than 50% majority of votes cast, as defined by the Rules of Archery Victoria Inc 2019.

7. Rights and Privileges of Life Members

7.1 Life Members of Archery Victoria are entitled to:

- Ongoing membership without payment of annual Archery Victoria membership fees.
- Debating rights at General Meetings (but does not have the right to vote unless as a proxy for another).
- Recognition at the Annual General Meeting and in Archery Victoria publications, website, newsletters, and Honour Boards.
- Invitations to major Archery Victoria events, ceremonies, and functions.
- Opportunities to continue contributing to the development of archery in advisory or ceremonial capacities.

8. Revocation of Life Membership

8.1 Life Membership may be revoked where:

- A Life Member engages in serious misconduct or behaviour that brings Archery Victoria into disrepute.
- There is a significant breach of Archery Victoria policies or governance obligations.

8.2 Revocation requires:

- A two-thirds resolution of the Archery Victoria Board; and
- Ratification by members through a special resolution at an Annual General Meeting or Special General Meeting.