



ACF BY-LAW - Procedures and Criteria for Awarding ACF Life Membership

1. The Life Membership Committee consists of all ACF Directors (at the time of application).
2. Any nomination for life membership should be made no earlier than 44 days prior to the ACF Annual General Meeting, and no later than 14 days prior.
3. While a nomination can come from any State (Representative), it must be seconded by another representative (from the same state).
4. It will then become the responsibility of the state to present evidence to the ACF Board (via digital application form) regarding the nominee that will allow an informed decision by the ACF Directors, based on the criteria set out below (point 8), as to the worthiness of the nominee as a life member of the Federation/sport.

The reason for placing the responsibility on the 'states' or nominator is to stop the situation arising where little information is provided about a nominee, therefore making it difficult for the ACF Board to decide on the nomination.

5. Once a nomination has been received by the ACF Secretary (or delegate), they shall have the responsibility of calling a special meeting of all ACF Board members to decide on the nomination.

This can be done in conjunction with the nominator to allow time to gather additional relevant information. A second special Board meeting may be held if necessary.

6. While states should be encouraged to provide information to such meetings, only the ACF Board should be present at the meeting, unless the ACF Board feels there are special circumstances requiring another person to attend. In such an event, this person should not be present when voting is undertaken.

7. At the meeting to decide on the nomination/s the ACF Board shall, in regard to the following criteria, determine if the nomination is worthy. The emphasis in this determination should be heavily on critical appraisal of the level of service to the sport required to be a Life Member.

If there is any doubt of such a level being achieved, or lack of information about the nominee that makes such a conclusion impossible, then ACF Directors should consider voting in the negative.

8. Critical criteria for consideration are as follows -

There are five areas of service in the Federation:

- a. Participant
- b. Coaching/Assisting
- c. Judging/Writing/Competition Management
- d. Administration/Team or Club Managing
- e. General Contribution (including fund-raising, supporting and any other services that a state may see as relevant to have assisted the advancement of Calisthenics in Australia).

The nominee must have an outstanding contribution in at least two of these areas and at least some contribution in one of the other areas (or contribution deemed appropriate at the discretion of the state).

In determining the level of significance, the ACF Board should consider this in the light of a very high quality service. While a reasonable length of time (to be determined and at the discretion of the ACF Board) of service is important, the overall riding criterion is the quality of service.

9. Once the nominator/state representative has submitted their nominations and all potential questions have been asked, the ACF Board shall conduct a vote or secret ballot on the worthiness of the nomination.

10. Should there be more than one nomination from one state, then each should be considered in turn with a preliminary ballot to be taken (again secret) to determine which nomination is to take precedence.

This preliminary ballot is NOT a vote of worthiness of the nomination against the criteria, but merely a way of determining which nomination should be the one to be voted upon.

11. It is considered appropriate for either the ACF President or Secretary (or ACF Director Delegate) to collect the votes. In the case of the need for a preliminary ballot the ACF President/Secretary (or ACF Director Delegate) should count the votes and announce which nominations were successful.

12. In the unusual circumstance where there is a tied preliminary vote or the ACF Board considers more than one nomination is worthy, the ACF Board may determine that two life memberships are awarded (for that State). However, this must be only in extremely special circumstances, and no more than two can be awarded in any year (per State).

13. Alternatively should the ACF Board find it has two possible life members, it may consider setting a recommendation for the following year that one of the nominations be forwarded to the following year. Such a recommendation should then be considered by the following ACF Board separately and

prior to any other nominations for that year. The responsibility should be on the outgoing Secretary to ensure any such recommendation is received by the incoming Secretary for action.

14. The ACF President/Secretary (or ACF Director Delegate) should take the final votes and count them. Life members may only be voted on by a minimum of six ACF Board Members or their proxies with a minimum of 85% agreeing with the nomination. Given the importance of the decision, ACF Directors are not allowed to abstain from voting.

15. All ACF Directors should be aware that it is not necessary for a Life Membership to be granted each year.

AFC Constitution references -

1.1 (w) *“Life Member” means an individual upon whom life membership of the Company has been conferred under clause 8.15;*

8.15. Life Members

(a) Member States may nominate persons to be considered for life membership of the Company. The Board may consider at the relevant AGM that one or more persons duly nominated and who has rendered distinguished service to Calisthenics in Australia, where such service is deemed to have assisted the advancement of Calisthenics in Australia, have life membership conferred on them.

(b) A resolution of the AGM to confer life membership on the recommendation of the Board must be a Special Resolution.

(c) Upon life membership being conferred, the person’s details shall be entered upon the register. A person shall become a Life Member from the time their life membership is formally announced not from the time of entry of their details on the register.