

# OUR COUGAR FAMILY



**LIFE MEMBERSHIP  
POLICY**





Managed by: Cockburn Basketball Association

Responsible Person: TT

Version: V2

Scheduled Review Date: 10/07/2025

## **BUSINESS AREA: Club and Governance**

### **TITLE OF DOCUMENT: Life Membership Policy**

### **Document Code: 001-POL-CG**

#### **Approval Of Policy/Rules Documents**

Amended by **Tyrone Thwaites**, Cockburn Basketball Association **CEO** on **10/09/2024**

**POLICY:** Cockburn Basketball Association Board Approved and Minuted V02 on **Wednesday 18 September 2024** at the scheduled board meeting.



Version	Date Approved	Next Review	Amendments
V01	23/09/2020	30/06/2023	Consideration made to not retrospectively award Cockburn Cougars Life Membership based on this updated policy.
V02		10/07/2025	<p>1 (a) (b) <b>FOR FUTURE REVIEW:</b> Discussion on whether someone can become an Association AND Playing Life Member. Would require constitutional change.</p> <p>2 (Membership): Modified to include CBA CEO, and there should be at least two life members (Association or Cockburn Cougars). There is no limit to the size of the sub-committee.</p> <p>3 (NOTE): Reflects sub-committee discretion to act outside the criteria to form a recommendation to the board, from time-to-time.</p> <p>3 (a) (b): Criteria simplified and clarified, including how much of the criteria must be fulfilled for consideration.</p> <p>4 &amp; 5: Language and formatting changes.</p>



## **Cockburn Basketball Association – Life Membership Policy**

### **1. Definition**

Life Membership of the Cockburn Basketball Association (the Association) is the highest of all honours that can be placed on an individual member. It is a category of membership that stands alone in the Association's constitution.

As such, Life Membership is awarded to CBA members who exhibit significant meritorious service to the Association.

The Association has two categories of Life Membership:

- (a) Cockburn Cougars Life Member: Awarded to State Basketball League players or coaches who meet the criteria defined in this policy;
- (b) Association Life Member: Awarded to non-playing members of the Association who meet the criteria defined in this policy.

### **2. Life Membership Sub-Committee**

The Life Membership sub-committee's purpose is to consider, assess and evaluate potential life membership candidates on an annual basis through collegiate engagement and discussion with a range of Cougar Family stakeholders.

The working group is chaired by a Director of the Association board. It is the responsibility of the appointed director to report back to the Association board with the recommendations of the group after a meeting. It is then the responsibility of the board to approve, deny or request changes to any recommendation.

As a collective unit, the sub-committee is responsible for:

- (a) Identify and nominate potential Life Member nominees;
- (b) Assessing and evaluating Life Member nominees;

The Life Membership sub-committee aims to:

- (a) Celebrate the service of Association members who have exhibited significant meritorious service in line with this policy.

Membership includes at least:

- (a) Association Director (chair);
- (b) Three current Life Members – of which there must be at least two life members;
- (c) CBA CEO



- (d) Of the four members, care will be taken to endeavour reach a gender balance of 50% in the sub-committee.
- (e) The group may not have more than one Life Member from the same family to ensure diversity.

Meetings:

Twice per year, with recommendations presented to the board at the August board meeting each calendar year.

### **3. Criteria**

**NOTE:** Achievement of any or all of the below criteria does not automatically qualify a person for Life Membership with the Association – the sub-committee may act with discretion to recommend a candidate who does not fulfill all of the designated criteria, for board approval. Nominations will be considered on individual merit. Life Membership can be revoked if exceptional circumstances warrant.

#### **(a) Association Life Membership Criteria**

The Association's Life Membership sub-committee will consider nominees for **Association Life Membership** of the Association with the following criteria, noting a candidate must fulfil all items:

1. Contribution of at least 15 years of meritorious service to the Association (these need not be in succession), inclusive of volunteer and staff roles impacting more than one area of the association (including, but not limited to, board member / director, committee, staff member, coach, club coordinator);
2. Must display the attitude and values reflecting dedication to the Association and its culture;
3. Provided valued leadership and/or been an outstanding role model in general;
4. Service must reflect favourably on, and provided value to, the Association;

#### **(b) Cockburn Cougars Life Membership Criteria**

The Association Life Membership sub-committee will consider nominees for **Cockburn Cougars Life Membership** of the Association with the following criteria, noting a candidate must fulfill either item 1 or 2, and must fulfill BOTH items 3 and 4:

1. Playing or coaching in the women's state basketball league (SBL/NBL1) for at least 180 games with the Cockburn Cougars;
2. Playing or coaching in the men's state basketball league (SBL/NBL1) for at least 200 games with the Cockburn Cougars;
3. Must display the attitude and reflecting dedication to the Association and its culture;
4. Provided valued leadership and/or have been an outstanding role model in general;



#### **4. Process and Procedure**

- (a) Not more than two Association Life Memberships may be recommended to the board in any one financial year, with the sub-committee not obligated to present a member if there is no one fitting of the criteria in a particular year.
- (b) There are no limits to Cockburn Cougars Life Memberships in a financial year.

##### Process for Association Life Membership

Any member may submit a nomination for Association Life Membership. The nominator should –

- a) Clearly outline the period in which the nominee has contributed to the Association
- b) Ensure the nomination has another Association member second the nomination.
- c) Not be a direct family member of the nominee, unless explicit consent is provided by the sub-committee.
- d) Submit a written nomination to the sub-committee, clearly outlining the justification for the life membership nomination. The board may call for further information, including a meeting with the nominator.

Nominations will be called in June each year, with consideration by the sub-committee in time for recommendation to the Board in August.

##### Process for Cockburn Cougars Life Membership

- a) The player or coach must have reached the designated games criteria for the men's or women's program as per the number outlined in this policy.
- b) Approximately 10 games prior to the player or coach reaching the milestone, the Life Membership Sub-committee will consider if the player or coach has achieved the broader criteria outlined in 3(b).
- c) The player or coach will be recognised at the first available home game at or after the milestone has been reached.

It is the sole responsibility of the Board to verify Life Members

Life Members will be announced at the Annual General Meeting each year (Association) or at the first available home game at or after the milestone has been reached (Cockburn Cougars)

The board reserves the right to accept or reject an application at any stage before the Annual General Meeting or scheduled milestone.

Consideration will be given to awarding Life Membership to a member at an appropriate function or event to recognise the person's efforts in their roles at the Association.

The Association will maintain a Life Member Honour Board (for both categories) for Display.



## 5. Privileges

Life Member Privileges (Association and Playing)

- a) Shall be awarded a badge of recognition (Association) or a plaque of recognition (Cockburn Cougars);
- b) Shall be granted free admission to all State Basketball League games (general admission for one person) held by the Association;
- c) Will be invited as a guest to the Association's official State Basketball League awards night.
- d) Life Membership pricing for Association special events, eligible for two tickets.
- e) All Life Member privileges awarded to members prior to the 23 September 2020 remain in effect for those members (schedule 1)

## 6. Schedule One – Life Member Privileges Pre-September 2020

**Cockburn Competitions** – entitled to playing at Wally Hagan Stadium in CBA sanctioned competitions at no individual charge. This is applicable to standard senior competitions only (not elite or off-season competitions).