

Award – Life Member

Preamble

Massage & Myotherapy Australia is a not for profit body representing the profession of massage. Life membership is the highest honour bestowed on a member of the Association. Nominations are open to ordinary members who meet the criteria.

The Life Member Award is a recommendation of the Life Member Working Party and endorsed by the Board. The recipient is acknowledged at the Massage & Myotherapy Annual Conference by the President or their delegate.

Aim

The aim, purpose and intentions of the Massage & Myotherapy Australia Life Member Award are to

- a) Recognise the individual contribution of a member to the profession
- b) Acknowledge, celebrate and promote members of individual high standing

Process

Although nominations are open annually it is not incumbent of the Board to make an Award every year.

Process for nomination for Life Member.

- a) The Award recognises the individual achievement or contribution of an ordinary member in accordance with Constitution, Clause 6.7.

Life Member

- (a) A Life Member may be appointed by the Board (in the Board's sole discretion) provided they:
 - (i) have been:
 - a) an Ordinary Member for at least 7 years; or
 - b) a Director of the Company for at least 5 years; and
 - (ii) have made a significant contribution to:
 - a) the Company; or
 - b) the occupation of massage therapy or myotherapy
- (b) A Life Member is:
 - (i) Exempt from the requirement to pay an annual subscription;
 - (ii) Entitled to attend and vote at any general meeting of the Company in accordance with clause 12.1; and
 - (iii) Is eligible to be appointed to the Board.

- b) Nominations must be received in hardcopy or soft copy, no later than close of business on the published date for receipt.
- c) If a nomination is received via email or electronic formats, it must be received on the appropriate form.
- d) Appropriate supporting documentation must accompany the nomination.
- e) If more than one application is received, applications will be disseminated de identified to the Life Member Working Party for deliberation.
- f) The Life Member Working Party will consider the nominations and meet to make recommendation to the Board.
- g) All nominations shall remain confidential and no nominee is to be approached directly for information pertaining to the nomination.

If the nomination for Life Member is successful

- a) The Board will seek, in writing, the nominee's acceptance of the Life Membership.
- b) Written confirmation signed by the President or their delegate will be issued at the time of acceptance by the nominee.
- c) The nominator and seconder shall be notified of the outcome of any deliberations of the Life Member Working Party and Board following acceptance by the nominee and written confirmation being issued by the Board.
- d) The honour of Life Membership will be conferred and a certificate (signed by the President) presented during the Massage & Myotherapy National Conference Gala Dinner.

If the nomination for Life Member is unsuccessful

- a) The nominator and seconder will be informed of the decision in writing. The Board will not be obliged to divulge the reasons for its decision. No record shall be made in the minutes of the Board Meeting of the names of unsuccessful candidates.
- b) A further nomination for Life Membership for the same person may be made in following years providing further significant contribution to the Association and the profession has been made in this time.

Criteria

a) Criteria 1 – Suitability for nomination.

The member must meet one or more of the following:

- i. The nominee has been an Ordinary Member for a period of at least 7 years; or
- ii. The nominee has been a Board Member for a period of 5 years; and
- iii. The nominee has made an outstanding contribution to the Company and/or the occupation of massage or myotherapy therapy. This can be shown through:
 - (i) *Providing education and training to members and non-members;*
 - (ii) *Contributing to industry newsletters and other publications;*
 - (iii) *Co-operating with any incorporated association, guarantee company, educational institution, registration board or organisation, which in any way, assists to promote the industry;*
 - (iv) *Watch over, improve, foster and protects the interest of the members;*
 - (v) *Improve the social and economic position of the members;*

b) Criteria 2 – Demonstration of contribution

The nominator must demonstrate that the nominee meets any 4 (or more) of the below criteria;

The nominator should provide supporting documentation in the way of written examples, articles, community award recognitions, and/or other personal/professional references acknowledging the nominee's contributions to the massage therapist profession.

Criteria 1	Ability to organise and promote the profession of massage therapy <i>This can be demonstrated through organising regional meetings, networking events or other local, state or national industry awareness programs that the nominee may be involved in.</i>
Criteria 2	Encourages a high standard of knowledge and proficiency among the members <i>This can be demonstrated through teaching either at an RTO (Registered Training Organisation), TAFE, or post graduate education, or hosting skill sharing workshops.</i>
Criteria 3	Encourages and disseminates research in the areas of massage therapy and myotherapy <i>The nominee could be involved in research projects, or work in areas where massage research is utilised.</i>
Criteria 4	Assist in the development of a code of conduct and fitness to practice and seek to ensure that the conduct of the profession is regulated by the members <i>This could be demonstrated through active participation on sub committees and through the dissemination of these standards to members.</i>
Criteria 5	Improve standards or develop codes of practice for advertising of massage and myotherapy practitioners and providers of massage education <i>This can be demonstrated through actively working with local, state or national newspapers and other advertising mediums to help promote the massage industry.</i>
Criteria 6	Seek to establish mechanisms to ensure the quality delivery of industry training in Australia <i>This can be demonstrated through the active participation in curriculum advisory committees, or working in roles within RTO, TAFE, or other post graduate training where establishing the need for ongoing education is necessary.</i>
Criteria 7	Advocacy: Advancing the profile and recognition of members and the profession with Governments and regulators in pursuit of the objects of the Association. <i>This can be demonstrated through assisting at all levels of government, being called on for comment on issues in regard to the industry.</i>
Criteria 8	Service to the community on behalf of the Association or as a volunteer <i>This can be that the nominee has made a contribution to the community, either as a private individual or as a representative of Massage & Myotherapy Australia.</i>