

Ratified	Unknown
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Contact person	VPC

## Life membership nominations

### Policy

Life membership is the highest honour accorded by the Association and confers Practising or Non Practising membership on a person for the rest of his or her life. It recognises outstanding leadership and committed service to the Association and the profession over many years.

### Constitution relating to Life membership

- 10.1 'A Life Member is an individual awarded Life membership for services to the profession. The person may or may not belong to another category of membership at the time Life membership is awarded.'
- 13.6 'Appointment to Life membership or election to Fellowship is decided by the Council at a meeting of the Council. The minutes of the Council will not record the names of candidates not elected.'

**Rule 11 refers to the rights and privileges of Life membership.**

### Guidelines

- The number of Life Members is limited by Council.
- Candidates for Life membership are nominated by Speech Pathology Australia members.
- Nominations shall remain **confidential** in case the nomination is unsuccessful. Nominees should not be approached directly for information pertaining to the nomination.
- When nominating a candidate for Life membership, members are required to complete a nomination form and a written submission **clearly demonstrating the candidate's achievement against the criteria of "outstanding leadership and committed service to the Association and the profession over many years."**
- Completed nominations may be received by National Office at any time. If the nomination and submission are sent in by electronic means, hard copy of the signed nomination form must also be sent to National Office. Nominations will be considered in confidence at a meeting of the Council Management Group and a recommendation made to council. Council will consider the recommendation at the next scheduled council meeting. Award winners will be announced at the subsequent AGM.

## Life membership nomination process

- Nomination forms are available from National Office. The forms request details of the nominee, the nominator and the seconder. Both the nominator and seconder must be current members of the Association.
- The nomination process has two stages. The first is a submission to Council. The second is providing at least four referees.
- A submission should be prepared to accompany the nomination form, **clearly demonstrating achievement of the following:**
  - The nominee shall have been a member of the Association for at least 20 years except in exceptional circumstances. (Information on membership is available from National Office.)
  - The nominee shall have contributed outstanding service to Speech Pathology Australia. Service may include:
    - Contribution to Council, Portfolio(s), Task Group(s) and Committees at the national level.
    - Contribution to Executive, Portfolio(s) and Committees at Branch level.
    - Sustained contribution to the Association as an 'expert' in a particular clinical field over many years. This may include a combination of activities such as acting as a spokesperson, presenting at conferences, providing input to Association documents/papers/projects etc.
  - The nominee shall also have contributed significantly to at least three of the following areas:
    - Clinical services** - contributions to clinical practice in the field of human communication disorders.
    - Academic education** - contributions and services to academic teaching in the field of human communication disorders.
    - Clinical education** - contributions to the clinical training of speech pathology students.
    - Research and publications** - involvement in the research and publication of topics in the field of human communication and its disorders, and to issues related to speech pathology.
    - Government liaison** - influencing and advising on government policy at state and/or federal level.
    - Promotion of speech pathology** - involvement and contribution to raising public awareness about speech pathology and communication issues; advocacy on behalf of clients.
    - Administrative services** - management of health and education services. Also the organisation and supervision of other professionals.
    - Service to the community** - participation of the nominee as either a private individual or as a representative of any organisation in community affairs. These may include:
      - Self Help Groups;
      - The Board of Management or Council of hospitals, teaching institutions,

- government or local government agencies;
  - Any charitable organisation which promotes the health, education and welfare of individuals;
  - Any organisation, institution or community project in which the Member has acted commendably and received laudable acknowledgment from the community or organisation.
- The nomination shall be submitted to Council through the Vice President (Communications).
  - Council will make an initial determination based on the submission of either a favourable consideration, leading to further investigation or non-favourable, with the nomination not approved.
  - Council may seek further information from any source in its consideration of the nomination.
  - Following consideration of the submission against the stated criteria, Council shall decide whether to seek referees.
  - If referees are sought, the nominator will be asked to provide the names and contact details of at least four referees. These people shall be recognised individuals within any of the categories addressed in the submission, with only one per category. One may be a general referee.
  - Only one of the nominator and seconder may act as one of the referees.
  - If the nomination is approved:
    - Council will seek, in writing, the nominee's acceptance of the Life membership.
    - Written confirmation signed by the President will be issued at the time of acceptance by the nominee.
    - The nominator and seconder shall be notified of the outcome of Council deliberations following acceptance by the nominee and written confirmation being issued by Council.
    - The honour of Life membership will be conferred and a certificate (signed by the President) presented during the next Annual General Meeting or at a time deemed propitious by the Council.
  - If the nominee is not approved:
    - The nominator and seconder will be informed of the decision in writing. Council will not be obliged to divulge the reasons for its decision. No record shall be made in the minutes of Council of the names of unsuccessful candidates.
    - A further nomination for Life membership for the same person may be made after a period of three years, providing further significant contribution to the Association and the profession has been made in this time.

*Appendix 1: Nomination form for Life membership*

*Appendix 2: Referees for Life membership*



## Nomination form for Life membership

**Please note:** that a comprehensive submission clearly demonstrating achievement of “outstanding leadership and committed service to the Association and the profession over many years” by the nominee must be provided. This document must include specific reference against the categories and criteria described in Policy 3.3.1. This nomination must not be mentioned to the nominee.

**Nominations may be received at any time. Completed forms should be sent to the Vice President (Communications), c/- CEO at Speech Pathology Australia, marked confidential.**

*Please use block letters when completing this form.*

We hereby nominate \_\_\_\_\_ (nominee's full name)

for transfer to Life membership category of Speech Pathology Australia and certify the enclosed information is true and correct to the best of our knowledge.

1. \_\_\_\_\_ (nominator's full name)

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Membership number: \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_ (seconder's full name)

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Membership number: \_\_\_\_\_

### **The nominee has contributed outstanding involvement and service to Speech Pathology Australia and the Profession**

- Has been a member of Speech Pathology Australia for at least 20 years
- Has contributed outstanding service to Speech Pathology Australia through:  
Contribution to Council, Portfolio(s), Task Group(s) and Committees at the National level.  
Contribution to Executive, Portfolio(s) and Committees at Branch level.

**The nominee has contributed significantly to the following areas:**

*(please note at least three areas must be selected)*

- Clinical services** - contributions to clinical practice in the field of human communication disorders.
- Academic education** - contributions and services to academic teaching in the field of human communication disorders.
- Government liaison** - influencing and advising on government policy at state and/or federal level.
- Promotion of speech pathology** - involvement and contribution to raising public awareness about speech pathology and communication issues; advocacy on behalf of clients.
- Clinical education** - contributions to the clinical training of speech pathology students.
- Research and publications** - involvement in the research and publication of topics in the field of human communication and its disorders, and to issues related to speech pathology.
- Promotion of speech pathology** - involvement and contribution to raising public awareness about speech pathology and communication issues; advocacy on behalf of clients.
- Administrative services** - management of health and education services. Also the organisation and supervision of other professionals.
- Service to the community** - participation of the nominee as either a private individual or as a representative of any organisation in community affairs. These may include:
  - Self Help Groups;
  - The Board of Management or Council of hospitals, teaching institutions, government or local government agencies;
  - Any charitable organisation which promotes the health, education and welfare of individuals;
  - Any organisation, institution or community project in which the Member has acted commendably and received laudable acknowledgment from the community or organisation.

**\* Please attach comprehensive submission to this form.**



## Referees for Life membership

Completed forms should be sent to the Vice President (Communications, c/- CEO at Speech Pathology Australia, marked confidential.

- **Names and contact details of at least four referees who have agreed to support the nomination** (only one of whom may be the nominator or seconder).

Referee 1

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Referee 2

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Referee 3

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Referee 4

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

(Optional)  
Referee 5  
Name:

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Address:

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Phone:

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Email:

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(Optional)  
Referee 6  
Name:

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Address:

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Phone:

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Email:

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