MT GRAVATT AFC LIFE MEMBERSHIP POLICY

1. Purpose
Life Membership is one of the highest honours that Mt Gravatt Australian Football Club (MTGAFC) can bestow upon an individual in recognition of exceptional and sustained service to the Club.

Life Membership recognises individuals who have made a significant contribution to the Club beyond what would ordinarily be expected of a player, parent, coach, volunteer, administrator or supporter, and who have consistently demonstrated the values and spirit of Mt Gravatt AFC.

The Club also recognises the importance of its senior players and the commitment required to represent the Mt Gravatt Vultures over an extended playing career. Accordingly, the Club provides a separate category of Playing Life Membership for players who achieve 10 Years of senior football for the Vultures.

Both categories recognise an individual's connection to the Club and contribution to its history, culture and community.

Life Membership should remain a meaningful and prestigious recognition of outstanding service, while Playing Life Membership recognises a significant milestone in a player's senior football career with the Vultures.

2. Categories of Life Membership
Mt Gravatt AFC recognises two categories of Life Membership:

2.1 Life Membership
Awarded in recognition of exceptional and sustained service to Mt Gravatt AFC, in accordance with the service, contribution and assessment criteria outlined in this policy.

2.2 Playing Life Membership
Awarded to a player who has played a minimum of 10 years for the Mt Gravatt Vultures across the eligible senior football programs outlined in Section 10.

The eligibility requirements, assessment processes and approval provisions for each category are set out in this policy.

3. Eligibility for Life Membership
An individual may be considered for Life Membership where they satisfy both:

1. The required period of service; and

2. A demonstrated record of significant and exceptional contribution to Mt Gravatt AFC.

Length of service alone does not qualify an individual for Life Membership.

The contribution of the individual should be considered in terms of its quality, significance, consistency and impact on the Club, rather than simply the number of years served.

Playing Life Membership is assessed separately under Section 10 and does not require the individual to satisfy the general service requirements for Life Membership.

4. Service Requirements

4.1 Continuous Service
The normal pathway to Life Membership is a minimum of 10 consecutive years of service to Mt Gravatt AFC.

The 10-year period should generally represent meaningful and active involvement with the Club.

4.2 Broken Service
An individual who has provided significant service over several periods may also be considered where they have:

- Completed a minimum of 10 years of cumulative service; and
- Provided that service within a maximum overall period of 15 years.

This provision recognises individuals who have had legitimate breaks in their involvement with the Club but have nevertheless demonstrated a long-term commitment and significant contribution.

Periods of service should be considered based on the individual's active contribution, rather than simply membership or registration.

5. Nature of Service
Life Membership should generally recognise voluntary service to the Club.
Examples of service that may contribute towards Life Membership consideration include:

- Club administration and committee service;
- Team management;
- Coaching;
- Football operations;
- Fundraising;
- Event organisation;
- Volunteer coordination;

- Supporting Club programs and initiatives;
- Match-day and game-day responsibilities;
- Mentoring and supporting players, coaches or volunteers;
- Significant contributions to the development of the Club; and
- Other voluntary activities that have materially benefited Mt Gravatt AFC.

The contribution should demonstrate a level of commitment that goes beyond the normal expectations associated with participation in the Club.

Playing Life Membership separately recognises the achievement of playing a minimum of 10 years for the Mt Gravatt Vultures Senior Football teams and is not subject to the voluntary-service requirements of this section.

6. Paid Positions
Service undertaken primarily in a paid capacity will not normally qualify towards Life Membership.

An individual should not be awarded Life Membership solely based on performing a paid role for the Club, including paid coaching or other remunerated positions.

Where an individual has undertaken both paid and voluntary roles, the Club may consider the individual's genuine voluntary contribution separately when assessing their eligibility.

The existence of a paid role does not automatically prevent an individual from receiving Life Membership where their overall contribution to the Club clearly includes substantial, sustained and exceptional voluntary service.

This section does not affect eligibility for Playing Life Membership, which is determined by the senior games' requirement in Section 10.

7. Club Values and Conduct
An individual considered for either category of Life Membership must:

- Demonstrate the values and principles of Mt Gravatt AFC;
- Conduct themselves in a manner consistent with the reputation and standing of the Club;
- Demonstrate respect for players, coaches, volunteers, officials, opposition clubs and the broader football community; and
- Have made a positive contribution to the culture and reputation of Mt Gravatt AFC.

A person should not be awarded Life Membership where their conduct is inconsistent with the values of the Club, regardless of their length of service or playing record.

8. Exceptional Circumstances
The Club recognises that exceptional individuals may make an extraordinary contribution within a period shorter than the normal service requirements.

Accordingly, the Club may consider Life Membership for an individual who has not yet met the minimum service period, provided:

- The circumstances are genuinely exceptional;
- The individual's contribution has been extraordinary and of clear and lasting benefit to Mt Gravatt AFC;
- There is strong evidence that the contribution is substantially beyond normal expectations; and
- The recommendation receives the required level of approval under this policy.

This provision is intended to be used rarely and only in exceptional circumstances. It should not become an alternative pathway for individuals who have simply not yet reached the required period of service.

This provision applies to general Life Membership and does not alter the 10-year senior games requirement for Playing Life Membership.

9. Nomination and Assessment for Life Membership

9.1 Nomination
Any current financial member of Mt Gravatt AFC may nominate an individual for general Life Membership.

Nominations should be submitted in writing to the Club Secretary and include:

- The nominee's name;
- Their period and nature of service to the Club;
- Details of the voluntary roles and responsibilities undertaken;
- Examples of significant or exceptional contributions;
- The impact of their contribution on the Club;
- Evidence that the nominee demonstrates the values of Mt Gravatt AFC; and
- Any other information considered relevant to the nomination.

Nominations should focus on what the individual has contributed to the Club, rather than simply listing positions held or years of membership.

9.2 Assessment of Nominations

All general Life Membership nominations should be assessed against the following principles:

Criterion	Consideration
Length of service	Has the nominee met the 10-year continuous or 15-year broken-service requirement?
Voluntary contribution	Has the nominee made a genuine and substantial voluntary contribution?
Significance of contribution	Has their contribution gone beyond normal expectations?
Impact on the Club	Has their service had a meaningful and lasting benefit to MTGAFC?
Consistency	Have they demonstrated sustained commitment to the Club?
Club values	Do they consistently demonstrate the values and standards of MTGAFC?
Leadership and influence	Have they positively influenced others or contributed to the Club's culture?
Exceptional circumstances	If service requirements have not been met, is there a compelling reason to make an exception?

Meeting the minimum service requirement does not automatically entitle an individual to general Life Membership.

10. Playing Life Membership

10.1 Eligibility

Playing Life Membership recognises players who have achieved a minimum of **10 years representing the Mt Gravatt Vultures**.

To qualify, a player must have played at least 10 years across one or more of the following Mt Gravatt AFC senior football programs:

- QAFL Men;
- QFA Men;
- QFAW Women;
- AFL Masters; and
- Wheelchair Football.

10.2 Combining Senior Games

Senior games played across the eligible competitions may be combined to reach the 10-year threshold.

10.3 Verification of Years
The Club will verify a player's eligibility using available official records, including competition records, team sheets, historical Club records and other relevant documentation where required.

Where historical records are incomplete, the Board may consider available evidence to establish the player's senior games total.

10.4 Nomination and Recognition
Players who reach 10 years of senior games may be identified by the Club through its official playing records.

A player, Club member or Club official may bring a player's eligibility to the attention of the Board for verification.

Once the 10-year milestone has been verified and the relevant approval process completed, the player may be formally recognised as a Playing Life Member of Mt Gravatt AFC.

The Club should maintain a register of Playing Life Members and, where practicable, recognise the achievement at an appropriate Club function or occasion.

11. Approval

11.1 General Life Membership
All general Life Membership nominations must be considered by the MTGAFC Board or a Life Membership Committee established by the Board.
The Committee should review the nomination and supporting information before making a recommendation to the Board.

The Board will consider the recommendation and determine whether to put the nomination forward for approval at an Annual General Meeting (AGM).

General Life Membership requires a two-thirds majority of the voting members present at the AGM, in accordance with the Club's applicable governance requirements.

11.2 Playing Life Membership
Playing Life Membership eligibility must be verified by the Club and confirmed through the Board's approval process.

The Board will confirm that the player has achieved the required 10 years of eligible senior games and that the player meets the Club values and conduct requirements in Section 7.

Playing Life Membership does not require the player to undergo the general Life Membership contribution assessment or satisfy the general service requirements.

12. Presentation and Recognition

Life Membership and Playing Life Membership should be formally recognised at an appropriate Club function or occasion.

The Club should:

- Maintain official records of all Life Members and Playing Life Members;
- Appropriately recognise recipients in Club communications and records;
- Acknowledge the contributions and achievements of recipients; and
- Where practicable, provide formal recognition of these honours at a Club presentation or other suitable event.

The Club may establish appropriate forms of recognition for each category, reflecting the different eligibility criteria and achievements.

13. Guiding Principles

The guiding principles of this policy are:
General Life Membership recognises exceptional contribution, not simply longevity.
Playing Life Membership recognises the commitment, dedication and achievement of players who reach the significant milestone of 10 years of senior games for the Vultures across the Club's eligible senior football programs.
Both honours reflect the Club's appreciation of the people who contribute to its history, culture, football programs and community.
Life Membership should remain a rare and highly respected honour, reserved for those whose exceptional contribution has genuinely helped build, strengthen and sustain Mt Gravatt AFC.

Last Reviewed; 30.10.2026