

**Richmond Football Club
Awards & Honours Policy**



1. Overview

The Richmond Football Club (the **Club**) recognises and celebrates the achievements and commitment of those who have laid the foundation that underpins and supports the Club's purpose, mission and vision.

2. Purpose

The purpose of this Policy is to outline the criteria and establish protocols when bestowing the Club's:

- (a) awards outlined clause 4 of this Policy (**Awards**); and
- (b) honours outlined in clause 5 of this Policy (**Honours**).

3. Scope

This Policy applies to the Club's current and former:

- (a) directors;
- (b) employees including players, coaches and officials; and
- (c) volunteers.

All Awards are conferred by the Board in its absolute discretion in accordance with this Policy.

Honours are conferred either by the Board or approved by the Chief Executive Officer (**CEO**) in accordance with this Policy.

The History and Traditions Committee may propose nominations for Awards and Honours for the Board's and/or the Chief Executive Officer's consideration respectively.

4. Awards

4.1 Life Members

4.1.1 Definitions

In this Policy:

Life Members has the same meaning as in the Club's Constitution;

Life Membership Criteria means the criteria for awarding Life Members as set by the Board from time to time and published in this Policy;

VFL means the Victorian Football League which was renamed the AFL on 1 January 1990;

AFL means the Australian Football League;

AFLW means the AFL Women's football league; and

Club Servant means a person who has contributed to the Club in any role including, but not limited to, a VFL, AFL or AFLW player or VFL, AFL or AFLW senior coach.



4.1.2 Categories of Life Members

Life Membership is divided into 3 categories:

- (a) VFL player, AFL player, VFL senior coach and AFL senior coach;
- (b) AFLW player and AFLW senior coach; and
- (c) Club Servant.

The combined service as a VFL, AFL or AFLW player and VFL, AFL or AFLW senior coach and Club Servant will be considered for eligibility purposes.

4.1.3 Life Membership Criteria: VFL and AFL players and senior coaches

The Life Membership Criteria for VFL players, AFL players, VFL senior coaches and AFL senior coaches is to:

- (a) have rendered service to the Club for a period of not less than 10 years as a:
 - (i) player on the Club's VFL senior list, AFL senior list and/or the AFL rookie list; or
 - (ii) VFL senior coach or AFL senior coach;
- (b) have played in or coached in a minimum of:
 - (i) 150 AFL matches for the Club;
 - (ii) 150 VFL matches for the Club (prior to 1 January 1990); or
 - (iii) a combined total of 150 AFL matches and VFL matches (prior to 1 January 1990) or
- (c) be an AFL premiership player or AFL premiership senior coach for the Club; or
- (d) be a VFL premiership player or VFL premiership senior coach for the Club (prior to 1 January 1990).

4.1.4 Life Membership Criteria: AFLW players and senior coaches

The Life Membership Criteria for AFLW players and AFLW senior coaches is to:

- (a) have rendered service to the Club for a period of not less than 10 years as a player on the Club's AFLW senior list and/or the AFLW rookie list or as an AFLW senior coach;
- (b) have played or been a AFLW senior coach in a minimum number of 75 AFLW matches for the Club (noting that this figure will change in the future as the number of matches played in a season increases); or
- (c) be an AFLW Premiership Player or a premiership AFLW senior coach for the Club.

4.1.5 Life Membership Criteria: Club Servants

The Life Membership Criteria for Club Servants is to have provided outstanding service to the Club which comprises any of, or any combination of, the following roles, responsibilities and their durations:



- (a) in a management position in either administration or football for a period of not less than 10 years;
- (b) as a director who has completed the maximum allowable term in office under the Constitution;
- (c) to have served to the benefit of, the Club for a period of not less than 20 years; or
- (d) to have rendered service to the Club in some capacity.

4.2 Hall of Fame

4.2.1 Categories of Hall of Fame Membership

Hall of Fame membership is divided into two categories:

- (a) VFL, AFL and AFLW player or VFL, AFL and AFLW senior coach; and
- (b) Club Servant.

The combined service as a VFL, AFL and AFLW player, VFL, AFL and AFLW senior coach and Club Servant will be considered for eligibility purposes.

4.2.2 Eligibility for Hall of Fame membership

To be eligible for induction into the Hall of Fame, a nominee must be a Life Member and have rendered service to the Club that is deemed to be elite and exceeding that required to be a Life Member.

4.2.3 Hall of Fame criteria: player and senior coach

In assessing eligibility as a VFL, AFL and AFLW player and/or VFL, AFL and AFLW senior coach, consideration will be given to the following criteria as they relate to the senior VFL or AFL competitions:

- (a) Jack Dyer Medal placing;
- (b) games played;
- (c) seasons captained;
- (d) premierships played;
- (e) seasons coached;
- (f) All Australian Team selection;
- (g) premierships coached;
- (h) Francis Bourke Award winner;
- (i) Richmond Team of the Century;
- (j) Brownlow Medal winner;
- (k) Norm Smith Medal winner; and/or
- (l) Coleman Medal winner.



The criteria are weighted and scores are reviewed annually by the History & Traditions Committee.

In exercising its discretion to induct nominees into the Hall of Fame, the Board may consider nominees' other elite contributions.

Players must have retired for a minimum of 4 years and coaches must have concluded their employment with the Club before they are eligible for induction into the Hall of Fame.

4.2.4 Hall of Fame Criteria: Club Servant

To determine the eligibility of Club Servants the History and Traditions Committee applies a scoring system. This involves each History and Traditions Committee member allocating a maximum of 10 points to each nominee in consideration of the impact of a nominee's contributions to the Club. The total number of points allocated by each History and Traditions Committee member is then averaged to determine the final eligibility score.

Years of service shall be not necessarily be determinative in assessing eligibility of Club Servants.

Club Servants must have concluded any employment with the Club or any official role held with the Club before they are eligible for nomination into the Hall of Fame.

4.2.5 Administration

As a general rule, the number of inductees into the Hall of Fame solely as a Club Servant should not exceed 10% of the total membership of the Hall of Fame.

Inductions shall reflect a spread of representatives throughout the Club's history.

The number of inductees into the Hall of Fame and the frequency of induction ceremonies are at the discretion of the Board.

4.3 Hall of Fame - Immortal Status

4.3.1 Hall of Fame - Immortal Status Criteria

To be eligible for Hall of Fame Immortal status, nominees must be existing members of the Hall of Fame and have rendered exceptional service to the Club exceeding that required to be inducted into the Hall of Fame.

4.3.2 Administration

As a general rule, the number of Hall of Fame Immortals should not exceed 15% of the total membership of the Hall of Fame.

The number of inductees into the Hall of Fame Immortals and the frequency of induction ceremonies are at the discretion of the Board.



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4.4 Alice Wills Award

Volunteers have been vital to the off-field success of the Club since its formation in 1885.

The Alice Wills Award honours those volunteers who have made significant personal contributions and displayed outstanding dedication and commitment to the Club over an extended period of time and/or for a particular project or purpose.

This Award recognises and acknowledges those volunteers from across the country who are not involved in the day to day operations of the Club.

Up to five recipients can receive the Alice Wills Award each year. However, the Award may not be bestowed each year.

4.5 AFL Awards and Australian Football Hall of Fame

Nominations for AFL awards and inductions into the Australian Football Hall of Fame are approved by the Board and/or the Chief Executive Officer in their absolute discretion and may consider nominations made to them by the History and Traditions Committee based on the AFL award criteria and the Australian Football Hall of Fame Charter (as amended from time to time).

5. Honours

5.1 Patron

A person who provides significant, enduring, material support to the Club and/or who has very high standing or profile in the community and who would bring interest, prestige or assist in popularising the Club among existing members and the community.

Patrons are appointed by the Board in accordance with the Constitution.

5.2 Number 1 ticket holder

A person who provides significant material support to the Club and/or who has very high standing or profile in the community which would bring interest, prestige or assist in popularising the Club among existing members and the community.

Number 1 ticket holders are appointed by the Board.

5.3 Name on locker

5.3.1 AFL players and AFL senior coaches

To be eligible to have their name on a locker, the AFL player or AFL senior coach must meet one of the following criteria:

- (a) played 100 AFL games;
- (b) Club Best and Fairest winner;
- (c) Brownlow Medallist;
- (d) Life Member; or



- (e) captains who have been appointed by the Club for a home and away season in the AFL competition.

If an AFL senior coach's locker is established, it must include the name of every appointed AFL senior coach of the Club on it.

The CEO must approve the placing of names on all lockers.

5.3.2 AFLW players and senior coaches

To be eligible to have their name on a locker, the AFLW player or AFLW senior coach must meet one of the following criteria:

- (a) played or was the AFLW senior coach in 40 games commencing in the “Foundation Years” between 2020 and 2021;
- (b) played or was the AFLW senior coach in 45 games in the “Establishment Years” commencing in 2022;
- (c) Club Best and Fairest winner;
- (d) AFLW Best and Fairest winner;
- (e) Life Member; or
- (f) captains who have been appointed by the Club for a home and away season in AFLW competition.

If a AFLW senior coach's locker is established, it must include the name of every appointed AFLW senior coach on it.

The CEO must approve the placing of names on all lockers.

5.4 Death notice with “Tiger” logo

One of the following criteria must be met if a death notice is to be placed in newspapers or elsewhere on behalf of the Club. The person must have been a:

- (a) Life Member;
- (b) current or former:
 - (i) President, Board Member, VFL, AFL or AFLW senior coach or CEO;
 - (ii) senior VFL, AFL or AFLW player of 50 games or more;
 - (iii) VFL, AFL or AFLW premiership player, Brownlow Medallist and Club Best & Fairest winner;
- (c) all current employees or former employees of 10 years standing;
- (d) official or volunteer officially appointed by Club of 10 years standing;
- (e) current or former patrons; or
- (f) number one ticket holders; and/or



(g) at the discretion of the CEO.

The CEO must approve the publication of death notices.

5.5 Black armbands

One of the following criteria must be met for the wearing of black armbands by the Club's AFL and/or AFLW teams to be approved:

- (a) the criteria for eligibility for death notices is met;
- (b) the immediate family of current Club employees, players and coaches or as directed by the AFL. "**Immediate family**" means parents, husband, wife, partner or children; or
- (c) at the discretion of the CEO.

Where the death occurs during the non-playing season of AFL or AFLW competitions, black armbands are to be worn in the first home and away game of the following AFL or AFLW season.

The CEO must approve the wearing of black armbands.

Individual players may wear black arm bands with the approval of the CEO.

6. Spreading of ashes on Punt Road Oval or around the Jack Dyer statue

The spreading of ashes is managed by the Club's Bequest and Philanthropy Manager. Inquiries can be made on 03 9426 4449.

The spreading of ashes must be approved by the CEO.

7. Review of Awards and Honours holders

The Board of the Club reserves the right to conduct reviews of Award and Honours holders at its discretion and to withdraw the Award or Honour for good reason.