



DUNBAR UNITED FOOTBALL CLUB

LIFE MEMBERSHIP POLICY

INTRODUCTION

Dunbar United has a rich history of achievement in the semi-professional football game in Scotland dating back, officially, to 1925. Albeit records show a team operated from Dunbar long before this.

In past years, a number of Life Membership awards have been granted. However, the process appears to be sporadic as noted by the number of notable absentees and the long periods without awards being granted.

In recent times, while many have worked hard for the club, few Life Members have been recognised. This policy sets out the process that will be followed, in future years, to seek to ensure that those whose efforts for the club deserve recognition on this scale receive it.

PURPOSE

This policy sets out the minimum criteria to be eligible for nomination for an award of Life Membership of Dunbar United Football Club. The highest honour a club can bestow upon members of our Dunbar United community.

This award exists to recognise the valuable contribution of individuals to the current and future existence of the Club. It is therefore only to be awarded in exceptional circumstances.

A maximum of ONE recipient should receive this award in any one-year period. The club recognises that exceptional circumstances may arise, and therefore it will be then at the discretion of the Dunbar United Board of Directors to decide how many awards are given.

It should also be recognised that Life Membership does not have to be awarded each year.

In considering the award of Life Membership an individual should have demonstrated significant, sustained, and high-quality service enhancing the reputation and future of the overall club.

NOMINATION CRITERIA

The points to be considered when considering any nomination include:

- The general attitude and overall demeanour of the nominee shows a dedication to the values of the Club
- Commitment to the principles of good sportsmanship
- Valued leadership and good role modelling that reflects credit upon the Club
- Length of Service – The length of service to the Club should be extended service of 10 years as a player and/or as a volunteer role with such service in either role being taken concurrently.
- Four areas of service in the Club could include: Playing; Coaching/Managing; Administration; and General Contribution (including fund-raising, supporting and other issues that the Board may see as relevant)
- Other Specific Criteria – Specific achievement, both on and off the field, will be taken into consideration

PROCESS FOR ASSESSING APPLICATIONS FOR LIFE MEMBERSHIP

Nominations for Life membership should be forwarded by a club member to the Club Secretary no later than 4 weeks before the Annual General Meeting (AGM) in each year.

Nominees should demonstrate:

- Attainment of minimum service requirements
- An outstanding contribution in at least one of the four areas of service with at least some contribution in two of the other three areas or contribution deemed appropriate at the discretion of the Board

The final list of endorsed nominations for the award of Life Membership will be submitted to the Board for agreement before the AGM. Subject to agreement by the Board, Life Membership will be proposed and if supported in the AGM this will be awarded at the next AGM.

RETRACTION OF A LIFE MEMBERSHIP AWARD

Retraction of a Life Membership Award may occur where the recipient has conducted him/herself in a manner that reflects directly and adversely on the image or activities of the Club. This provision will only be exercised in exceptional circumstances and will require the FULL support of the Dunbar United FC to be enacted. As part of the deliberations, the Life Member in question is also to be given an opportunity to present their case for retention of their Life Membership status.

RECOGNITION

Life Members will receive:

- Exemption from payment for all Dunbar United Football matches played at New Countess Park
- Exemption from all costs associated with social functions organised by the club (this privilege is only extended to the Life Member-not their partner or other family members)
- Listing in the Football Club website
- Status of being a member of the most select group within the Club

DOCUMENT CONTROL

Version	Date	Notes
V1.0	November 2020	Original draft.
V1.1.	August 2021	Updated ahead of 2021 AGM to add additional historic life members identified by Laurie Wood.
V1.2	August 2021	Updated post AGM ahead of publication to website.
V2.0	January 2022	Updated following Annual Review of Policies
V3.0	October 2023	Updated following Annual Review of Policies