



Life Membership and Awards Policy

Life Membership and Awards Committee Composition:

There shall be a committee to be called the Life Membership and Awards Committee, which shall consist of three members each of whom shall be elected at the AGM of Swimming Otago for a three (3) year term. One member shall retire by rotation annually, but will be eligible for re-election. If a position becomes vacant out of rotation the Swimming Otago Board may make an appointment until the next AGM.

Objective:

To ensure an accurate allocation of Swimming Otago Awards.

Responsible:

Life and Award Committee

Reports To:

Swimming Otago Board

Policy:

- Nominations can be made by member clubs under the jurisdiction of Swimming Otago.
- The Life Membership and Awards Committee may take the initiative regarding awards. Swimming Otago has the right to nominate additional candidates who they believe have the potential to be the recipient of these awards but who have not been nominated by their clubs.
- The nomination period for Volunteer, Coach, Club, Emerging Swimmer and Swimmer of the Year is 1st January to 31st December.
- Nominations must be received by Swimming Otago by the 1st March annually, for the previous year, on the correct nomination forms
- For individuals the nomination must include an attached jpeg photo (minimum size 1Mb) of the nominee.
- Additional information required to support the Life Membership, Honours, Service and Merit Awards:
 - Length of service to clubs within Swimming Otago.
 - Volunteer work carried out for Otago Clubs.
 - Positions held within the Club environment.
 - Technical official qualifications and work carried out.
 - Any other relevant information
- A Life Member of Swimming Otago shall be entitled to
 - attend all meetings of Swimming Otago and to speak, but shall not have the right to vote unless otherwise qualified.
 - shall have the right of entry free of charge to all Carnivals and Championship Meetings within the Swimming Otago district.
- Awards will be presented at the Annual General Meeting.

Awards Criteria:

Life Membership

A candidate for life membership may be nominated by Swimming Otago or may be nominated by a club in writing to Swimming Otago setting out fully the grounds on which such a nomination is made. Swimming Otago may elect to award a Life Membership of Swimming Otago to any person who in the opinion of Swimming Otago has rendered conspicuous service over a long period of time.

Honours Award

Five years continuous service after receiving a Service Award.

Service Award

Active service for a period of not less than seven years to Swimming Otago.

Merit Award

For conspicuous service under the time frame required for a Service Award.

Swimming Volunteer of the Year

Awarded to a volunteer who has displayed an outstanding commitment and dedication to swimming within the calendar year ending 31 December annually.

Coach of the Year

Awarded for outstanding contribution from a coach within the qualifying period. The award will consider swimming performances, broader services to the sport, and the relationship with the region. Period ending 31 December annually.

Club of the Year

Awarded to a Swimming Otago affiliated Club that has had a significant positive impact on its swimmers, volunteers, coaches, administrators, supporters and its local community. Period ending 31 December annually.

Regional Swimmer of the Year

Awarded to the swimmer who has excelled during the qualifying period ending 31 December annually.

Emerging Swimmer of the Year

Awarded to up and coming swimmers (one male one female), 16 years old or younger as at 31 December. This award cannot be awarded to the same recipient more than once. Period ending 31 December annually.

Application Process:

- Nominations must be received by Swimming Otago by the 1st March annually.
- The Life Membership and Awards Committee will recommend Award recipients to the Swimming Otago Board.
 - Life Membership recommendations will be submitted by the Life Membership and Awards Committee to the Swimming Otago Board for ratification, which will then be incorporated into the AGM. The Swimming Otago Board will vote on nominations for Life Membership, where 75% majority is needed to confirm Life Membership.
 - All other awards will be ratified by the Swimming Otago Board and included in the AGM.
- Awards will be presented at the Annual General Meeting.