

Rail & Maritime Transport Union Inc  
Level 1, Tramways Building  
1 Thorndon Quay  
PO Box 1103  
WELLINGTON  
Ph: 04-499-2066  
Fax: 04-471-0896  
Email: wbutson@rmtunion.org.nz  
Website: www.rmtunion.org.nz



# Rail & Maritime Transport Union Inc

**To: ALL BRANCH SECRETARIES**  
**From: General Secretary**  
**Date: 12 July 2021**  
**Re: Life Membership Criteria**

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At the National Management Committee meeting on 10 March 2021 it was resolved that the following criteria below be adopted when nominating a member for life membership:

Life Membership Procedure:

1. Honorary Life Membership is a special and therefore infrequently awarded honour.
2. Any member or former member may be nominated for life membership by any Union member or any formally recognised Union membership structure, branch or by the National Management Committee
3. No nominations shall be acceptable from the Conference floor during a Conference.
4. The process should be conducted confidentially in order to protect the mana of the member or former member being considered for life membership.
5. Where any nomination is made by a union branch or the national management Committee, the branch at which the member is current or most recently current shall be advised, invited to comment on the nomination and to nominate at least one independent referee.
6. The group making nomination shall also provide the names of at least two referees to provide independent and confidential comment.
7. For the purposes of review and recommendation The National Management Committee shall appoint a review committee comprising
  - a. The National President as Chair
  - b. The National Vice President
  - c. The National womens representative
  - d. The General Secretary
  - e. One other National Management Committee member.A quorum of 4 is required for a decision to be made.
8. The Review Committee shall review only the information provided by the nominating group and by the referee(s), and shall make a consensus recommendation to the National Management Committee. Where there is active dissent leading to a consensus not being reached, the nomination lapses.
9. The National Management Committee shall decide unaminously, be secret ballot, whether to refer the recommendation to Conference for its endorsement or not. When unanimity is not reached, any nomination lapses.

Life Membership: Criteria to be taken into account

- To be considered for Life Membership any nominee must have demonstrated long and distinguished service to the Union and its membership at both local and national level.
- Life members should be or have been members of the RMTU (or its predecessors) for an extended period of at least 10 years.
- The scope of the members contribution is expected to have been union wide or of national impact or has been exceptional in some other way.
- The contribution needs to have been above and beyond the expected duties of office.
- Honorary life membership would not be ordinarily awarded to a current staff member or officer of the Union.

**The above criteria will be used for the consideration of any nominations to Conference 2022.**