

MANZ Honorary Member Policy

The purpose of this policy is to detail the circumstances upon which an Honorary Membership can be granted by MANZ membership.

Position Statement

An *Honorary Member* is one who has been awarded, by resolution, at an Annual General Meeting (AGM) and reflects the outstanding service to MANZ of an individual person.

MANZ Constitution

Membership 5

5.2.5 Honorary Member: *An Honorary Member is a person the membership considers to have provided outstanding service to the Association by way of time, effort, skills and knowledge. This person has had a minimum of eight years as a member or at a member kura (school). The nomination shall be considered by MANZ Council where additional information can be sought, or agreement can be made by the majority of the attending Council members to endorse the nomination. Council shall then put the proposal to the membership at the next AGM, where the membership will be asked to endorse the nomination. If the nomination is endorsed, the status of Honorary Member will be conferred on that nominee. An Honorary Member will have all the rights of members of the Association, except voting rights, for his or her life, shall not be required to pay any MANZ membership or annual conference registration fee and shall only have the membership terminated by resignation as described by point 6.*

8.1.6 *MANZ Honorary Members shall not be entitled to a vote.*

Outstanding Service to the Association - defined

The MANZ Constitution outlines “outstanding service to the Association” as being by way of “...time, effort, skills and knowledge, in total or in part.”

Outstanding service may be adjudged by the MANZ Council, and will take note of:

- if they raised and upheld the profile of Montessori teacher-led education in the community
- if they have given of themselves to support the advancement of quality Montessori education where financial gain or paid service is not a priority
- if they have given outstanding service to MANZ Council and its membership
- if they have given other service that the MANZ Council deems to be relevant to the award

Membership Tenure – defined

It is required for a nomination to be made for an *Honorary Member* of the Association the nominee must have been a fully paid up member for at least eight consecutive years.

There will be no more than 10 living *Honorary Members* at one time.

Nomination

Who can Nominate and/or Second

Any full financial member or *Honorary Member* of MANZ can nominate or second another financial member of MANZ at any time. There is no fee to nominate a person to become a *Honorary Member*.

Who can be Nominated

Any individual may be nominated so long as they have been a fully paid member for at least eight consecutive years. Nominations can also be posthumous.

What should be included in nomination

A nomination should include the nominee and seconder name and reason for nomination. The nomination must be supported by sufficient evidence and be signed by both nominator and seconder. Sufficient evidence must be supplied to support the nomination. This should include evidence of outstanding contribution outlining how their work progressed the Vision, Mission and Strategic Aims of MANZ.

How the Decision is Made

Upon receiving a written *Honorary Member* nomination:

- MANZ Executive Officer will advise MANZ President.
- MANZ President will ensure the *Honorary Member* nomination goes on to the next MANZ Council meeting agenda.
- Nominations will be sent to Council members for reviewing prior to the meeting.

Council Meeting

- Council members discuss the nomination and the clarity of the evidence provided by the nominator. *Further evidence may be requested in which case the discussion will need to be deferred and the nominator and seconder contacted requesting further information to be discussed at the next Council meeting.*
- Council vote on the suitability of the nominee for this honour. *A majority vote, for the nomination to be accepted and recommended to the following AGM, is required by Council.*
- Executive Officer will advise the nominator and seconder the result of the discussion following the Council meeting as to whether it will be progressed through to the following AGM.

AGM

- The president, or their delegate, will present the nomination, including full details of the evidence supporting the nomination, to the members present.
- When the presentation is concluded, a resolution is sought from the members to endorse the nomination of *Honorary Member* of the Association. This will be done by a secret ballot.

Note:

For the recommendation to be accepted a 75% majority of members, either by proxy voting

or attending, must be recorded.

If the nominee is attending the AGM they will be asked to leave the room while their nomination is presented.

After the AGM

- The proposed *Honorary Member* is advised in a letter from the president by email and invited to attend the following MANZ annual conference. In the case of a posthumous nomination, the next of kin/a family member will be advised.
- A Certificate is printed for conferring at the following MANZ annual conference.
- If not approved by the members, the nominator and seconder are advised by email that the Honorary Member will not be endorsed.

Financial Contribution for Conferring of Honorary Membership

MANZ will pay for return domestic flights, if required, to the proposed *Honorary Member* to accept their ¹certificate, or the equivalent of a domestic air fare if travelling from overseas.

Should the person to be awarded the proposed *Honorary Membership* have passed on, a return domestic, or equivalent, airfare will be offered to a family member to accept on their behalf.

Removal of Honorary Status

The MANZ Constitution allows for *Honorary Member* of the association to be terminated by resignation as outlined in Rule 6.1. (ie: giving notice in writing to the Executive Officer).

In addition, rule 6.3.1 applies, whereby the Council may resolve to remove a member's *Honorary Member* status, particularly if the member's actions are believed to bring the Association into disrepute.

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