Awards and Recognition Policy

Aim

The aim of this policy is to provide recognition for volunteers and high performing underwater sports competitors. This policy also contains criteria for awarding life membership.

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1 Revision

This policy is to be maintained and reviewed by the AUSC Committee. Any changes to the Blues criteria are required to be communicated to and endorsed by AU Sport, and the Blues committee.

2 Application

This policy applies to all members.

3 Club awards

Club awards are to be announced and presented at the AGM for the 12 months preceding.

3.1 Mostyn Walker memorial shield

The Shield is in memory of the Club's dedicated long-term member Mostyn Walker. As a Life Member, Mostyn contributed a great deal to the AUSC over many years, and the Shield was introduced in 2010 to recognise the enthusiasm, contribution and participation of new AUSC members.

Figure 3-1 Mostyn Walker memorial shield for outstanding junior membership (award as of 2016)

To be eligible for consideration, members must be an AUSC member. The intent is for the awardee to be a relatively new member, i.e. in their first one to two years of membership. If nominees are committee members, they should be in their first year of committee service (no longer). If they are not a committee member, they should have only previously served on the club committee once, or not at all.

Whilst it is strongly intended to make this award to one individual in any year, in exceptional years where the contribution of up to three individuals is significant and cannot be separated, the award may be made to up to three joint winners but only with a unanimous vote of the committee. In cases where there are multiple winners for a year they will appear as joint winners for the shield listed in alphabetical order.

The winner will be an eligible member deemed to have the shown the greatest contribution in the areas of dedication, leadership and service.

All members are able to nominate potential recipients of the Shield and present a case for their chosen nominee to the AUSC Executive Committee. The award winner is then selected by majority vote of the AUSC Executive Committee (President, Vice-President, Treasurer, and Secretary).

3.2 Most valuable boat handler

This award was created to the club in 2016 to recognise the amount of work and service that boat handlers contribute to the club. The award winner is to be selected based on a combination of the following:

- number of times they take the boat out;
- their documentation when taking the boat out, such as boat checklists, comments on problems/improvements that could be made;
- coaching/mentoring of junior boat handlers, and other divers; and
- assistance they give in helping maintain the boats to the Boating Officer.

The award winner is selected by the AUSC Executive Committee (President, Vice-President, Treasurer, and Secretary), and Boating Officer, by majority vote.

Figure 3-2 Most valuable boat handler award (plaques as of 2016)

3.3 Order of the broken propeller

The Order of the broken propeller award was first given around 1982 (although the first plaque on the award is dated 1892), and is a comical award given out for a particular lowlight event related to the boats and diving.

Figure 3-3 Order of the Broken Propeller award (plaques as of 2016)

Some examples in the past have been the loss of shark shields, loss of anchors, boats floating away, boat submersion, and boat engine on fire trouble.

The award winner is selected by the AUSC Executive Committee (President, Vice-President, Treasurer, and Secretary), and Boating Officer, by majority vote.

3.4 Other awards

Other awards have been given out by the club in the past to mark milestones, events, or special achievements.

For example, Dave Fielder was awarded the Stargazer Cup for his significant contribution in getting Stargazer worked through for the club in 2005/2006, as per Figure 3-4.

Figure 3-4 Stargazer Cup awarded to Dave Fielder

4 University of Adelaide awards

At the University of Adelaide, four levels are awarded in accordance with criteria determined by each University sporting club and approved by the AU Sport Blues Committee.

Unsporting Behaviour: None of the aforementioned awards, a Blue, Half Blue or Club Letters, may be awarded to a person who has acted in an unsporting manner to the detriment of the welfare of such person's club or the prejudice of the dignity and honour of AU Sport or the University. No person who has acted so shall be eligible for any award.

4.1 Blue

Blues are awarded to students, who are full members of an AU Sport club and who have participated at a state or national level with distinction.

For the activity of scuba diving, Dive Instructor is a professional level certification, and as such is considered to be representative level qualification. To qualify for Blue consideration, this must be coupled with commensurate in-water experience via the number of logged dives.

Table 4-1 Blue criteria for the activity of scuba diving

Level		Criteria
1	National	Certified as a Dive Instructor; **and** Log a minimum of 500 scuba dives.
2	State	-
3	Community	-
4	Club	Participated in scuba diving with AUSC for at least two (2) years. **and** Participate regularly in club activities, meetings and events.

- Level 1 and 4 both need to be achieved for one to be considered for a Blue.
- If the standard is achieved by a non-student, he/she should be considered for a Club Letter (Competition).

4.2 Half Blue

A Half Blue is awarded to students, who are full members of an AU Sport club, for achievement at a high level.

For the activity of scuba diving, Dive Master is a professional level certification, and as such as considered to be representative level qualifications. To qualify for Half Blue consideration, this must be coupled with commensurate in-water experience via the number of logged dives.

Table 4-2 Half Blue criteria for the activity of scuba diving

Level		Criteria
1	National	-
2	State	Certified as a Diver Master (or equivalent); **and** Log a minimum of 200 scuba dives.
3	Community	-
4	Club	Participated in scuba diving with AUSC for at least two (2) years. **and** Participate regularly in club activities, meetings and events.

- Level 2 and 4 both need to be achieved for one to be considered for a Half Blue.

- If the standard is achieved by a non-student, he/she should be considered for a Club Letter (Competition).

4.3 Club letter (competition)

A Club Letter (for competition) is awarded for significant sporting achievement. Those who are not Adelaide University students, but are AU Sport club members, are able to be nominated for this award.

For the activity of scuba diving, Master Scuba Diver certification (PADI, SSI or other) is the highest level of recreational certification, and requires a significant level of study and skills development. It is equal to competing at the highest club level.

Table 4-3 Club letters (competition) criteria for the activity of scuba diving

Level		Criteria
1	National	-
2	State	-
3	Community	Certified as a Master Scuba Diver or equivalent. **and** Log a minimum of 100 scuba dives.
4	Club	Participated in scuba diving with AUSC for at least two (2) years. **and** Participate regularly in club activities, meetings, and events.

Level 3 and 4 both need to be achieved for one to be considered for a Club Letter (Competition).

4.4 Club letter (service)

A Club Letter (for service) is awarded for significant service to a University sporting club. Those who are not Adelaide University students, but are AU Sport club members, are able to be nominated for this award.

Every year, the committee may recommend a member or members to the AU Sport to receive a club letter. A recommendation by the AUSC to AU Sport for the award of a club letter may only be made on the grounds that the member has delivered outstanding volunteer service, as per Table 4-4.

Table 4-4 Club letters (service) criteria

Level		Criteria
1	National	-
2	State	-
3	Community	-
4	Club	Been a AUSC member for at least three (3) years. **and** Participate regularly participate in club activities, and events. **and** Provided outstanding service to the club through assistance with vital activities such as dive organisation, boat towing, boat handling, boat sitting, safety training, social activities, and any other aspects in ensuring Club dives are offered to members on a regular basis for at least three (3) years.

5 Life membership

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

Figure 5-1 Life member award (as of 2016)

5.1 Club Life membership

Club Life Membership is the same as Non-Student Membership except that no club membership fees are payable. Every Club Life Member must submit an annual membership form during the months of January or February, or their membership will be suspended. Failure to submit an annual membership form will cause the Life Membership to cease; although, a simple majority of the committee may at its discretion extend a grace period of up to six months for membership form submission.

5.1.1 General considerations

In considering the award, an individual should have demonstrated significant, sustained, and high-quality service enhancing the reputation and future of the Club. The points to be considered when considering any nomination should include:

- The general attitude and overall demeanour of the nominee to ensure that the attitude is one that reflects a dedication to the values of the Club;
- Commitment to the principles of safe and enjoyable Club activities;
- Has not had their club membership suspended or terminated; and
- Committee positions held with the Club; and
- Valued leadership and good role modelling that reflects credit upon the Club.

The length of service to the Club should be at least 5 years.

5.1.2 Process for awarding

The committee may nominate a member for Life Membership at an ordinary committee meeting, through a written application demonstrating the member's attainment of minimum service requirements and other details of exemplary service. The extent to which a member satisfies the general considerations should be discussed and the committee, by a two-thirds majority of those present and voting, may confer honorary Life Membership on any nominated individual.

5.1.3 Benefits of Life Membership

In addition to the status of membership of a select group within the Club, Life Membership will be recognised by:

- Award of the Life Membership at the Club's Annual General Meeting;
- Exemption from membership fees for the Club (excluding AU Sport fees); and
- Listing on the Club's website and other relevant official documents.

Figure 5-2 Life member individual trophy, awarded to Philip Moore in 2016

5.2 Adelaide University Sport and Fitness (AUSF) Life Membership

AUSF life memberships give recognition to recipients in the broader Adelaide University sporting community. Nominations must only be considered if the nominee first meet the club life membership considerations.

AUSF has an internal panel that considers life memberships. It is a pre-requisite for the nominee to hold a Blues Award from Adelaide University Sport (e.g., Club Letter) for consideration.

5.3 Retraction

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 as part of the deliberations, the Life Member in question is also to be given the opportunity to present their case for retention of their Life Membership status.

6 Document control

Revision (Date)	Person	Comments
0 (13/10/2015)	**Author:** David Warren **Reviewed:** Committee (via Meeting 13/10/2015) **Approved:** David Warren, President	Document released to club membership. Note: Split awards / recognition from membership policy.

1
(15/03/2016)
	Author: David Warren
	Reviewed: Committee (via e-mail 7/03/2016), UWR Subcommittee (via e-mail 4/03/2016)
	Endorsed: AU Sport (via e-mail 15/03/2016)
	Approved: David Warren, President
		• Internal awards:
		  ○ Changed Mostyn Walker memorial shield selection from AUSC committee vote, to AUSC executive committee, since nominees could be a new member within the committee.
		  ○ Added most valuable boat handler award
		  ○ Added award photographs
		• Blues:
		  ○ Section 1: Added communication/endorsement required by AU Sport and Blues committee.
		  ○ Updated Blues awards based on previous criteria submitted to AU Sport, which were drafted by AU Sport, and accepted by Michael Swinbourne, Club President in Jan 2014.
		  ○ Also incorporated UWR requirements.
		• Life membership:
		  ○ changed from AU Sport fee inclusion of fees, to exclusion (as AU Sport do not have this charge excluded).
		  ○ Deleted Section 8.1 comment of "Life Membership is available to Ordinary members, University members and Associate Members of the Club" as recognition is available to all members.
		  ○ Added photograph.

2 (15/09/2016)	**Author:** David Warren **Reviewed:** Committee (via Meeting 15/09/2016) **Approved:** David Warren, President	• Added Section 3.4 *Other awards*.
3 30 Mar 2023	**Author:** Tim Brown & Jade Bruggeling **Reviewed:** Committee (via Meeting) **Approved:** Committee (via Meeting)	• Removed references to UWR Rugby. • Club and AUSF life membership requirements clarified as two different types of life membership per AUSF policy.
4 13 Aug 2026	**Author:** Tim Brown **Reviewed:** Committee (via Meeting 13/08/2026) **Approved:** Committee (via Meeting 13/08/2026)	• Reduced club life membership requirements to 5 years of service.

Appendix A Order of the Broken Propeller award history

Figure A-1 My recollection is this photo has a close relationship with the missing plate in the 'Broken Propeller Award'. I heard those famous words uttered on the Stacer in Cable Bay in about 1982 "I think there's a reef around here [gr-r-r-r-r-r]" (photo courtesy of Lyndon Zimmermann)