



## **HONORARY MEMBER AND SERVICE AWARD RULES**

*(Approved by Council on 30 November 2022  
and effective from 1 December 2022)*



## **Specific Definitions**

The words and phrases used in these Rules that are defined terms (denoted by initial capital letters) shall have the meanings specified in the Constitution and the General Definitions, or (in respect of the following words and phrases) the following meanings:

**“Eligible”** has the same meaning as defined in the Vetting Rules.

**“Honorary Members”** means those persons who are granted Honorary Titles in accordance with Rule 3.

**“Honorary Titles”** are the titles of Honorary Life President, Honorary Life Vice-President or Honorary Life Personal Member, as defined in the Constitution.”

**“Ineligible”** has the same meaning as defined in the Vetting Rules.

**“Service Award”** means the a. Plaque of Merit; b. Veteran Pin; or c. Gold or Silver Order of Merit granted to a person in accordance with Rule 4.

## 1. Overview

- 1.1 According to Articles 27.1(o) and 27.1(p) of the Constitution, Congress may grant Honorary Titles and grant Service Awards. To the extent the Constitution does not provide for the procedure for Congress granting Honorary Titles and Service Awards, these Rules shall apply.

## 2. Application of these Rules

- 2.1 These Rules apply to all Member Federations, Area Associations, World Athletics Officials, Delegates and persons nominated for and/or awarded an Honorary Title or Service Award.

## 3. Honorary Titles

- 3.1 Under Article 27.1(o) of the Constitution, Congress may grant the following Honorary Titles on the recommendation of Council:

- 3.1.1 Honorary Life President;
  - 3.1.2 Honorary Life Vice-President; and,
  - 3.1.3 Honorary Life Member;
- (together referred to as “Honorary Members”).

This Rule 3 sets out the rules and procedures relating to granting Honorary Titles.

- 3.2 **Criteria:** The criteria for being granted each of the Honorary Titles is as follows:

- 3.2.1 the title of Honorary Life President may be granted to any person who has been President of World Athletics for at least one (1) term of office (being no less than four years), but who is no longer, or by the conclusion of the next Congress will cease to be, the President;
- 3.2.2 the title of Honorary Life Vice-President may be granted to any person who has been a Vice President and has served as a Vice-President or a Council Member of World Athletics for at least two (2) consecutive terms of office (or at least eight (8) years in office), but who is no longer, or by the conclusion of the next Congress will cease to be, a Vice-President or a Council Member;
- 3.2.3 the title of Honorary Life Member may be granted to any person who has provided significant service as a member of Council for three (3) consecutive terms of office (or at least twelve (12) years), but who is no longer a Council Member, or by the conclusion of the next Congress, will cease to be a Council Member.

- 3.3 **Process:** The procedure for being granted an Honorary Title is as follows:

- 3.3.1 prior to an Ordinary Congress, the President may nominate persons (other than himself or herself) for Honorary Life President, for Honorary Life Vice-President and for Honorary Life Members. The Chief Executive Officer may nominate the current President to be an Honorary Life President;

- 3.3.2 all nominees must be vetted by the Vetting Panel under the Vetting Rules and approved as Eligible by the Vetting Panel prior to consideration of the nominations by the Nominations Panel pursuant to Rule 3.3.3 below;
  - 3.3.3 the Nominations Panel shall consider the nominations. If the President is eligible to be considered for the title of Honorary Life President, he/she shall be excused from the Nominations Panel for all deliberations and decisions for that Honorary Title. The Nominations Panel shall consider the President's nominations in respect of any Vice-Presidents or Council Members or past Council Members of any applicable criteria in Rule 3.2, before deciding its recommendations to Council;
  - 3.3.4 the Nominations Panel's recommendation shall be submitted to Council for its consideration;
  - 3.3.5 if Council approves the recommendations of the Nominations Panel, the names of the nominees shall be circulated to the Member Federations;
  - 3.3.6 in exceptional circumstances, nominations may be considered by the Nominations Panel, Council and the Ordinary Congress at short notice if it cannot be known in advance if a person will cease to be the President, Vice-President or a Council Member (as the case may be) at that Ordinary Congress;
  - 3.3.7 at the Congress meeting, the Delegates will decide by Absolute Majority if the nominees for the Honorary Titles recommended by Council are approved; and
  - 3.3.8 the person or persons shall be notified accordingly.
- 3.4 **Rights:** Honorary Members shall be entitled to such rights as the Council shall decide from time to time. For the avoidance of doubt, Honorary Members do not have the right to vote at Congress.
- 3.5 **Removal:** The Council has the right to remove the Honorary Title from an Honorary Member upon any of the following circumstances occurring:
- 3.5.1 if the Honorary Member is found by a Relevant Authority to have breached the Constitution, Rules or Regulations (including the Integrity Code of Conduct) or has otherwise committed conduct prejudicial to the interests of World Athletics;
  - 3.5.2 if the Honorary Member is convicted by a Relevant Authority of any offence punishable by a term of imprisonment;
  - 3.5.3 if the Honorary Member is prohibited by a Relevant Authority from being a director or promoter of or being concerned or taking part in the management of a company for breach or non-compliance with the law applicable to that person;
  - 3.5.4 if the Honorary Member is found by a Relevant Authority to have committed an anti-doping rule violation at any time, whether or not any period of ineligibility is ordered to be served;

- 3.5.5 if the Honorary Member is otherwise prohibited from holding such position or any similar position under any other circumstances provided by law;
  - 3.5.6 if the Council determines it is not appropriate nor in the best interest of World Athletics for that person to continue to have that Honorary Title.
- 3.6 Before an Honorary Title is removed pursuant to Rule 3.5 above, the Chief Executive Officer shall give notice to the Honorary Member of the intention to remove the Honorary Title and the reasons why this is proposed and must give the Honorary Member concerned at least fourteen (14) days to make written representations as why this should not happen. Any written representations received from the Honorary Member within that 14-day period must be considered by the Council before deciding whether to remove the Honorary Title or not.

#### 4. Service Awards

- 4.1 Under Article 27.1(p) of the Constitution, Congress may grant awards to persons for services to World Athletics and the sport of Athletics, on the recommendation of Council. This Rule 4 sets out the criteria and procedures relating to a Service Award.
- 4.2 **Awards:** World Athletics may grant such Service Awards as the Council shall decide from time to time.
- 4.3 **Criteria:** All nominations are subject to the following minimum criteria:
- 4.3.1 the Area Association verifies and declares that the nominee has;
    - a. not been declared Ineligible by World Athletics or, if applicable, an Area Association’s Vetting Panel for any reason;
    - b. not been the subject of an investigation or action by a disciplinary body, tribunal court or other judicial or arbitral body properly constituted by law or applicable rules, resulting in adverse findings being made about the person’s credibility, integrity, honesty or reputation;
    - c. not at any time been convicted of a crime resulting in a sentence of imprisonment;
    - d. not been found to have committed an anti-doping or non-doping rule violation, (even if a period of ineligibility has been served) by a disciplinary body, tribunal court or other judicial or arbitral body properly constituted by law or applicable rules, and acting in accordance with such law or rules;
  - 4.3.2 the need for diversity between each sex; and
  - 4.3.3 contribution to athletics anywhere in the World whether or not connected to activities of the Area Association.
- 4.4 The Council shall decide any additional criteria for being granted a Service Award from time to time and the maximum number of people that each Area Association is entitled to nominate for each Service Award and notify the Area Associations accordingly.

- 4.5 **Process:** The procedure for granting a Service Award is as follows:
- 4.5.1 prior to an Ordinary Congress, Area Associations will be invited to submit nominations of individuals from their Area for the Service Awards. Where the Service Award requires more than one nominee Area Associations must submit a minimum of one nominee of each sex;
  - 4.5.2 The Area Associations may not make any more nominations for each Service Award than the maximum number set by the Council and must set out how such persons fulfil the criteria for the relevant Service Award set by the Council. Nominations must be sent to the Chief Executive Officer no later than by the deadline stated in the invitation circulated to Area Associations;
  - 4.5.3 the Nominations Panel shall consider the nominations for Service Awards against the applicable criteria set in accordance with Rule 4.3, before making its recommendations to Council. The Nominations Panel shall have the right to request further information, including interviewing Area Presidents and nominees, in relation to a nomination before making its recommendations;
  - 4.5.4 the Nominations Panel's recommendations shall be submitted to Council for its consideration;
  - 4.5.5 the Council, of its own accord, has the right to recommend to Congress to grant a Service Award to any person who meets the criteria set out at Rule 4.3;
  - 4.5.6 the Nominations Panel's recommendations and any recommendations from the Council for Service Awards which are approved by Council shall be circulated to the Member Federations;
  - 4.5.7 at the Congress meeting, the Delegates will decide by Absolute Majority if the nominees for the service awards recommended by Council are approved; and
  - 4.5.8 any person granted a Service Award shall be notified accordingly.