POLICY GUIDELINES FOR ELECTION TO HONORARY LIFE MEMBER

[As approved by SPAA members at the AGM in September 2011]

1. General
1.1 These Guidelines have been approved by the SPAA Committee to assist in the interpretation of the relevant clauses in the Association Rules and Constitution with respect to the election of a person as an Honorary Life Member of the Association.

1.2 Each completed nomination form for election is to be forwarded in the first instance to the Executive Officer who will forward copies of it and all other relevant information, including reports to the SPAA Committee for further processing.

1.3 Honorary Life Membership is not the automatic right of past members of Council and Executive but is granted on the basis of long or exceptional service to the Association.

1.4 Honorary Life Membership may be granted only after candidates have ceased to be members of Committee.

1.5 The person being nominated must not be informed of the submission being made.

1.6 The submission will be considered by the Committee “in confidence”. Following the tabling of draft citation the current committee will be asked to vote on a motion to award an Honorary Life Membership. It must be passed by a unanimous resolution of those present and voting.

1.7 After Committee approve of an award the Secretary will ask the nominee if s/he is prepared to accept the award, and to identify the meeting of most convenient for the presentation.

2. Criteria for Honorary Life Membership
2.1 The election of a member as an Honorary Life Member is recognition by the Association of an outstanding contribution to SPAA Precision Agriculture Australia by that member.

2.2 This honour may be bestowed on a member by the Committee at any appropriate time, subject to 2.4, below, and is not linked necessarily with that person’s retirement from a position in the Association.

2.3 An outstanding contribution to SPAA is one which:
- results in SPAA being substantially, demonstrably and positively changed by that contribution, and
- occurs over a significant period of time (at least 5 to 10 years), and
- required substantial and commendable personal input, and
- can be clearly documented and corroborated.

2.4 Committee can decide the number of Honorary Life Members elected in any one calendar year.

2.5 Nominations will not be considered if more than five years have passed (in the opinion of the SPAA committee) since the primary component(s) of the outstanding contribution (on which the nomination for Honorary Life membership is being judged)
was completed or made. This places the onus on proposers to act promptly and ensures that worthy would be contemporary recipients are not displaced from the period in which their contributions should be recognised.

2.6 All nominations for Life Membership must be forwarded to the Honorary Secretary at least 2 days before the Annual General Meeting.

2.7 Staff members who have given long (at least three years) or exceptional service to the Association may be considered for Honorary Life Membership under the same process as described above.

3. **Procedure for Nomination**

   Any current member of SPAA who wishes to have a person considered for nomination as an Honorary Life Member may complete and forward a submission to that effect in writing to the Executive Officer. A nomination for election of a person as Honorary Life Member shall be made on the current form of application and may be accompanied by the required supporting information including corroborated evidence of the outstanding contribution. The current form is available from the SPAA website. Each nomination for the election of Honorary Life Member shall be endorsed by the SPAA Committee.

4. **Procedures for Election of Honorary Life Member**

   The Executive Officer will refer any application to the SPAA committee (set up annually by the Committee) for consideration and recommendation. Committee has resolved that all matters relating to a nomination are confidential with only the final decision of Committee in favour of the nomination being announced publicly.