

RULES FOR THE QUEENSLAND NATURAL HISTORY AWARD

Preamble

The purpose of the Award is to give recognition to persons who have made outstanding contributions to natural history in Queensland. The financing and management of the Award shall be the responsibility of The Queensland Naturalists' Club Inc. hereafter referred to as The QNC.

1.0 Award

- 1.1 The Award shall be known as The Queensland Natural History Award.
- 1.2 The nature of the Award and the rules shall be determined by the Council of The QNC.
- 1.3 Not more than one Award shall be made each year. If the Selection Committee considers that no nominee is of sufficient merit, no Award shall be made.
- 1.4 The Award shall not be made more than once to any individual.

2.0 Criteria

The Award shall be made to the nominee of sufficient merit deemed by the Selection Committee to have made the greatest contribution to natural history in Queensland. Among the contributions may be: scientific research, publication of books or popular articles, contributions to organisations, gifting, teaching and administration. The more limited time and facilities available to many amateur naturalists, compared with their professional colleagues, should be taken into consideration.

3.0 Selection Committee

- 3.1 The Selection Committee shall be appointed by the Council of The QNC and shall consist of the President (ex officio) and four other persons, at least two of whom shall be distinguished naturalists.
- 3.2 The President of The QNC shall be Chairman of the Selection Committee.
- 3.3 Members of the Selection Committee, other than the President, shall normally serve for a two year term and shall not serve for more than two consecutive terms but become eligible again after a one term break. In the first instance, two members of the Selection Committee shall be appointed to serve for three years to ensure continuity.
- 3.4 In the case of a person ceasing to be a member of the Selection Committee before the expiration of the normal term, the Council will appoint a replacement to serve the remainder of the term, without prejudice to a subsequent appointment to the Selection Committee.
- 3.5 No nominee for the Award shall be a member of the Selection Committee while his/her nomination is current. The immediate relatives of a current nominee shall not be members of the Selection Committee.
- 3.6 A person shall not be a signatory to a nomination while serving as a member of the Selection Committee.

4.0 Nominations

- 4.1 Nominations shall be of a living individual only.
- 4.2 Nominations may be made by individuals (a proposer and a seconder) or by organisations except The QNC and its Council and members of the Selection Committee.

- 4.3 Each nomination shall be accompanied by a detailed *curriculum vitae* of the candidate, including details of publications and activities, and should include a description of the specific contributions and their impact on natural history.
- 4.4 Each nomination shall remain current for three (3) years beginning on the 31st of August, unless withdrawn by the proposer, and may be updated by proposers while current. Upon expiry of a nomination, the person may be re-nominated. Documents supporting nominations will be destroyed upon expiry of the nomination.
- 4.5 Should a nominee die prior to the closing date for the acceptance of nominations each year, that nomination shall be rendered void.
- 4.6 No organization, group or individual may have more than one (1) current nomination.

5.0 **Selection Procedure**

- 5.1 The Selection Committee shall apply any procedures it sees fit. The Committee may refer aspects of the nominations to experts for appraisal.
- 5.2 Deliberations of the Selection Committee shall be confidential.
- 5.3 The decision of the Selection Committee shall be final. No correspondence shall be entered into.

6.0 **Timetable**

- 6.1 Requests for nominations, accompanied by the citation for the current year's Award, shall be published in the QNC News and sent out by the Secretary to appropriate organisations and current proposers. Normally, this shall be done not later than the end of March.
- 6.2 Nominations must be received by the Secretary by 31st August each year.
- 6.3 The Selection Committee shall be appointed after 31st August.
- 6.4 The Selection Committee must reach its decision by 30th December.
- 6.5 The Award shall be announced and, if possible, presented at the Annual General Meeting of The QNC.

7.0 **Notification of the Award**

- 7.1 The recipient of the Award shall be notified by the Chairman of the Selection Committee early in January. The identity of the recipient shall remain confidential. Should the recipient die prior to presentation of the Award, it shall be presented to an appropriate representative.
- 7.2 At the presentation of the Award, a citation describing the achievements of the recipient shall be read out.
- 7.3 The citation and a photograph shall also be published in the Queensland Naturalist.
- 7.4 The citation shall be sent to selected news media as a press release with a release date, the release timed so that the general publication of the award closely follows the announcement by The QNC.
- 7.5 Unsuccessful nominees will also be notified by the Chairman of the Selection Committee immediately after the successful candidate has been notified. The proposers of all the nominees will also be notified at this time.

8.0 **General**

- 8.1 The QNC Council may amend the rules at its March meeting. These amended rules shall also apply to nominations current at that time.
- 8.2 The Council shall maintain a list of appropriate organisations.

- 8.3 A copy of these rules shall be provided to anyone requesting it.
- 8.4 The QNC Council may abolish the Award if supported by a majority of the membership of the Council after proper notice given at least one month prior to the vote.