



Incorporated No. A0021659A

Life Membership – Russell Garner

❖ awarded 31 July, 2022 ❖

Every so often it is the privilege of the President and the Committee to pay a tribute to someone who has made a special, lasting and memorable contribution to the Mazda MX-5 Club of Victoria & Tasmania. It is with pleasure that the commitment of **Russell Garner** is recognised as the Club's 18th Honorary Life Member.

Russell joined the Mazda MX-5 Club of Victoria in April 2009.

As a long-term participant in the Motorsport activities of the Club, Russell has achieved a long list of Club and class-winning results while competing in the Club's motorsport championship.

These results include seven Club Motorsport Championships, six Super Modified class wins and four Modified class wins. His full record includes:

- 2009-2010: Motorsport Champion**
Modified Champion
Rookie of the Year Award (Motorsport)
- 2010-2011: Motorsport Champion**
Modified Champion
- 2011-2012: Motorsport Champion**
Modified Champion
- 2012-2013: Modified Champion
- 2013-2014: Super Modified Champion
Club Captain's Award (Motorsport)
- 2014-2015: Motorsport Champion**
Super Modified Champion
- 2015: Super Modified Champion
- 2016: Motorsport Champion**
Super Modified Champion
Sportsmanship Award (Motorsport)
- 2017: Super Modified Champion
- 2018: Motorsport Champion**
Super Modified Champion
- 2019: Motorsport Champion**
NA/NB Modified Champion

In the Compliance Officer role, Russell has been responsible for enforcing the Motorsport rules and Class regulations, ensuring that all competitors comply. He has performed this role in relative anonymity but has ensured that the Motorsport Championship is a fair competition for all.

In addition, as Points Officer, Russell has compiled the points from each round to provide a running score for classes and the overall championship.

Russell's ongoing contribution demonstrates "exceptional service to the Club for at least seven years", thus qualifying him for Life Membership. Undoubtedly, his contribution has been dedicated, and his influence on the Club's Motorsport activity has been positive.

Russell was awarded the Club's Service Star in 2022, and his influence on the Club continues to be profound. His commitment to the Club over the past 10 years has been exceptional, and he is a worthy recipient of Life Membership with the Club.

The conferring of Life Membership of this Club is not done lightly. It has gone to only 17 other people in our 32-year history.

Club guidelines state that Honorary Life Membership is only offered to individuals with at least 10 years of Club membership and is awarded for long-term service to the Club. A nominee must have given exceptional service to the Club, by applying extraordinary expertise, dedication and positive influence.

It is a significant award and may only be conferred on a Club member at the absolute discretion of the Committee. It also requires a unanimous vote of the Committee in favour before it can be conferred.

So, today, it is with great pleasure that I invite Russell to accept this award of *Life Membership of the Mazda MX-5 Club of Victoria & Tasmania.*

Peter Dannock, President
Presented on 24 March 2023