



# “ĠIEĦ IL-MELLIEĦA” AND “RIKONOXXIMENT IL-MELLIEĦA” AWARDS

## 1.0 THE AWARDS

- 1.1 The awards may be granted to individuals, particular groups in the community, or associations for distinguished service to the country, the locality of Mellieħa, in different walks of life. The awards shall be on two levels, namely:
  - “Ġieħ il-Mellieħa”; and
  - “Rikonoxximent il-Mellieħa”.
- 1.2 The highest award is “Ġieħ il-Mellieħa”.
- 1.3 The awards shall be granted by the Mellieħa Local Council, hereinafter called the “Council”, following a recommendation by the Advisory Board, hereinafter referred to as “The Board”. The Board shall be presided by an independent Chairman, and assisted by the Mayor and a Councilor from the minority political group, and two members from the general public, one of them being female, together with the Executive Secretary of the Council, who shall have the function to record the minutes of the meetings.
- 1.4 The Board shall peruse and evaluate all the eligible nominations and within ten days from the closing date shall forward its recommendations to the Council.
- 1.5 In addition to the consideration of the Board’s recommendations, the Council may decide to upgrade or downgrade a nomination, or add other nominations.
- 1.6 The Council’s decision shall be final and no contestations will be allowed.
- 1.7 The awards shall be announced on *Jum il-Kunsill tal-Mellieħa* (Mellieħa Local Council Day).
- 1.8 The Council shall have the right to decide for which award a person, or organization is qualified.
- 1.9 Nominations shall be evaluated by the Council during an *ad hoc* sitting.
- 1.10 The award decision shall be taken following a Council resolution, unanimously approved by the members in attendance.
- 1.11 An award may not be granted if the level of merit is considered as insufficient.

## **2.0 NOMINATIONS**

- 2.1 Nominations shall be submitted on the prescribed forms issued by the Council.
- 2.2 Nominations can be submitted by individuals, associations, or other entities.
- 2.3 The Mayor, Councillors and Council employees are precluded from submitting nominations, neither as proponents, or seconders, or as signatories.
- 2.4 Nominations shall be signed by a proponent, a seconder and not less than twenty other signatories whose name appears on the latest issue of the Mellieña Local Council Electoral Register.
- 2.5 Board may call upon the proponent to give further explanation concerning any nomination submitted.
- 2.6 Concurrent nominations for the two awards, pertaining to the same person or entity, by the same proponent, seconder and signatories, shall be rejected.
- 2.7 Nominations shall be submitted in the case of associations, or group of individuals, if their contribution was of a collective nature.
- 2.8 Nominations with respect to individuals, or groups of individuals, or associations shall be considered if same are based in the locality of Mellieña. Nominees based outside Mellieña, or abroad may also be considered if their contribution is somewhat connected with the locality.
- 2.9 Nominations that are not entertained in a particular year, shall remain valid for subsequent years, subject to the provisions of Article 3.12 of these criteria. However, for the 2019 edition, all nominations submitted prior to 2013 shall be reverted back to their proponents who shall be asked to state in writing whether they intend to renew their original nomination, or otherwise. In the absence of such response, the nomination shall be invalidated.

## **3.0 ELEGIBILITY**

- 3.1 Only those persons, group of persons, or other entities that have distinguished themselves with excellence through: culture, philanthropy, sports, humanitarian initiatives; academic achievements, politics, the environment, or in other fields, for the benefit of the locality of Mellieña and/or the country, are considered as eligible for the awards.
- 3.2 Individuals, groups of persons, or other entities that through their exemplary work have served as role models to others, and/or have performed their normal duties with honesty and efficiently, and/or with

altruism, even in its simplest form, and/or assisted other persons to face life problems.

- 3.3 An ex-Mayor who has served at least one term shall automatically qualify for “Ġieħ il-Mellieħa”, even if still serving as a Councillor.
- 3.4 Serving Members of Parliament cannot be nominated, unless having served as Mayors, or Councillors immediately prior their election as MP’s.
- 3.5 The merits concerning the eligibility of a former Mayor who has been removed from office, or for some reason or other has relinquished his post, shall be discussed and decided upon by the Council.
- 3.6 Councillors who have served for one term shall be eligible for “Rikonoxximent il-Mellieħa”.
- 3.7 The eligibility of ex-Councillors who for some reason or other have not served their full term, shall be discussed and decided upon by the Council.
- 3.8 “Ġieħ il-Mellieħa” shall only be awarded once.
- 3.9 A nomination awarded “Rikonoxximent il-Mellieħa” shall remain eligible for “Ġieħ il-Mellieħa” in subsequent years, subject to the provision of Article 2.9 of these criteria.
- 3.10 “Ġieħ il-Mellieħa” may only be awarded to one nominee, while “Rikonoxximent il-Mellieħa” may not be awarded to more than three nominees, in one edition.
- 3.11 An award may be withdrawn if a person is convicted of a serious criminal offence.

#### **4.0 The Insignia and Medal**

- 4.1 The “Ġieħ il-Mellieħa” insignia shall be made of solid gold that includes the Council coat-of-arms, together with the words “Ġieħ il-Mellieħa” engraved underneath.
- 4.2. The “Rikonoxximent il-Mellieħa” medal shall be gold plated that includes the Council coat-of-arms, together with the words “B’Rikonoxximent” underneath.
- 4.3. A diploma bearing the official seal of the Council with an explaining of the award significance shall be presented together with the insignia, or medal.
- 4.2 A silver plated memento shall be presented in the case of “Rikonoxximent il-Mellieħa” and a gold plated one in the case of “Ġieħ il-Mellieħa” if these are awarded to an association, religious community, or other entities.

## **5.0 ARCHIVE**

- 5.1 An official register shall be kept by the Council to recall the merits upon which, the award had be granted.

## **6.0. GUESTS OF HONOUR**

- 6.1 Individuals, groups of persons, and associations that have been honoured over the years shall be considered as guests of honour in official Council events