

**Nova Scotia Agricultural College
Development & External Relations**

NSAC Ring Eligibility Policy

Background

The barley band ring was developed and designed as a permanent symbol of Nova Scotia Agricultural College to replace the many variations of school rings external companies previously provided. The development of the ring was led by NSAC's Development & External Relations office and Students' Union. Final approval of the ring came from NSAC's Executive. The official ring was launched and made available for purchase through NSAC's Bookstore in March 2010.

The ring policy outlines eligibility for NSAC's ring. The policy was developed in consultation with NSAC's Alumni Association and Students' Union and was approved by NSAC's Executive.

NSAC Ring Eligibility Criteria Policy

Persons will be eligible for an NSAC ring if:

- a. They are in their graduating academic year of a degree or diploma program at NSAC.
- b. They have previously received a degree or diploma from NSAC.
- c. They receive an honorary degree from the university.
- d. They are selected to receive an honorary ring by the institution. Up to two honorary rings may be awarded per year to a person(s) deemed suitable by NSAC's Ring Committee and who meet the criteria for a honorary ring (see Appendix A). It is not a necessity to award honorary rings every year.
- e. They completed a minimum of two years of study at NSAC and went on to pursue a professional degree (ie: Veterinary Medicine) from another institution and are approved by NSAC's Ring Committee.

Purchase and Sale of Alumni Rings

- a. NSAC ring sales will be managed year-round through NSAC's Development & External Relations office, where samples will be permanently displayed.
- b. As an exception to the above, the Development & External Relations office, Students' Union and ring designer will hold two to five "ring days" each winter with an incentive for graduating students to order their ring before Convocation.

Objections/Exceptions

- a. Any objections or exceptions to this ring policy must be submitted to NSAC's Ring Committee.
- b. NSAC's Executive reserves the right to modify the ring policy as needed.

Ring Committee

NSAC's Ring Committee is chaired by the Students' Union President and includes the following members:

Voting Members:

- Students' Union President (Chair)
- Executive Director, Development & External Relations (Vice-Chair)
- Students' Union In-coming President *OR* current Vice-President
- Development Officer (or another staff member from the Development & External Relations office)
- Alumni Association President
- Alumni Association Vice President (or other member appointed by the Association)

Non-Voting Member:

- A record-keeper appointed by the committee

Appendix A: Honourary NSAC Ring Policy

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Purpose

NSAC's Ring Committee recognizes that many of NSAC's biggest ambassadors and supporters do not meet the criteria to be eligible for a NSAC ring. Yet, these people would be extremely deserving recipients of a NSAC ring and would wear it with the utmost pride.

The purpose of this policy is to provide the fundamental guidelines by which NSAC's Ring Committee can assess whether or not a particular candidate, who is not otherwise eligible for a ring, is deserving of this honour.

Criteria

An honorary ring recipient shall fulfill the following criteria:

- a. They must not already have a NSAC ring;
- b. They exhibit outstanding contribution to NSAC's community, gauged in part by a number of years of service to NSAC's community;
- c. The nomination must be supported by a letter outlining the reasons why the recipient should receive an NSAC ring.

Nomination

A nomination for a honorary NSAC ring recipient can be made by:

- a. NSAC's Alumni Association
- b. NSAC's Students' Union
- c. NSAC's Senior Management

Selection Process

NSAC's Ring Committee recognizes that a selection for an honorary ring recipient is optional if the candidates presented, if any, do not fulfill the necessary criteria as set out by this policy.

An honorary ring will be granted if consent is received from at least half of NSAC's Ring Committee voting members.

Funding for the honorary ring will come from the sector within the university that has nominated the successful candidate.