



1. What is The Lifetime Giving Society?

The Lifetime Giving Society is a national individual giving society offered by Boys & Girls Clubs of America (BGCA) to recognize donors for making very significant gifts to local Clubs throughout their lifetime. It recognizes cumulative outright gifts beginning with \$250,000 and up.

2. Why does national recognition start at \$250,000?

National recognition in The Lifetime Giving Society is reserved for donors who have made significant gifts accumulated over their lifetime. Clubs in the pilot phase indicated that this was a significant level that was attainable for the best supporters.

3. What are the levels of recognition?

- Leader - \$250,000 - \$499,999;
- Mentor - \$500,000 - \$999,999;
- Benefactor - \$1,000,000 - \$1,999,999 and
- Philanthropist - \$2,000,000 and above.

4. What gifts qualify?

Gifts of cash, stock, real estate and art; capital campaign gifts; employer matching gifts; gifts from family foundations; and gifts to multiple Clubs. The gifts may be restricted or unrestricted.

5. Do bequest gifts and other deferred gifts count toward LGS?

No, bequests and deferred gifts are not included in Lifetime Giving Society total giving amounts, even once they have been received. Individuals who contribute these types of gifts are recognized through The Heritage Club.

6. Do in-kind gifts count?

Yes, as long as the in-kind gift is budget relieving and can qualify for a tax-deductible receipt for the donation from the Club. An example might be providing special flooring for the Club's gymnasium or computer equipment for the tech lab.

7. Can I count gifts to my endowment?

Yes, if they are current gifts with cash value.

8. Can I include individuals who are deceased?

Yes, if they made gifts totaling \$250,000 or more during their lifetime they are eligible to be recognized posthumously.

9. How do I identify and enroll my donors into The Lifetime Giving Society?

Start by reviewing your donor records to determine donors who would qualify. Set up a meeting with them and thank them again for their past support. Tell them about the Lifetime Giving Society



and ask if they have supported any other Clubs. Finally, get their permission to recognize them in the society and ask whether or not they would like to be recognized publicly or privately.

10. What recognition do they receive from BGCA?

There are several opportunities to recognize local Lifetime Giving Society members.

- a. Clubs can order **complimentary** membership lapel pins from the BGCA e-store. There are different pins for each level of Lifetime Giving Society.
- b. Clubs can also download a recognition certificate signed by BGCA's CEO Jim Clark from BGCA.net to customize and present to the donor with the pin in a local recognition ceremony.
- c. Clubs can submit Lifetime Giving Society members to BGCA's online BGCA.net portal to be included in the *National Individual Giving Societies Annual Report* which is published and distributed online and can be used for stewardship.
- d. Members submitted via the portal can also be invited to an annual Recognition Reception hosted at BGCA's Annual National Conference.

11. What does it cost?

There is no cost for Clubs to participate. You can order recognition pins on the BGCA e-store at no cost and create recognition certificates locally to present to donors with the pins.

12. Will BGCA be contacting my donors?

No, any member names submitted via the online portal are utilized for inclusion in the Annual Report and to receive an invitation to a national event reception, which will be made via the Club. BGCA will not solicit Lifetime Giving Society members unless they are already donors to BGCA.

13. How many members can I submit per year for my Club?

There is no limit on the number of members that a Club may submit or recognize each year.

14. How does this work with JMS?

Individuals that have been JMS members for many years are good prospects for The Lifetime Giving Society. Individuals can be members of both, however, JMS membership is for one year and LGS is for life.