ORDER OF AUSTRALIA
HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN
A MESSAGE FROM HIS EXCELLENCY GENERAL THE HONOURABLE SIR PETER COSGROVE AK MC (Retd)

The Australian honours system is a vital part of our social fabric. Honours help define, encourage and reinforce our national aspirations, ideals and standards by identifying those among us who make an outstanding contribution to our society.

The recipients of Australian honours and awards are very special men and women whose actions have set them apart and enriched our community across a broad range of professional, public and community service sectors.

In their daily lives these admirable people demonstrate those values that we as a nation hold dear—compassion, civility, dedication, courage, kindness, tolerance, and energetic ambition. They inspire us all to be more enthusiastic and giving, to uphold the responsibility of being fully engaged citizens.

On behalf of all Australians, I congratulate and thank all recipients of honours and awards, past and present. I highly regard your contribution and deeply appreciate your generosity of spirit. You are a source of motivation to us all.

QUITE SIMPLY, OURS IS A FAR RICHER AND STRONGER COMMUNITY BECAUSE OF YOU—WELL DONE.

SECRETARIES OF THE ORDER

Sir David Smith KCVO AO 17 February 1975 to 31 August 1990
Dr Robert Douglas Sturkey CVO AM 1 September 1990 to 14 July 1998
Mr Martin Charles Bonsey AO CVO 15 July 1998 to 11 May 2003
Mr Malcolm John Hazell CVO AM 12 May 2003 to 4 September 2008
Mr Stephen Christopher Brady CVO 5 September 2008 to 26 June 2014
Mr Mark Thomas Fraser LVO OAM 27 June 2014 to current
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INTRODUCTION
The Order of Australia is the pre-eminent way Australians recognise achievements and service of their fellow citizens. In the Australian honours system appointments to and awards in the Order of Australia confer recognition for outstanding achievement and service.

The Governor-General is Chancellor of the Order and is charged with its administration and the appointment of its Secretary. Traditionally, the Official Secretary to the Governor-General serves as the Secretary of the Order.

Upon publication of their award, recipients are entitled to have the appropriate post-nominals placed after their name on all occasions when the use of such letters is customary.

HISTORY
The Order of Australia, instituted by Her Majesty The Queen on 14 February 1975, was established as “an Australian society of honour for the purpose of according recognition to Australian citizens and other persons for achievement or for meritorious service”.

The Order comprised a Civil Division and a Military Division, with three levels in each, Companion, Officer and Member. On 24 May 1976 The Queen, on the advice of the Prime Minister, changed the name of the Civil Division to General Division and added two further levels of award—a Knight and Dame in the General Division, each having equal status, and ranking above the Companion; and a Medal of the Order in both the General Division and Military Division ranking below the Member.

Her Majesty The Queen approved further amendments to the Constitution of the Order on 3 March 1986 which removed the Knight and Dame level in the General Division, but without prejudice to existing appointments.

On 19 March 2014, on the advice of the Prime Minister, Her Majesty The Queen restored the levels of Knight and Dame in the Order of Australia.

GENERAL DIVISION
Australian citizens are eligible to receive awards in the General Division. Nominations may be made by any person or organisation to the Australian Honours and Awards Secretariat at Government House, Canberra.
All nominations are researched by the Secretariat before submission to the Council for the Order of Australia which is a body established under the Constitution of the Order and is representative of the Australian community. The Council meets twice yearly and considers all nominations before making recommendations for awards to the Governor-General as Chancellor.

Note: The Council for the Order of Australia does not make recommendations for appointment as Knight or Dame. These levels are recommended by the Prime Minister to Her Majesty The Queen, following consultation with the Chair of the Council.

Awards in the Order of Australia are publicly announced on Australia Day (26 January) and The Queen’s Birthday public holiday (June).

Criteria for the levels are as follows:
- Appointments as Knight or Dame are made for extraordinary and pre-eminent achievement and merit in service to Australia or to humanity at large.
- Appointments as Companions are made for eminent achievement and merit of the highest degree in service to Australia or to humanity at large.
- Appointments as Officers are made for distinguished service of a high degree to Australia or to humanity at large.
- Appointments as Members may be made for service in a particular locality or field of activity or to a particular group.
- Awards of the Medal of the Order may be made for service worthy of particular recognition.

People who are not Australian citizens can also be recognised by awards in the Order of Australia. These are honorary awards and are processed by the Honours, Symbols and Territories Branch of the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet. The Prime Minister recommends these awards to the Governor-General. The post-nominals and insignia are the same as for the General Division.

Excluding honorary appointments, no more than 4 Knights/Dames, 30 Companions, 125 Officers and 300 Members shall be appointed in any calendar year. There is no quota limitation on awards of the Medal of the Order.
MILITARY DIVISION

Members of the Australian Defence Force are eligible to receive awards in the Order of Australia in the Military Division. Members of the armed forces of a country other than Australia are eligible for honorary awards in the Order of Australia in the Military Division.

Nominations for awards in the Military Division of the Order are made to the Governor-General as Chancellor on the recommendation of the Minister for Defence.

Criteria for the levels are as follows:

- Appointments as Companions are made for eminent service in duties of great responsibility.
- Appointments as Officers are made for distinguished service in responsible positions.
- Appointments as Members may be made for exceptional service or performance of duty.
- Awards of the Medal of the Order may be made for meritorious service or performance of duty.

In any calendar year the number of appointments may not exceed one-tenth of one percent of the average number of persons who were members of the Defence Force on each day of the immediately preceding year.

VARIOUS INSIGNIA ARE ILLUSTRATED IN DIFFERENT STYLES. THE ACTUAL PIECES FOR THE TWO DIVISIONS OF THE ORDER ARE IDENTICAL: TO DISTINGUISH BETWEEN THE DIVISIONS, THE RIBBON FOR THE MILITARY DIVISION HAS A NARROW GOLD BAND ON EACH EDGE. THE STYLE OF MOUNTING MAY VARY ACCORDING TO THE WISHES OF THE RECIPIENTS.
THE SOVEREIGN’S BADGE
The Insignia of the Sovereign of the Order of Australia

THE CHANCELLOR’S BADGE
The Governor-General of the Commonwealth of Australia shall be the Chancellor of the Order of Australia

THE SECRETARY’S BADGE
The Secretary is appointed by the Governor-General
THE KNIGHT (AK) AND DAME (AD) OF THE ORDER OF AUSTRALIA

For extraordinary and pre-eminent achievement and merit in service to Australia or to humanity at large
COMPANION OF THE ORDER OF AUSTRALIA (AC)

GENERAL DIVISION
For eminent achievement and merit of the highest degree in service to Australia or to humanity at large

MILITARY DIVISION
For eminent service in duties of great responsibility

OFFICER OF THE ORDER OF AUSTRALIA (AO)

GENERAL DIVISION
For distinguished service of a high degree to Australia or to humanity at large

MILITARY DIVISION
For distinguished service in responsible positions

NOTE: AWARDS IN THE MILITARY DIVISION ARE DEPICTED BY A GOLD BAND 1.5 MILLIMETRES WIDE ON EACH EDGE OF THE RIBBON
MEMBER OF THE ORDER OF AUSTRALIA (AM)
GENERAL DIVISION
For service in a particular locality or field of activity or to a particular group
MILITARY DIVISION
For exceptional service or performance of duty

MEDAL OF THE ORDER OF AUSTRALIA (OAM)
GENERAL DIVISION
For service worthy of particular recognition
MILITARY DIVISION
For meritorious service or performance of duty

NOTE: AWARDS IN THE MILITARY DIVISION ARE DEPICTED BY A GOLD BAND 1.5 MILLIMETRES WIDE ON EACH EDGE OF THE RIBBON
LETTERS PATENT
and
CONSOLIDATED
CONSTITUTION
OF THE
ORDER
OF
AUSTRALIA
ELIZABETH THE SECOND, by the grace of God Queen of Australia and Her Other Realms and Territories, Head of the Commonwealth:

TO ALL to whom these Presents shall come,

GREETING:

WHEREAS it is desirable that there be established an Australian society of honour for the purpose of according recognition to Australian citizens and other persons for achievement or for meritorious service:

KNOW YOU that We, by these Presents, do establish a society of honour to be known as the “Order of Australia”:

AND WE DO ordain that the Order shall consist of The Sovereign, Our Governor-General of Australia and such members and honorary members as Our Governor-General, with Our approval and in accordance with the Constitution of the Order, shall appoint:

AND WE DO further ordain that the Constitution of the Order shall be the Constitution set out in the Schedule:

AND WE DO hereby command that a seal be; immediately engraven, that the seal shall be the Seal of the Order, that the Ordinances of the Order shall be signed by Our Governor-General of Australia and sealed with the Seal of the Order, and that the Ordinances so signed and sealed shall have the same force and effect as if they had been recited in these Our Letters Patent and given under the Great Seal of Australia.

IN WITNESS whereof We have caused these Our Letters to be made Patent.

Given under the Great Seal of Australia at Our Court at St. James’s on 14 February 1975

L.S.

By Her Majesty’s Command,
E.G. WHITLAM
Prime Minister
CONSTITUTION OF THE ORDER OF AUSTRALIA

AS AMENDED
made under
LETTERS PATENT

This compilation was prepared on 27 March 2014
taking into account amendments up to Letters Patent dated 19 March 2014
(C2014G00635)
THE ORDER OF AUSTRALIA

1  (1) The Order of Australia (hereinafter called ‘the Order’) shall consist of a General Division and a Military Division.

(2) A person appointed to the Order shall be appointed in the General Division or in the Military Division.

(3) Appointments to the Order shall be as Knight or Dame, Companion, Officer, or Member.

(4) There shall be a Medal of the Order called the ‘Medal of the Order of Australia’.

(5) Every Australian citizen appointed to the Order or awarded the Medal of the Order is a member of the Order, and every other person appointed to the Order or awarded the Medal of the Order is an honorary member of the Order.

OFFICERS OF AND COUNCIL FOR THE ORDER OF AUSTRALIA

2  (1) The Governor-General of the Commonwealth of Australia shall be the Chancellor of the Order and the Principal Knight or Dame, as the case may be, in the General Division.

(2) Where a person ceases to hold office as Governor-General, he or she shall continue to be a member of the Order in the General Division in the class of membership that he or she held immediately before ceasing to hold that office.

2A (1) The Governor-General shall have precedence, after the Sovereign, of all other members of the Order.

(2) His Royal Highness Charles, Prince of Wales, shall have precedence in the Order immediately after the Governor-General.

3  The Chancellor is charged with the administration of the Order.

4  (1) There shall be a Council for the Order, hereinafter called “the Council” which shall consist of—

(a) ****************************

(b) the Vice-President of the Federal Executive Council;

(c) the person for the time being occupying, or performing the duties of, the office prescribed for the purposes of this paragraph by the Minister responsible for the administration of the Australian honours system or any Minister or member of the Executive Council acting for or on behalf of that Minister; and

(d) the person for the time being occupying the office of Chief of the Defence Force or, if another office is prescribed for the purpose of this paragraph, the person occupying the office so prescribed; and
(e) 16 persons appointed by the Governor-General, of whom:
   (i) 8 shall be nominated by the Prime Minister; and
   (ii) one shall be nominated by the State of New South Wales; and
   (iii) one shall be nominated by the State of Victoria; and
   (iv) one shall be nominated by the State of Queensland; and
   (v) one shall be nominated by the State of Western Australia; and
   (vi) one shall be nominated by the State of South Australia; and
   (vii) one shall be nominated by the State of Tasmania; and
   (viii) one shall be nominated by the Northern Territory of Australia; and
   (ix) one shall be nominated by the Australian Capital Territory.

(2) A member of the Council referred to in paragraph (1) (e) shall hold office for a period of two years from the date of appointment and is eligible for re-appointment.

(3) The Governor-General shall:
   (a) on the recommendation of the Prime Minister, appoint one of the members appointed under subparagraph (1) (e) (i) to be Chairman of the Council; and
   (b) in the event of the Chairman being unavailable to act in the office, appoint another member appointed under subparagraph (1) (e) (i) to act as Chairman of the Council.

(4) If a member of the Council is absent or unable to act in that capacity, the member may be represented on the Council:
   (a) if the member is the Vice-President of the Federal Executive Council—by another member of the Federal Executive Council under summons chosen, in accordance with arrangements made by the Governor-General, to act in the member’s place as a member of the Council; or
   (b) if the member is a member referred to in paragraph (1) (c) or (d) or subparagraph (1) (e) (ii), (iii), (iv), (v), (vi), (vii), (viii) or (ix)—by a person chosen, in accordance with arrangements made by the Governor-General, to act in the member’s place as a member of the Council.

5 The Council shall—
   (a) consider nominations of Australian citizens for appointment to the Order as Companion, Officer or Member and for the award of the Medal of the Order;
   (b) make recommendations to the Governor-General in relation to those nominations; and
   (c) advise the Governor-General on such other matters concerning the Order as the Governor-General may refer to the Council for consideration.
5A  (1) 10 members of the Council constitute a quorum for the transaction of the business of the Council.

(2) In this section, ‘member of the Council’ includes a person chosen to act, under subsection 4 (4), in the place of a member mentioned in paragraph 4 (1) (b), (c), (d) or (e).

6  (1) There shall be a Secretary of the Order who shall be appointed by the Governor-General.

(2) The Secretary shall maintain the records of the Order and of the Council, and shall perform such other functions in respect of the Order as the Governor-General directs.

7  The Governor-General may appoint such other officials for the Order as are, in the Governor-General’s sole discretion, considered to be necessary for the purpose.

8  A person is not a member of the Order by reason only of that person being a member of the Council or an official of the Order.

APPOINTMENTS AND AWARDS

8A  Appointments (including honorary appointments) to the Order as Knight or Dame shall be made, with the approval of the Sovereign on the recommendation of the Prime Minister, by Instrument signed by the Governor-General and sealed with the seal of the Order.

9  Appointments (including honorary appointments) to the Order as Companion, Officer or Member and awards of the Medal of the Order shall be made, with the approval of the Sovereign, by Instrument signed by the Governor-General and sealed with the Seal of the Order.

10  Nothing in this Constitution limits the right of the Governor-General to exercise all powers and authorities of the Sovereign in respect of the Order.

GENERAL DIVISION

ELIGIBILITY FOR APPOINTMENT

11  (1) Australian citizens including members of the Defence Force, are eligible to be appointed to the Order as members in the General Division.

(2) Persons other than Australian citizens are eligible to be appointed to the Order as honorary members in the General Division.

(3) The Medal of the Order in the General Division may be awarded to Australian citizens and other persons.
ORDER OF AUSTRALIA—KNIGHTS AND DAMES IN THE GENERAL DIVISION
11A (1) Appointments as Knights or Dames, or honorary Knights or Dames, in the General Division shall be made for extraordinary and pre-eminent achievement and merit in service to Australia or to humanity at large.

(2) Notwithstanding subsection (1), a distinguished person who is not an Australian citizen may be appointed as an honorary Knight or Dame in the General Division where it is desirable that the person be honoured by Australia.

11B The Governor-General may appoint to be Knights and Dames in the General Division, other than honorary Knights and Dames, not more than four persons in any calendar year.

ORDER OF AUSTRALIA—COMPANIONS IN THE GENERAL DIVISION
12 (1) Appointments as Companions or honorary Companions in the General Division shall be made for eminent achievement and merit of the highest degree in service to Australia or to humanity at large.

(2) Notwithstanding subsection (1), a distinguished person who is not an Australian citizen may be appointed an honorary Companion in the General Division where it is desirable that the person be honoured by Australia.

13 ************************

14 The Governor-General may appoint to be Companions in the General Division, other than honorary Companions, not more than 30 persons in any calendar year.

ORDER OF AUSTRALIA—OFFICERS IN THE GENERAL DIVISION
15 (1) Appointments as Officers or honorary Officers in the General Division shall be made for distinguished service of a high degree to Australia or to humanity at large.

(2) Notwithstanding subsection (1), a distinguished person who is not an Australian citizen may be appointed an honorary Officer in the General Division where it is desirable that the person be honoured by Australia.

16 The Governor-General may appoint to be Officers in the General Division, other than honorary Officers, not more than 125 persons in any calendar year.

ORDER OF AUSTRALIA—MEMBERS IN THE GENERAL DIVISION
17 (1) Appointments as Members or honorary Members in the General Division may be made for service in a particular locality or field of activity or to a particular group.
(2) Notwithstanding subsection (1), a person who is not an Australian citizen may be appointed an honorary Member in the General Division where it is desirable that the person be honoured by Australia.

18 The Governor-General may appoint to be Members in the General Division, other than honorary Members, not more than 300 persons in any calendar year.

MEDAL OF THE ORDER OF AUSTRALIA—AWARDS IN THE GENERAL DIVISION

18A Awards of the Medal of the Order in the General Division may be made for service worthy of particular recognition.

NOMINATIONS

19 (1) Any person or organisation may submit to the Secretary of the Order for consideration by the Council a nomination of an Australian citizen for appointment to the Order as a member in the General Division or a nomination of a person for the award of the Medal of the Order in the General Division.

(1A) Subsection (1) does not apply to appointments to the Order as Knight or Dame.

(2) Upon the recommendation of the Prime Minister, appointments to the Order as honorary members in the General Division may be made by the Governor-General.

MILITARY DIVISION

ELIGIBILITY FOR APPOINTMENT

20 (1) The following are eligible to be appointed to the order as members in the Military Division:

(a) members of the Defence Force; and
(b) former members of the Defence Force whose Defence Force service has ceased for not more than one year; and
(c) other persons determined by the Minister for Defence for the purposes of this paragraph.

(2) Members of the armed forces of a country other than Australia are eligible to be appointed to the Order as honorary members in the Military Division.

(3) In any calendar year, the number of appointments, other than honorary appointments, to the Military Division, shall not exceed one-tenth of one per cent of the average number of persons who were members of the Defence Force on each day of the immediately preceding year.

(4) The Medal of the Order in the Military Division may be awarded to:

(a) members of the Defence Force; and
(b) former members of the Defence Force whose Defence Force service has ceased for not more than one year; and
(c) other persons determined by the Minister for Defence for the purposes of this paragraph.
ORDER OF AUSTRALIA—COMPANIONS IN THE MILITARY DIVISION

21 (1) Appointments as Companions or honorary Companions in the Military Division shall be made for eminent service in duties of great responsibility.

(2) The Governor-General may, in any calendar year, appoint as Companions in the Military Division, other than honorary Companions, a number of persons that is not greater than the number of persons that most closely approximates to five per cent of the total number of persons who may be appointed under subsection 20 (3) to all categories of membership, other than honorary membership, in the Military Division in that year.

ORDER OF AUSTRALIA—OFFICERS IN THE MILITARY DIVISION

22 (1) Appointments as Officers or honorary Officers in the Military Division shall be made for distinguished service in responsible positions.

(2) The Governor-General may, in any calendar year, appoint as Officers in the Military Division, other than honorary Officers, a number of persons that is not greater than the number of persons that most closely approximates to twenty per cent of the total number of persons who may be appointed under subsection 20 (3) to all categories of membership, other than honorary membership, in the Military Division in that year.

ORDER OF AUSTRALIA—MEMBERS IN THE MILITARY DIVISION

23 Appointments as Members or honorary Members in the Military Division may be made for exceptional service or performance of duty.

MEDAL OF THE ORDER OF AUSTRALIA—AWARDS IN THE MILITARY DIVISION

23A Awards of the Medal of the Order in the Military Division may be made for meritorious service or performance of duty.

NOMINATIONS

24 (1) Upon the recommendation of the Minister for Defence, appointments to the Order as members in the Military Division and awards of the Medal of the Order in the Military Division may be made by the Governor-General.

(2) Upon the recommendation of the Minister for Defence, appointments to the Order as honorary members in the Military Division may be made by the Governor-General.
TERMINATION OF MEMBERSHIP IN THE ORDER AND CANCELLATION OF AN AWARD OF THE MEDAL

25  (1) A person does not cease to be a member or honorary member of the Order by reason only of that person ceasing to be eligible to be appointed to the Order or to be awarded the Medal of the Order.

(2) A person ceases to be a member or honorary member of the Order upon—
   (a) the death of the person;
   (b) the resignation of the person from the Order in writing, which resignation shall have effect from the day on which it is accepted by the Governor-General;
   (c) the termination of the appointment of the person to the Order by Ordinance; or
   (d) the cancellation of the award to the person of the Medal of the Order by Ordinance.

(3) An appointment that has been terminated, or an award of the Medal of the Order that has been cancelled, may be restored by Ordinance.

26  ************************

INSIGNIA

27  When worn in Australia by an Australian citizen, the insignia of the Order shall be worn in the prescribed manner.

28  (1) Except as otherwise provided by Ordinance, the insignia of the Order shall remain the property of the Order.

(2) Where a person ceases, otherwise than by death, to be a member of the Order, that person shall forthwith return to the Secretary of the Order the insignia of the Order.

SEAL

29  The Governor-General shall have the custody of the Seal of the Order.
ORDINANCES OF THE ORDER

The Governor-General may make Ordinances, not inconsistent with this Constitution, prescribing all matters that are required or permitted by this Constitution to be prescribed, or necessary or convenient to be prescribed for carrying out or giving effect to this Constitution and, in particular, prescribing matters for:

(a) the government of the Order;
(b) the insignia of the Order;
(c) the designations of members of the Order and persons who have been awarded the Medal of the Order; and
(d) investitures; and
(e) terminations and cancellations.

NOTES TO THE CONSTITUTION OF THE ORDER OF AUSTRALIA

NOTE 1

The Constitution of the Order of Australia (in force under Letters Patent) as shown in this compilation is amended as indicated in the Tables on the following pages.
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<tr>
<th>TITLE</th>
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<th>DATE OF COMMENCEMENT</th>
<th>OUTLINE OF CHANGES</th>
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<td>6 June 2003</td>
<td>30 April 2003</td>
<td>Increases the maximum number of recipients in any calendar year for Companions (increase from 25 to 30). Officers (increase from 100 to 125) and Members (increase from 225 to 300) in the General Division.</td>
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# TABLE OF AMENDMENTS

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S. 13  
rep. 1976 No. S92

S. 14  

HEADING BEFORE S. 15  
am. 1976 No. S92

S. 16  

HEADING BEFORE S. 17  
am. 1976 No. S92

S. 17  
am. 1976 No. S92

S. 18  

HEADING BEFORE S. 18A  
ad. 1976 No. S92

S. 18A  
ad. 1976 No. S92

S. 19  
am. 1986 No. S101; 1989 No. S58

RENUMBERED S. 19 (1)  
1998 No. S147

ad. C2014G00635

S. 20  
am. 1976 No. S92; 1998 No. S147

HEADING BEFORE S. 23A  
ad. 1976 No. S92

S. 23A  
ad. 1976 No. S92

S. 24  
am. 1976 No. S92; 1993 No. S80

rs. 1998 No. S147

HEADING BEFORE S. 25  
am. 1976 No. S92

S. 25  
am. 1976 No. S92; 1993 No. S80

HEADING BEFORE S. 26  
am. 1986 No. S101

S. 26  
rs. 1976 No. S92

rep. 1986 No. S101

S. 28  
am. 1976 No. S92; 1993 No. S80

S. 30  
ORDER of
AUSTRALIA
Ordinances
ORDINANCE

I, SIR NINIAN MARTIN STEPHEN, the Governor-General of the Commonwealth of Australia, hereby make the following Ordinance in pursuance of section 30 of the Constitution of the Order of Australia.

Dated this fourteenth day of April, 1983.

Sealed with the Seal of the Order of Australia in the presence of -

GOVERNOR-GENERAL

Sealed with the Seal of the Order of Australia in the presence of -

OFFICIAL SECRETARY TO
THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL

COUNCIL ORDINANCE

SHORT TITLE
1 This Ordinance may be cited as the Council Ordinance.

INTERPRETATION
2 In this Ordinance, “Constitution” means the Constitution of the Order of Australia.

OFFICE PRESCRIBED FOR PURPOSE OF PARAGRAPH 4(1)(C) OF CONSTITUTION
3 The office of Secretary to the Department of the Special Minister of State is prescribed for the purpose of paragraph 4 (1) (c) of the Constitution.
I, WILLIAM GEORGE HAYDEN, Governor-General of the Commonwealth of Australia, acting under section 30 of the Constitution of the Order of Australia, revoke the Insignia Ordinance made on 1 February 1977 and make the following Ordinance.

Sealed with the Seal of the Order of Australia in the presence of:

L.S.

Douglas Sturkey Secretary of the Order of Australia
INSIGNIA ORDINANCE

SHORT TITLE
1 This ordinance may be cited as the Insignia Ordinance.

INTERPRETATION
2 (1) In this Ordinance, “Constitution” means the Constitution of the Order of Australia.

(2) Unless the contrary intention appears, an expression used in the Constitution and in this Ordinance has the same meaning in this Ordinance as in the Constitution.

(3) Definition of “member”
A “member of the Order of Australia” means any person who has received the approval of The Sovereign to wear the Insignia of Knight or Dame, Companion, Officer, or Member or the Medal of the Order of Australia.

(4) A reference in this Ordinance to the Ribbon of the Order in relation to Insignia of a member of the Order is:
(a) in the case of a member of the Order in the General Division—a reference to the Ribbon of the Order in the General Division, and
(b) in the case of a member of the Order in the Military Division—a reference to the Ribbon of the Order in the Military Division.

EMBLEM OF THE ORDER
3 The Emblem of the Order is a single flower of mimosa, represented in the form of a convex disc.

RIBBON OF THE ORDER
4 (1) Ribbons of the Order in the General Division are of moire Royal blue material in three sizes, being 38 millimetres, 32 millimetres and 16 millimetres wide; the widest Ribbon having a central band 12 millimetres wide of scattered golden mimosa blossoms of various sizes, the other widths having the same pattern in proportion.

(2) Ribbons of the Order in the Military Division are of the sizes, colours and pattern described in sub-regulation 4 (1) with a gold band 1.5 millimetres wide on each edge.
INSIGNIA OF THE SOVEREIGN

5 The Insignia of The Sovereign of the Order is a Badge of the same material, fashion and size as the Breast Badge of a Knight or Dame of the Order but with such alterations as distinguish the Royal dignity.

INSIGNIA OF THE CHANCELLOR

6 The Insignia of the Chancellor of the Order is a Badge of the same material, fashion and size as the Breast Badge of a Knight or Dame of the Order but with such alterations and additions as The Sovereign approves.

INSIGNIA OF KNIGHT AND DAME

7 (1) The Insignia of a Knight of the Order consists of a Neck Badge and a Breast Badge.

(2) The Insignia of a Dame of the Order consists of a Neck (or Shoulder) Badge and a Breast Badge.

(3) The Neck Badge of a Knight and the Neck/Shoulder Badge of a Dame consists of the Emblem of the Order, approximately 60 millimetres in diameter, of gold, jewelled and having in the centre of its convex surface, within a circle of gold, a representation of the Arms of the Commonwealth of Australia in full colour on a background of blue with two branches of mimosa in gold, the whole ensign with the Crown of Saint Edward in full colour.

(4) The Breast Badge of a Knight or Dame consists of the Emblem of the Order, approximately 80 millimetres in diameter, of gold, jewelled and having the same design and ensignment as the Insignia described in sub-regulation 7 (3).

MANNER OF WEARING KNIGHT OR DAME INSIGNIA

(5) The Neck Badge of a Knight shall be worn about the neck suspended from the 16 millimetre Ribbon of the Order.

(6) The Neck/Shoulder Badge of a Dame shall be worn either as for a Knight as described in sub-regulation 7 (5) or, if preferred by the recipient, on the left shoulder suspended from the 38 millimetre wide Ribbon of the Order tied in a bow.

(7) The Breast Badge of a Knight or Dame shall be worn above the waist on the left side of the coat or outer garment.
INSIGNIA OF COMPANION

8  (1) The Insignia of a Companion of the Order is a Badge consisting of the Emblem of the Order, approximately 60 millimetres in diameter, of gold, jewelled, ensigned with the Crown of Saint Edward in full colour and having in the centre of its convex surface a circlet of blue enamel edged in gold, inscribed with the word “AUSTRALIA” in gold flanked by two sprigs of mimosa in gold.

MANNER OF WEARING COMPANION INSIGNIA

(2) Female recipients not in uniform may wear the Insignia as for the Neck/Shoulder Badge of a Dame as described in sub-regulation 7 (6). All other recipients wear the Insignia as for the Neck Badge of a Knight as described in sub-regulation 7 (5).

INSIGNIA OF OFFICER

9  (1) The Insignia of an Officer of the Order is a Badge consisting of the Emblem of the Order, approximately 55 millimetres in diameter, of gold-plated silver, ensigned with the Crown of Saint Edward in full colour and having in the centre of its convex surface the same design as the Insignia of a Companion as described in sub-regulation 8 (1).

MANNER OF WEARING OFFICER INSIGNIA

(2) Female recipients not in uniform may wear the Insignia as for the Neck/Shoulder Badge of a Dame as described in sub-regulation 7 (6). All other recipients wear the Insignia as for the Neck Badge of a Knight as described in sub-regulation 7 (5).

INSIGNIA OF MEMBER

10 (1) The Insignia of a Member of the Order is a Badge consisting of the Emblem of the Order, approximately 45 millimetres in diameter, of gold-plated silver, ensigned with the Crown of Saint Edward in full colour and having in the centre of its convex surface a circlet of the same material as the Emblem containing the word “AUSTRALIA” flanked by two sprigs of mimosa.

MANNER OF WEARING MEMBER INSIGNIA

(2) The Badge of a Member of the Order, when worn by women in uniform, and by men, shall be worn on the left breast suspended from the 38 millimetre wide Ribbon of the Order.

(3) The Badge of a member of the Order, when worn by women not in uniform, may be worn in the same manner as described in sub-regulation 10 (2), or if preferred by the recipient, may be worn on the left shoulder suspended from a Ribbon of the Order tied in a bow.
MEDAL OF THE ORDER

11 (1) The Medal of the Order consists of the Emblem of the Order, approximately 40 millimetres in diameter, of gold-plated silver, ensigned with the Crown of Saint Edward in gold-plated silver and having in the centre of its convex surface a circlet of the same material as the Emblem containing the word “AUSTRALIA” and two sprigs of mimosa.

MANNER OF WEARING MEDAL INSIGNIA

(2) The Medal of the Order, when worn by women in uniform, and by men, shall be worn on the left breast suspended from a bar attached to the 32 millimetre wide Ribbon of the Order.

(3) The Medal of the Order, when worn by women not in uniform, may be worn in the same manner as described in sub-regulation 11 (2) or if preferred by the recipient, may be worn on the left shoulder suspended from a bar attached to the 32 millimetre Ribbon of the Order tied in a bow.

MINIATURES

12 (1) The miniature Insignia of the Order consists of the Emblem of the Order, approximately 20 millimetres in diameter, ensigned with the Crown of Saint Edward. The miniature for a Knight, Dame or Companion has a jewelled centre, that for an Officer or Member has an enamelled blue centre and that of the Medal has a plain gold centre.

MANNER OF WEARING MINIATURES

(2) Miniatures are worn on the left breast suspended from the 16 millimetre wide Ribbon of the Order, either from a medal bar with miniatures of other awards held, or singly if it is the recipient’s only award. Women not in uniform may, if this is the only award, prefer to wear their miniature on the left shoulder attached to the 16 millimetre Ribbon of the Order tied in a bow, otherwise it should be worn with other miniatures mounted on a medal bar.

LAPEL BADGES

13 Lapel Badges of the Order consist of the Emblem of the Order, approximately 10 millimetres in diameter. The Lapel Badge for a Knight, Dame or Companion has a jewelled centre, that for an Officer or Member has an enamelled blue centre and that of the Medal has a plain gold centre.

BADGE OF SECRETARY

14 (1) The Badge of the Secretary of the Order has two crossed quills of gold-plated silver surmounted by the Emblem of the Order, approximately 55 millimetres in diameter and also of gold-plated silver, the Emblem being
ensigned with the Crown of Saint Edward in full colour and having in
the centre of its convex surface a circlet of blue enamel edged with gold,
inscribed with the word “AUSTRALIA” flanked by two sprigs of mimosa in
gold.

MANNER OF WEARING BADGE OF SECRETARY
(2) The Badge of the Secretary of the Order is worn:
   (a) at ceremonies of the Order—suspended from a gold chain about
       the neck; and
   (b) on other occasions—in the manner prescribed for the wearing of
       the Insignia of a Companion in the General Division.

PRECEDENCE
15  (1) An award of the Order in the General Division takes precedence over the
     same level of award in the Military Division.

     (2) Insignia of the Order should be mounted in accordance with the
         Australian Order of Precedence of Honours and Awards as approved from
         time to time by The Sovereign and worn in accordance with the booklet
         “A Guide to the Wearing of Insignia” issued by the Office of the Official
         Secretary to the Governor-General.

ARMORIAL BEARINGS
16  (1) In any Armorial Bearings granted by the Garter Principal King of Arms to
     a member of the Order, armorial indications of rank within the Order may
     be included in accordance with this sub-regulation.

     (2) Knights and Dames may be granted supporters.

     (3) A Knight, Dame, Companion or Officer of the Order may surround his
         or her armorial bearings with a circlet of the same design and colours as
         the circlet that is at the centre of the Badge of a Companion of the Order
         and may suspend there from a representation of the Ribbon of the Order
         together with:
             (a) in the case of a Knight or Dame—a representation of the Neck Badge
                 of a Knight; and
             (b) in the case of a Companion or Officer—a representation of his or
                 her Badge.

     (4) A Member of the Order may suspend a representation of the Badge of
         Member and the Ribbon of the Order from the bottom of the escutcheon
         containing his or her armorial bearings.

     (5) The holder of a Medal of the Order may suspend a representation of the
         Medal and the Ribbon of the Order from the bottom of the escutcheon
         containing his or her armorial bearings.
RETURN OF INSIGNIA ON PROMOTION
17 (1) A person, previously appointed to the Order at the level of Member or Officer, who is subsequently appointed to a higher class of membership in the same Division, shall wear the Insignia of the higher award only. The person shall also return to the Secretary of the Order the Insignia of the lower class of membership.

MEDAL HOLDER TO RETAIN INSIGNIA ON PROMOTION
(2) A holder of the Medal of the Order who is subsequently appointed to the Order at any level in the same Division shall wear the Insignia of the higher award only. It is not necessary to return to the Secretary of the Order the Insignia of the Medal of the Order, but this should not be worn.

MEMBER IN BOTH DIVISIONS TO RETAIN INSIGNIA IN BOTH DIVISIONS
18 (1) A person who has been appointed at the level of Member or higher to both the General Division and the Military Division of the Order is entitled to retain and wear the Insignia of both Divisions.

(2) A holder of the Medal of the Order in one Division who is subsequently appointed to the Order at any level in the other Division is entitled to retain and wear the Insignia of both Divisions.
DESIGNATIONS AND INSIGNIA ORDINANCE

AS AMENDED
made under section 30 of the
CONSTITUTION OF THE ORDER OF AUSTRALIA

This compilation was prepared on 21 May 2009
taking into account amendments up to Changes to the Designations and Insignia Ordinance (dated 17 August 1993)

Prepared by the Office of Legislative Drafting and Publishing,
Attorney-General’s Department, Canberra
SHORT TITLE (SEE NOTE 1)

1 This Ordinance may be cited as the Designations and Insignia Ordinance.

INTERPRETATION

2 (1) In this Ordinance, “Constitution” means the Constitution of the Order of Australia.

(2) Unless the contrary intention appears, an expression used in the Constitution and in this Ordinance has the same meaning in this Ordinance as in the Constitution.

DESIGNATIONS OF MEMBERS OF THE ORDER OF AUSTRALIA AND OF HOLDERS OF THE MEDAL OF THE ORDER OF AUSTRALIA

3 A member of the Order of Australia or a person awarded the Medal of the Order of Australia is entitled—

(a) in the case of a Knight or Dame—to use the title “Sir” or “Dame”, as the case may be, before his or her name;

(b) in the case of a Knight or Dame, or honorary Knight or Dame—

(i) to have the letters “AK” or “AD”, as the case may be, placed after his or her name on all occasions when the use of such letters is customary; and

(ii) to wear as a decoration the prescribed insignia for Knights of the Order or Dames of the Order, as the case may be;

(c) in the case of a Companion, or honorary Companion—

(i) to have the letters “AC” placed after his or her name on all occasions when the use of such letters is customary; and

(ii) to wear as a decoration the prescribed insignia for Companions of the Order;

(d) in the case of an Officer, or honorary Officer—

(i) to have the letters “AO” placed after his or her name on all occasions when the use of such letters is customary; and

(ii) to wear as a decoration the prescribed insignia for Officers of the Order;

(e) in the case of a Member, or honorary Member—

(i) to have the letters “AM” placed after his or her name on all occasions when the use of such letters is customary; and

(ii) to wear as a decoration the prescribed insignia for Members of the Order;

(f) in the case of the holder of the Medal of the Order—

(i) to have the letters “OAM” placed after his or her name on all occasions when the use of such letters is customary; and

(ii) to wear as a decoration the prescribed insignia for holders of the Medal of the Order.
4 (1) A person, previously appointed to the Order at the level of Member or Officer in either the General Division or in the Military Division who is subsequently appointed to a higher class of membership in the same Division, shall place after his or her name on all occasions when the use of such letters is customary, the letters of the higher award only.

(2) A holder of the Medal of the Order in either the General Division or in the Military Division who is subsequently appointed to the Order at any level in the same Division, shall place after his or her name on all occasions when the use of such letters is customary, the letters of the higher award only.

5 (1) A person, previously appointed to the Order at the level of Member or Officer in either the General Division or in the Military Division who is subsequently appointed to a higher class of membership in the other Division, may identify the two awards by placing after his or her name on all occasions when the use of such letters is customary, the letters of both awards adding explanatory parentheses to the lower award, for example AC, AO (Mil).

(2) A holder of the Medal of the Order in either the General Division or in the Military Division who is subsequently appointed to the Order at any level in the other Division, may identify the two awards by placing after his or her name on all occasions when the use of such letters is customary, the letters of both awards adding explanatory parentheses to the lower award, for example AM, OAM (Gen).
NOTES TO THE DESIGNATIONS AND INSIGNIA ORDINANCE

NOTE 1
The Designations and Insignia Ordinance (in force under section 30 of the Constitution of the Order of Australia) as shown in this compilation is amended as indicated in the Tables below.

### TABLE OF INSTRUMENTS

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(see Gazette 1986, No. S167) | 12 March 1986          |                    |
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TERMINATIONS AND CANCELLATIONS ORDINANCE

AS AMENDED
made under section 30 of the

CONSTITUTION OF THE ORDER OF AUSTRALIA

This compilation was prepared on 11 March 2009
taking into account amendments up to September 2007 No. S177
Prepared by the Office of Legislative Drafting and Publishing,
Attorney General’s Department, Canberra
SHORT TITLE
1 This Ordinance may be cited as the Terminations and Cancellations Ordinance.

INTERPRETATION
2 (1) In this Ordinance, “Constitution” means the Constitution of the Order of Australia.

(2) Unless the contrary intention appears, an expression used in the Constitution and in this Ordinance has the same meaning in this Ordinance as in the Constitution.

TERMINATION AND CANCELLATION OF APPOINTMENTS AND AWARDS
3 (1) The Governor-General may, in writing:
   (a) terminate an appointment of a person as a member of the Order of Australia for a reason mentioned in section 4; or
   (b) terminate an appointment of a person as an honorary member of the Order of Australia for a reason mentioned in section 4; or
   (c) cancel an award to a person of the Medal of the Order of Australia for a reason mentioned in section 4.

(2) The Governor-General may terminate an appointment, or cancel an award, with the advice of:
   (a) in the case of an appointment or award in the General Division of the Order—the Council; and
   (b) in the case of an appointment or award in the Military Division of the Order—the Minister of State for Defence.

(3) The Governor-General may terminate an appointment, or cancel an award, without the advice of the Council or the Minister of State for Defence if the Governor-General considers it appropriate to do so.

REASONS FOR TERMINATION OR CANCELLATION
4 (1) The Governor-General may terminate an appointment, or cancel an award, if a conviction for a crime or offence under:
   (a) a law of the Commonwealth, a State or a Territory; or
   (b) a law of a foreign country;
has been recorded in relation to the holder of the appointment or award.

(2) The Governor-General may terminate an appointment, or cancel an award, if:
   (a) a civil penalty under a law of the Commonwealth, a State or a Territory; or
   (b) a penalty of a similar kind under a law of a foreign country;
has been imposed on the holder of the appointment or award.
(3) The Governor-General may terminate an appointment, or cancel an award, if a court, tribunal or other body exercising judicial or administrative power under:
   (a) a law of the Commonwealth, a State or a Territory; or
   (b) a law of a foreign country;
has made a finding that is adverse to the holder of the appointment or award (including a circumstance in which the holder is found guilty of an offence without the recording of a conviction).

(4) The Governor-General may terminate an appointment, or cancel an award, if, in the opinion of the Governor-General, the holder of the appointment or award has behaved or acted in a manner that has brought disrepute on the Order.

(5) The Governor-General may terminate an appointment, or cancel an award, if the Governor-General is satisfied that:
   (a) any information on which a recommendation to make the appointment or give the award was based was false or misleading in a material particular; or
   (b) any information on which the decision to make the appointment or give the award was based was false or misleading in a material particular.

(6) The Governor-General may terminate an appointment, or cancel an award, if the Governor-General is satisfied that it would not have been desirable to make the appointment or give the award because of;
   (a) information that was not available to the Council or the Minister of State for Defence when the recommendation to make the appointment or give the award was made (whether or not the information existed when the recommendation or decision was made); or
   (b) information that was not available to the Governor-General when the decision to make the appointment or give the award was made (whether or not the information existed when the recommendation or decision was made).

NOTICE TO PERSON AFFECTED—RECOMMENDATION UNDER SUBSECTION 3 (2)

5  (1) The Secretary of the Order must notify, in writing, a person whose appointment or award has been recommended for termination or cancellation under sub-section 3 (2) of the proposed action and the reasons for the proposed action.

(2) A person who receives a notice may, not more than 30 days after the date of the notice, lodge with the Secretary an objection in writing to the proposed action.
(3) As soon as practicable after the receipt of an objection, the Secretary must provide a copy of the objection:
   (a) if the objection relates to an appointment or award in the General Division of the Order—to the Council; or
   (b) if the objection relates to an appointment or award in the Military Division of the Order—to the Minister of State for Defence.

(4) If the Secretary of the Order has not received an objection in response to a notice after the expiry of 35 days after the notice was sent, the Secretary must:
   (a) write to the person informing the person that no response has been received; and
   (b) advise the Council or the Minister of State for Defence, as the case may be, that no response has been received.

(5) The Council or the Minister of State for Defence must make a recommendation to the Governor-General not later than 30 days after receiving a copy of the objection or advice from the Secretary.

(6) If the Secretary receives an objection after the Council or Minister of State for Defence has made a recommendation to the Governor-General, the objection must be disregarded.

NOTICE TO PERSON AFFECTED—CONSIDERATION UNDER SUBSECTION 3 (3)

6   (1) The Secretary of the Order must notify, in writing, a person whose appointment or award has been considered for termination or cancellation under sub-section 3 (3) of the proposed action and the reasons for the proposed action.

(2) A person who receives a notice may, not more than 30 days after the date of the notice, lodge with the Secretary an objection in writing to the proposed action.

(3) As soon as practicable after the receipt of an objection, the Secretary must give a copy of the objection to the Governor General.

(4) If the Secretary of the Order has not received an objection in response to a notice after the expiry of 35 days after the notice was sent, the Secretary must:
   (a) write to the person informing the person that no response has been received; and
   (b) notify the Governor-General that no response has been received.

(5) If the Secretary receives an objection after the Secretary has notified the Governor-General as required under subsection (4), the objection must be disregarded.
The Secretary of the Order must arrange for notice of the termination of an appointment, or the cancellation of an award, to be published in the Commonwealth of Australia Gazette.

The Governor-General may, in writing, restore an appointment that has been terminated, or an award that has been cancelled, under section 3.

The Terminations and Cancellations Ordinance (in force under section 30 of the Constitution of the Order of Australia) as shown in this compilation is amended as indicated in the Tables below.

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Contact INFORMATION

ADMINISTERING AUSTRALIA’S HONOURS
There are three organisations with primary responsibility for administering Australia’s system of honours. They are:
- Australian Honours and Awards Secretariat, Government House, Canberra
- Honours, Symbols and Territories Branch, Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet
- Directorate of Honours and Awards, Department of Defence

GOVERNMENT HOUSE
The Australian system of honours was introduced in 1975. At that time the Honours and Awards Secretariat was established as part of the Governor-General’s Office at Government House in Canberra.

The contact details for Government House, Canberra are:
- Australian Honours and Awards Secretariat
  Government House
  CANBERRA, ACT 2600
  Toll-free phone: 1800 552 275
  Email: honours@gg.gov.au

Please visit our website for notification of any changes since publication of this booklet: www.gg.gov.au

DEPARTMENT OF THE PRIME MINISTER AND CABINET
The Honours, Symbols and Territories Branch of the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet provides policy advice on the operation of the Australian honours system.

It is also responsible for community awareness campaigns so that honours are more accessible and better known to all Australians.

  Email: itsanhonour@pmc.gov.au
  Website: www.itsanhonour.gov.au

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE
The Directorate of Honours and Awards of the Department of Defence administers awards that recognise the service of members of the Australian Defence Force.

  Website: www.defence.gov.au\medals
  Toll-free phone: 1800 111 321