



ORDER *of*
AUSTRALIA

OFFICE OF THE OFFICIAL SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL



ORDER *of*
AUSTRALIA



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A MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA (CHANCELLOR OF THE ORDER OF AUSTRALIA)

Every day, all around the country, there are ordinary Australians doing extraordinary things in their communities. The sum of these often selfless and generous actions enriches our society.

Honours and Awards recipients come from all walks of life and each had an indelible, remarkable impact in our community at the local, national or international level.

Each recipient has something else in common: someone took the time to nominate them. It doesn't matter who you are, where you are from or whether you are known to millions or just a few. If you have put others ahead of yourself and made a positive difference to the community, you can be nominated for an award and, if successful, recognised by a grateful nation.

Any Australian can nominate someone for an award. If you know of someone in your community who has made Australia a better place in which to live and work, I encourage you to consider nominating them. For details on how to nominate, visit www.gg.gov.au.

On behalf of all Australians, I congratulate and thank all recipients of honours and awards for their outstanding contribution to our nation. They are a source of inspiration to us all and have helped make Australia the great country that it is.



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INTRODUCTION

The Order of Australia is the pre-eminent way Australians recognise achievements which benefit or bring honour to the Australian community. In the Australian honours system appointments to, and awards in, the Order of Australia confer recognition for outstanding achievement and service.

There are two divisions of the Order of Australia: General Division and the Military Division, with four levels of awards in each: Companion of the Order (AC), Officer of the Order (AO), Member of the Order (AM) and Medal of the Order (OAM).

The Monarch of Australia is Sovereign Head of the Order of Australia, and the Governor-General of Australia as Chancellor is charged with administration of the Order. The Governor-General appoints the Secretary of the Order, who has historically been the Official Secretary to the Governor-General. The Council for the Order of Australia is an independent body that consists of 19 members: the Chairperson, eight representatives of each state and territory, three public office holders (ex-officio) and seven community representatives.

The Order of Australia, instituted by Queen Elizabeth II 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 initially comprised of a Civil Division and a Military Division, with only three levels in each: Companion, Officer and Member. In 1976 Queen Elizabeth II, 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. The Knight and Dame level was removed in 1986 and temporarily reinstated from 2014 to 2015.

Other changes to the governance of the Order of Australia have involved adjustments to the composition of the Council for the Order of Australia, which have included the expansion of community representation and the inclusion of an Australian Capital Territory representative upon self government; increases to the number of appointments that may be made in the General Division; and the making of ordinances to govern matters such as insignia design, investitures, and terminations and cancellations of appointments and awards.

As our pre-eminent means of recognising outstanding individuals, the Order of Australia should reflect the diversity of Australia. This relies on outstanding individuals being nominated regardless of their gender, cultural background or field of endeavour – you can help by nominating. An online form is available on the Governor-General's website, www.gg.gov.au.

Awards in both divisions of the Order of Australia are announced on Australia Day (January 26) and The King's Birthday (the second Monday in June). Occasionally awards are announced at other times, and honorary awards in both divisions are often announced on an ad hoc basis.

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

General Division

Australian citizens, permanent residents and non-citizens are eligible to receive appointments and awards in the General Division of the Order of Australia. Nominations for Australian citizens and permanent residents may be made by any person or organisation to the Australian Honours and Awards Secretariat (the Secretariat) at Government House, Canberra.

All nominations of citizens and permanent residents 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 eligible nominations before making recommendations for appointments or awards to the Governor-General as Chancellor of the Order.

The Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet prepares nominations of non-citizens who are not permanent residents for the Prime Minister's consideration and recommendation to the Governor-General.

Criteria for the levels are as follows:

- Appointments as Companions (AC) shall be made for eminent achievement and merit of the highest degree in service to Australia or to humanity at large.
- Appointments as Officers (AO) shall be made for distinguished service of a high degree to Australia or to humanity at large.
- Appointments as Members (AM) 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 (OAM) may be made for service worthy of particular recognition.

Excluding honorary appointments, no more than 35 Companions, 140 Officers and 605 Members shall be appointed in any calendar year. There is no limitation on awards of the Medal of the Order.



Military Division

Members of the Australian Defence Force are eligible to receive appointments and awards in the Order of Australia in the Military Division for service in the defence forces. Members of the armed forces of other countries are also eligible for honorary awards in the Order of Australia in the Military Division.

Recommendations for appointments and awards in the Military Division are made to the Governor-General as Chancellor of the Order of Australia by the Minister for Defence.

Criteria for the levels are as follows:

- Appointments as Companions (AC) shall be made for eminent service in duties of great responsibility.
- Appointments as Officers (AO) shall be made for distinguished service in responsible positions.
- Appointments as Members (AM) may be made for exceptional service or performance of duty.
- Awards of the Medal of the Order (OAM) 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.

INFORMATION ABOUT AWARDS

About the Australian honours system

The Australian honours system recognises the outstanding service and contributions of Australians.

Recipients come from across the country and from all walks of life. While some are well-known, the majority are unsung heroes. While typically they haven't sought thanks or recognition, they deserve both. The Australian honours system gives the nation a chance to celebrate and acknowledge those who work tirelessly to improve local communities and to make Australia a better place.

Collectively, they showcase the best attributes of Australians – as His Excellency General the Honourable David Hurley AC DSC (Retd) has said:

"Collectively, they speak to who we are as a nation. There are countless examples of selflessness, commitment and dedication. There is diversity and there are examples of exceptional achievement in almost every field imaginable."

The broad groups of awards are meritorious, bravery and gallantry, long service and good conduct, operational service, and commemoration.

The Australian honours system is administered by the Australian Honours and Awards Secretariat which forms part of the Office of the Official Secretary to the Governor-General.

Responsibility for honours policy matters rests with the Honours and Symbols Branch of the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet.

History of the Australian honours system

The Australian honours system formally began on 14 February 1975 with the introduction of the Order of Australia, the Australian Bravery Decorations, and the National Medal.

The Order of Australia is a multi-level “society of honour”, recognising the merit of the service and achievements of its individual members. The Australian Bravery Decorations recognise individual or group acts of bravery. The National Medal is a long service and good conduct medal, awarded to members of recognised government and voluntary organisations which aid people and property in times of crisis.

Although the system formally began in 1975, uniquely Australian medals existed before then. Service during World War II by Australians was recognised through the Australia Service Medal 1939-45; and a Vietnam Medal was also established, in 1968. Both medals were created within the British Imperial honours system then in use, but could only be awarded for service by members of Australian armed forces.



Even after 1975, the Australian and British systems temporarily operated in parallel. Imperial honours were awarded less often as time went on, until 1992, when it was agreed with Queen Elizabeth II that Australian governments would no longer recommend such awards.

The Sovereign still establishes Australian awards through Letters Patent, exercising the Royal prerogative. However, in most cases the Governor-General approves recommendations for appointments or awards.

Since 1975, additional Australian awards have been established to enable the recognition of various types of service and achievements to continue while the British counterpart awards were phased out. The Australian honours system has developed to a point at which it is truly unique, and tailored to Australia's needs.

About Letters Patent, Regulations, Determinations, and Wearing

The Letters Patent approved by The Sovereign institutes the medal and ordains that the medal is governed by the Regulations Governing the Award. These Regulations, approved by The Sovereign, on the recommendation of the Prime Minister, set out the terms and conditions of an award, and states that the design, and manner of wearing, of the medal is determined by the Governor-General.

The Determination informs the design of the medal, its associated insignia, and that the order of wearing is in accordance with The Order of Wearing of Australian Honours and Awards and the manner of wearing is in accordance with the Guide to the Wearing of Insignia. This guide assists recipients on appropriate wearing, outlining the manner in which insignia are worn and wearing in regard to different types of dress. The design of the medal and associated insignia must be in accordance with the relevant technical specifications.

The placement of the medal is approved by The Sovereign, and the Order of Wearing of Australian Honours and Awards is the notification by the Governor-General of the positioning of all awards in the Australian honours system.

These instruments collectively inform the rules and conditions associated with the Order of Australia.

Frequently Asked Questions

How to nominate

Anyone can nominate someone for recognition within the Order of Australia.

To nominate an Australian citizen or permanent resident, complete an [on-line Order of Australia nomination form](#), which will be submitted to the Australian Honours and Awards Secretariat. The nominations are then researched before being provided to the Council for the Order of Australia for consideration. Recommendations for appointments or awards are made to the Governor-General by the Council.

To nominate a non-Australian citizen (without permanent residency), contact the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet. The nominations are researched by the Department, and recommendations made to the Governor-General by the Prime Minister.

Permanent residents and non-Australian residents are considered for an honorary appointment or award. Approval of an honorary appointment or award may require permission from the person's home country.

Appointments in the Order of Australia are not made posthumously. However, a nomination will be considered if they were nominated while they were alive.

For further information see www.gg.gov.au/australian-honours-and-awards/order-australia.

Order of wear

Each medal is worn and approved by The Sovereign in accordance with the [The Order of Wearing of Australian Honours and Awards](#).

Care of medals

To ensure medals remain in good condition it is important to care for them. Always try to handle medals and components with cotton gloves or avoid direct contact with hands and fingers, as they can transfer acid onto medal surfaces.

Only clean/polish your medal, miniature medal and lapel badge with the polishing cloth supplied, or a leather chamois cloth. We do not recommend the use of any liquids, chemicals, abrasives or commercial cleaning agents on any metal components.

It is recommended that after use all medal components are cleaned, buffed and placed back into the original presentation box and stored in a dry area. Additional silica gel sachets may also be placed in the box for insignia stored in humid or coastal areas.

Ordering replica and replacement insignia or additional items

Replica Insignia

Replica medals are available from medal dealers. They can be a good option for displaying medals, or wearing at events.

Replacement Insignia

When medals have been damaged, lost or stolen the recipient may request a replacement.



Additional Items

Other items such as lapel badges, miniatures, ribbons bars or rosettes may be purchased. Recipients may purchase up to six lapel badges in one year.

For recommendations of current medal dealers, or to purchase additional items, please call the Australian Honours and Awards Secretariat on (02) 6283 3604.



INSIGNIA DESIGN



The design for the insignia was conceived by Mr Stuart Devlin AO CMG in 1976. Using the livery colours of the Commonwealth of Australia Coat of Arms—gold and royal blue—he translated an individual ball of wattle blossom into a simple convex golden disc with a rich texture of beads and radiating lines accentuating a ring of blue enamel representing the surrounding sea. The disc is surmounted by an enamelled Crown signifying the position of The Sovereign as Head of the Order. The blue and gold theme is continued in the ribbon.

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 recipient.



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.



BADGE

THE KNIGHT (AK) AND DAME (AD) OF THE ORDER OF AUSTRALIA

(no longer awarded)

For extraordinary and pre-eminent achievement and merit in service to Australia or to humanity at large.



NECK DECORATION



COMPANION OF THE ORDER OF AUSTRALIA (AC)

General Division *(pictured)*

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 *(pictured)*

For distinguished service in responsible positions.

NOTE: AWARDS IN THE MILITARY DIVISION ARE DENOTED BY A GOLD BAND 1.5 MILLIMETRES WIDE ON EACH EDGE OF THE RIBBON



MEMBER OF THE ORDER OF AUSTRALIA (AM)

General Division *(pictured)*

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 *(pictured)*

For meritorious service, or performance of duty.

NOTE: AWARDS IN THE MILITARY DIVISION ARE DENOTED BY A GOLD BAND 1.5 MILLIMETRES WIDE ON EACH EDGE OF THE RIBBON





LETTERS PATENT
and

CONSOLIDATED
CONSTITUTION

OF THE
ORDER *of*
AUSTRALIA





THE ORDER OF AUSTRALIA LETTERS PATENT



ELIZABETH R

COMMONWEALTH 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 engraved, 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.



By Her Majesty's Command,
E.G. WHITLAM
Prime Minister

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



ELIZABETH R

COMMONWEALTH 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 by Letters Patent passed under the Great Seal of Australia, bearing date at St. James's the fourteenth day of February 1975, We did establish a society of honour known as the 'Order of Australia' and made other provision with respect to membership and the Constitution of the Order:

AND WHEREAS We are minded to establish a new category of membership and a new award within the Order and to make further and other provision with respect to eligibility, membership and the Constitution of the Order:

KNOW YOU that We, by these Presents, declare Our pleasure that the above-mentioned Letters Patent of the fourteenth day of February 1975 be amended, but without prejudice to anything lawfully done thereunder, as set out in the Schedule:

AND WE DO ordain that appointments to a category in the Civil Division of the Order made before the date of these Our Letters Patent shall be treated as having been made to that category in the General Division of the Order.

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 24 May 1976

By Her Majesty's Command,
MALCOLM FRASER
Prime Minister



ELIZABETH R

COMMONWEALTH 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 by Letters Patent passed under the Great Seal of Australia, bearing date at St James's the fourteenth day of February 1975, We did establish a society of honour known as the 'Order of Australia' and made other provision with respect to membership and the Constitution of the Order:

AND WHEREAS by Letters Patent passed under the Great Seal of Australia, bearing date at St. James's the twenty-fourth day of May 1976, We established a new category of membership of the Order, namely, membership as a Knight or Dame of the Order:

AND WHEREAS We are desirous that His Royal Highness Charles, Prince of Wales, be a Knight of the Order having precedence of all Knights and Dames of the Order, other than Our Governor-General of the Commonwealth of Australia:

KNOW YOU that We, by these Presents, declare Our pleasure that the above-mentioned Letters Patent of the fourteenth day of February 1975 be further amended, but without prejudice to anything lawfully done thereunder, as set out in the Schedule:

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 March 1981

By Her Majesty's Command,
MALCOLM FRASER
Prime Minister



ELIZABETH R

COMMONWEALTH 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,

GREETINGS:

WHEREAS by Letters Patent Dated 14 February 1975 We established a society of honour to be known as the "Order of Australia" and made provision with respect to membership and the Constitution of the Order:

AND WHEREAS it is desirable that certain amendments be made to the Constitution of the Order:

KNOW YOU that We do, by these Presents, declare Our pleasure that the above-mentioned Letters Patent dated 14 February 1975, as amended by Letters Patent dated 24 May 1976 and by Letters Patent dated 14 March 1981, be further amended, but without prejudice to anything lawfully done thereunder, as set out in the Schedule:

AND WE DO ordain that the Order shall henceforth consist of the Sovereign, our Governor-General of the Commonwealth of Australia, His Royal Highness Charles, Prince of Wales, and such persons as have been appointed, or shall hereafter be appointed, to the Order:

AND WE DO further ordain that, notwithstanding the amendments to be made to the Constitution of the Order, a person who was a member of the Order immediately before the issue of these Our Letters Patent shall, subject to the Constitution of the Order, remain a member of the Order in the class of membership that the person held at that time:

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



By Her Majesty's Command,
BOB HAWKE
Prime Minister

Given under the Great Seal
of Australia at Our Court
at Government House,
Canberra on 3 March 1986



ELIZABETH R

COMMONWEALTH 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 by Letters Patent dated 14 February 1975 We established a society of honour to be known as the “Order of Australia” and made provision with respect to membership and the Constitution of the Order:

AND WHEREAS it is desirable that certain amendments be made to the Constitution of the Order:

KNOW YOU that We do, by these Presents, declare Our pleasure that the above-mentioned Letters Patent dated 14 February 1975, as amended by Letters Patent dated 24 May 1976, by Letters Patent dated 14 March 1981, and by Letters Patent dated 3 March 1986, be further amended, but without prejudice to anything lawfully done thereunder, as set out in the Schedule:

AND WE DO ordain that the Order shall henceforth consist of the Sovereign, Our Governor-General of the Commonwealth of Australia, His Royal Highness Charles, Prince of Wales, and such persons as have been appointed, or shall hereafter be appointed, to the Order:

AND WE DO further ordain that, notwithstanding the amendments to be made to the Constitution of the Order, a person who was a member of the Order immediately before the issue of these Our Letters Patent shall, subject to the Constitution of the Order, remain a member of the Order in the class of membership that the person held at that time:

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 12 April 1988

By Her Majesty's Command,
BOB HAWKE
Prime Minister



ELIZABETH R

COMMONWEALTH 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 by Letters Patent dated 14 February 1975 We established a society of honour to be known as the "Order of Australia" and made provision with respect to membership and the Constitution of the Order:

AND WHEREAS it is desirable that certain amendments be made to the Constitution of the Order:

KNOW YOU that We do, by these Presents, declare Our pleasure that the above-mentioned Letters Patent dated 14 February 1975, as amended by Letters Patent dated 24 May 1976, by Letters Patent dated 14 March 1981, by Letters Patent dated 3 March 1986, and by Letters Patent dated 12 April 1988, be further amended, but without prejudice to anything lawfully done thereunder, as set out in the Schedule:

AND WE DO ordain that the amendments made by clause 1 of the Schedule shall commence on 16 February 1989.

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 1 February 1989

By Her Majesty's Command,
BOB HAWKE
Prime Minister



ELIZABETH R

COMMONWEALTH 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 by Letters Patent dated 14 February 1975 We established a society of honour to be known as the "Order of Australia" and made provision with respect to membership and Constitution of the Order:

AND WHEREAS it is desirable that certain amendments be made to the Constitution of the Order:

KNOW YOU that We do, by these Presents, declare Our pleasure that the above-mentioned Letters Patent dated 14 February 1975, as amended by Letters Patent dated 24 May 1976, by Letters Patent dated 14 March 1981, by Letters Patent dated 3 March 1986, by Letters Patent dated 12 April 1988 and by Letters Patent dated 1 February 1989, be further amended, but without prejudice to anything lawfully done thereunder, as set out in the Schedule:

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 5 December 1991

By Her Majesty's Command,
BOB HAWKE
Prime Minister



ELIZABETH R

COMMONWEALTH 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 by Letters Patent dated 14 February 1975 We established a society of honour to be known as the "Order of Australia" and made provision with respect to membership and the Constitution of the Order:

AND WHEREAS it is desirable that certain amendments be made to the Constitution of the Order:

KNOW YOU that We do, by these Presents, declare Our pleasure that the abovementioned Letters Patent dated 14 February 1975, as amended by Letters Patent dated 24 May 1976, by Letters Patent dated 14 March 1981, by Letters Patent dated 3 March 1986, by Letters Patent dated 12 April 1988, by Letters Patent dated 1 February 1989, and by Letters Patent dated 5 December 1991, be further amended, but without prejudice to anything lawfully done thereunder, as set out in the Schedule:

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 24 February 1993

By Her Majesty's Command,
PAUL KEATING
Prime Minister



ELIZABETH R

COMMONWEALTH 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 by Letters Patent dated 14 February 1975 We established a society of honour to be known as the "Order of Australia" and made provision with respect to membership and the Constitution of the Order:

AND WHEREAS it is desirable that certain amendments be made to the Constitution of the Order:

KNOW YOU that We do, by these Presents, declare Our pleasure that the abovementioned Letters Patent dated 14 February 1975, as amended by Letters Patent dated 24 May 1976, by Letters Patent dated 14 March 1981, by Letters Patent dated 3 March 1986, by Letters Patent dated 12 April 1988, by Letters Patent dated 1 February 1989, by Letters Patent dated 5 December 1991 and by Letters Patent dated 24 February 1993, be further amended, but without prejudice to anything lawfully done thereunder, as set out in the Schedule:

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 1 August 1996

By Her Majesty's Command,
JOHN HOWARD
Prime Minister



ELIZABETH R

COMMONWEALTH 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, by Letters Patent dated 14 February 1975, We established a society of honour to be known as the "Order of Australia" and made provision with respect to membership and the Constitution of the Order:

AND WHEREAS it is desirable that certain amendments be made to the Constitution of the Order:

KNOW YOU that We do, by these Presents, declare Our pleasure that the abovementioned Letters Patent dated 14 February 1975, as amended by Letters Patent dated 24 May 1976, by Letters Patent dated 14 March 1981, by Letters Patent dated 3 March 1986, by Letters Patent dated 12 April 1988, by Letters Patent dated 1 February 1989, by Letters Patent dated 5 December 1991, by Letters Patent dated 24 February 1993 and by Letters Patent dated 1 August 1996, be further amended, but without prejudice to anything lawfully done thereunder, as set out in the Schedule:

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 5 March 1998

By Her Majesty's Command,
JOHN HOWARD
Prime Minister



ELIZABETH R

COMMONWEALTH 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 by Letters Patent dated 14 February 1975, We established a society of honour to be known as the "Order of Australia" and made provision with respect to the membership and the Constitution of the Order:

AND WHEREAS it is desirable that certain amendments be made to the Constitution of the Order:

KNOW YOU that We do, by these Presents, declare Our pleasure that the abovementioned Letters Patent dated 14 February 1975, as amended by Letters Patent dated 24 May 1976, by Letters Patent dated 14 March 1981, by Letters Patent dated 3 March 1986, by Letters Patent dated 12 April 1988, by Letters Patent dated 1 February 1989, by Letters Patent dated 5 December 1991, by Letters Patent dated 24 February 1993, by Letters Patent dated 1 August 1996 and by Letters Patent dated 5 March 1998, be further amended, but without prejudice to anything lawfully done thereunder, as set out in the Schedule:

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 30 April 2003

By Her Majesty's Command,
JOHN HOWARD
Prime Minister



ELIZABETH R

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, by Letters Patent dated 14 February 1975, We established a society of honour known as the "Order of Australia" and made provision with respect to the membership and the Constitution of the Order;

AND WHEREAS it is desirable that certain amendments be made to the Constitution of the Order.

KNOW YOU that We do, by these Presents, declare Our pleasure that the Letters Patent dated 14 February 1975, as subsequently amended by Our Letters Patent, be further amended, but without prejudice to anything lawfully done under them, as set out in the Schedule.

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 19 March 2014

By Her Majesty's Command,

TONY ABBOTT
Prime Minister



ELIZABETH R

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, by Letters Patent dated 14 February 1975, We established a society of honour known as the "Order of Australia" and made provision with respect to the membership and the Constitution of the Order;

AND WHEREAS it is desirable that His Royal Highness The Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh, be a Knight of the Order and have precedence in the Order immediately after Our Governor-General of the Commonwealth of Australia;

AND WHEREAS, by Letters Patent dated 14 March 1981, His Royal Highness The Prince of Wales was made a Knight of the Order, and it is desirable that His Royal Highness The Prince of Wales have precedence in the Order immediately after His Royal Highness The Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh:

KNOW YOU that We do, by these Presents, declare Our pleasure that the Letters Patent dated 14 February 1975, as subsequently amended by Our Letters Patent, be further amended, but without prejudice to anything lawfully done under them, as set out in the Schedule.

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 7 January 2015

By Her Majesty's Command,

A handwritten signature in brown ink, appearing to read 'Tony Abbott'.

TONY ABBOTT
Prime Minister



ELIZABETH R

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, by Letters Patent dated 14 February 1975, We established a society of honour known as the "Order of Australia" and made provision with respect to the membership and the Constitution of the Order;

AND WHEREAS it is desirable that certain amendments be made to the Constitution of the Order.

KNOW YOU that We do, by these Presents, declare Our pleasure that the Letters Patent dated 14 February 1975, as subsequently amended by Our Letters Patent, be further amended, but without prejudice to anything lawfully done under them, as set out in the Schedule.

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 10 March 2015

By Her Majesty's Command,

TONY ABBOTT
Prime Minister



ELIZABETH R

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, by Letters Patent dated 14 February 1975, We established a society of honour known as the "Order of Australia" and made provision with respect to the membership and the Constitution of the Order;

AND WHEREAS it is desirable that certain amendments be made to the Constitution of the Order;

KNOW YOU that We do, by these Presents, declare Our pleasure that the Letters Patent dated 14 February 1975, as subsequently amended by Our Letters Patent, be further amended, but without prejudice to anything lawfully done under them, as set out in the Schedule;

AND WE DO further ordain that, despite the amendments set out in the Schedule, a person who was a member of the Order immediately before the issue of these Our Letters Patent shall, subject to the Constitution of the Order, remain a member of the Order in the class of membership that the person held at that time.

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 29 October 2015

By Her Majesty's Command,

A handwritten signature in brown ink, appearing to read 'Malcolm Turnbull'.

MALCOLM TURNBULL
Prime Minister



ELIZABETH R

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, by Letters Patent dated 14 February 1975, We established a society of honour known as the "Order of Australia" and made provision with respect to the membership and the Constitution of the Order;

AND WHEREAS it is desirable that certain amendments be made to the Constitution of the Order;

KNOW YOU that We do, by these Presents, declare Our pleasure that the Letters Patent dated 14 February 1975, as subsequently amended by Our Letters Patent, be further amended, but without prejudice to anything lawfully done under them, as set out in the Schedule;

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 10 September 2016

By Her Majesty's Command,

JAMES MCGRATH
Assistant Minister to the Prime Minister
Parliamentary Secretary to the Prime Minister



ELIZABETH R

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, by Letters Patent dated 14 February 1975, We established a society of honour known as the "Order of Australia" and made provision with respect to the membership and the Constitution of the Order;

AND WHEREAS it is desirable that certain amendments be made to the Constitution of the Order;

KNOW YOU that We do, by these Presents, declare Our pleasure that the Letters Patent dated 14 February 1975, as subsequently amended by Our Letters Patent, be further amended, but without prejudice to anything lawfully done under them, as set out in the Schedule;

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 16 April 2018

By Her Majesty's Command,

A handwritten signature in brown ink that reads 'Mark Fraser'.

MARK FRASER LVO OAM
Official Secretary to the Governor-General



CONSTITUTION OF THE ORDER OF AUSTRALIA

AS AMENDED

made under

LETTERS PATENT

This compilation was prepared in May 2018 taking into account amendments approved by Letters Patent dated 16 April 2018 (C2018G00297).

The Order of Australia

- I (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 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.
 - (1a) If the Governor-General is a Knight or a Dame in the General Division, the Governor-General shall be the Principal Knight or Dame in that Division.
 - (1b) If the Governor-General is not a Knight or a Dame in the General Division, the Governor-General shall be the Principal Companion in that 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 The Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh, shall have precedence in the Order immediately after the Governor-General.
- (3) His Royal Highness The Prince of Wales, shall have precedence in the Order immediately after His Royal Highness The Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh.
- 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 the following nominations:
 - (i) nominations of Australian citizens for membership of the Order through appointment to the Order in the General Division or award the Medal of the Order in the General Division;
 - (ii) nominations of permanent residents for honorary membership of the Order through appointment to the Order in the General Division or award of the Medal of the Order in the General Division; and
 - (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

- 9 Appointments (including honorary appointments) to the Order 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 — 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, in any calendar year, appoint to be Companions in the General Division, other than honorary Companions, not more than the number of persons prescribed by Ordinance.

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, in any calendar year, appoint to be Officers in the General Division, other than honorary Officers, not more than the number of persons prescribed by Ordinance.

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, in any calendar year, appoint to be Members in the General Division, other than honorary Members, not more than the number of persons prescribed by Ordinance.

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 a nomination mentioned in paragraph 5(a) to the Secretary of the Order for consideration by the council.
- (2) Upon the recommendation of the Prime Minister, the Governor-General may make persons (other than Australian citizens or permanent residents) honorary members of the Order through appointment to the Order in the General Division or award the Medal of the Order in the General Division.



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.

Insignia

26 *****

- 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

- 30 The Governor-General may make Ordinances, not inconsistent with this Constitution, prescribing all matters (other than matters that may be prescribed under section 30A) 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;
 - (d) investitures; and
 - (e) terminations and cancellations.

30A The Governor-General may, on the recommendation of the Prime Minister, make Ordinances prescribing the number of persons who may, in any calendar year, be appointed to be Companions, Officers or Members in the General Division (other than honorary Companions, Officers or Members).

Definitions

31 In this Constitution:

Australian citizen has the meaning given by the *Australian Citizenship Act 2007*.

Permanent resident has the meaning given by the *Australian Citizenship Act 2007*.

Note to the Constitution of the Order of Australia

The Constitution of the Order of Australia (in force under *Letters Patent*) as shown in this compilation is amended as indicated in the tables below.

Table of Instruments

Name	Date of notification in Gazette	Date of commencement	Application, saving or transitional provisions
Letters Patent and Constitution of the Order of Australia	17 Feb 1975 (see Gazette 1975, No. 528)	14 Feb 1975	—
Letters Patent and Amendments of the Constitution of the Order of Australia – 1976	2 June 1976 (see Gazette 1976, No. 592)	24 May 1976	—
Letters Patent and Amendments of the Constitution of the Order of Australia – 1981	27 Mar 1981 (see Gazette 1981, No. 553)	14 Mar 1981	—
Letters Patent and Amendments of the Constitution of the Order of Australia – 1986	11 Mar 1986 (see Gazette 1986, No. 5101)	3 Mar 1986	—



Name	Date of notification in Gazette	Date of commencement	Application, saving or transitional provisions
Letters Patent and Amendments of the Constitution of the Order of Australia – 1988	10 June 1988 (see Gazette 1988, No. S160)	12 Apr 1988	—
Letters Patent and Amendments of the Constitution of the Order of Australia – 1989	16 Feb 1989 (see Gazette 1989, No. S58)	1 Feb 1989	—
Letters Patent and Amendments of the Constitution of the Order of Australia – 1991	20 Dec 1991 (see Gazette 1991, No. S353)	5 Dec 1991	—
Letters Patent and Amendments of the Constitution of the Order of Australia – 1993	10 Mar 1993 (see Gazette 1993, No. S80)	24 Feb 1993	—
Letters Patent and Amendments of the Constitution of the Order of Australia – 1996	16 Aug 1996 (see Gazette 1996, No. 303)	1 Aug 1996	—
Letters Patent and Amendments of the Constitution of the Order of Australia – 1998	3 Apr 1998 (see Gazette 1998, No. S147)	5 Mar 1998	—
Letters Patent and Amendments of the Constitution of the Order of Australia – 2003	6 June 2003 (see Gazette 2003, No. S197)	30 Apr 2003	—
Letters Patent and Amendments of the Constitution of the Order of Australia – 2014	17 Apr 2014 (see Gazette 2014, No. C2014G00635)	19 Mar 2014	—

Name	Date of notification in Gazette	Date of commencement	Application, saving or transitional provisions
Letters Patent and Amendments of the Constitution of the Order of Australia – 2015	30 Jan 2015 (see Gazette 2015, No. C2015G00155)	7 Jan 2015	—
Letters Patent and Amendments of the Constitution of the Order of Australia – 2015	13 Apr 2015 (see Gazette 2015, No. C2015G00523)	10 Mar 2015	—
Letters Patent and Amendments of the Constitution of the Order of Australia – 2015	22 Dec 2015 (see Gazette 2015, No. C2015G02163)	29 Oct 2015	—
Letters Patent and Amendments of the Constitution of the Order of Australia – 2016	11 Oct 2016 (see Gazette 2016, No. C2016G01347)	10 Sep 2016	—
Letters Patent and Amendments of the Constitution of the Order of Australia – 2018	24 Apr 2018 (see Gazette 2018, No. C2018G00297)	16 Apr 2018	—

Table of Amendments

ad.=added or inserted | am.=amended | rep.=repealed | rs.=repealed and substituted

Provision affected	How affected
S. 1	am. 1976 No. S92; 1986 No. S101; 1993 No. S80; C2014G00635; C2015G02163
S. 2	rs. 1976 No. S92; 1986 No. S101 am. 1989 No. S58; C2014G00635; C2015G02163
S. 2A	ad. 1986 No. S101 am. C2015G00155; C2015G02163



Provision affected	How affected
S. 3A	ad. 1981 No. S53 rep. 1986 No. S101
S. 4	am. 1976 No. S92; 1986 No. S101; 1988 No. S160; 1991 No. S353; 1996 No. S303; 1998 No. S147
S. 5	am. 1976 No. S92; C2015G00523; C2014G00635; C2016G01347
S. 5A	ad. 1998 No. S147
S. 7	rs. 1976 No. S92
S. 8	am. 1976 No. S92
S. 8A	ad. C2014G00635 rep. C2015G00523
S. 9	am. 1976 No. S92; 1986 No. S101; 1993 No. S80; C2014G00635; C2015G00523;
HEADING BEFORE S. 11	am. 1976 No. S92
S. 11	rs. 1976 No. S92
HEADING BEFORE S. 11A	ad. 1976 No. S92; rep. 1986 No. S101
S. 11A	ad. 1976 No. S92; C2014G00635 rep. 1986 No. S101; C2015G02163
S. 11B	ad. 1976 No. S92; C2014G00635 rep. 1986 No. S101; rep. C2015G02163
S. 11C	ad. 1976 No. S92 rep. 1986 No. S101
HEADING BEFORE S. 12	am. 1976 No. S92
S. 12	am. 1976 No. S92
S. 13	rep. 1976 No. S92
S. 14	am. 1976 No. S92; 1986 No. S101; 2003 No. S197; C2016G01347; C2018G00297
HEADING BEFORE S. 15	am. 1976 No. S92
S. 15	am. 1976 No S92

Provision affected	How affected
S. 16	am. 1976 No. S92; 1986 No. S101; 2003 No. S197; C2016G01347; C2018G00297
HEADING BEFORE S. 17	am. 1976 No S92
S. 17	am. 1976 No. S92
S. 18	am. 1976 No. S92; 1986 No. S101; 2003 No. S197; C2016G01347; C2018G00297
HEADING BEFORE S. 18A	ad. 1976 No. S92
S. 18A	ad. 1976 No. S92 am. 1986 No. S101; 1989 No. S58
S. 19	am 1976 No S92; 1998 No S147; C2014G00635; C2015G00523 rs. C2016G01347
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. S01
S. 26	rs. 1976 No. S92 am. 1986 No S101 rep. 1986 No. S101
S. 28	am. 1976 No. S92; 1993 No. S80
S. 30	am. 1986 No. S101; 1988 No. S160; 1998 No. S147; C2018G00297
S. 30A	ad. C2018G00297
S. 31	ad. C2016G01347





ORDER *of*
AUSTRALIA
ORDINANCES



COUNCIL ORDINANCE

INSIGNIA ORDINANCE

DESIGNATIONS AND
INSIGNIA ORDINANCE

INVESTITURE ORDINANCE

NUMBER OF APPOINTMENTS
IN THE GENERAL DIVISION
ORDINANCE

TERMINATIONS AND
CANCELLATIONS
ORDINANCE



COUNCIL 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.



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.



INSIGNIA ORDINANCE



Bill Hayden

Governor-General of the Commonwealth
of Australia and Chancellor of
the Order of Australia
Dated 4th November 1993

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:



Douglas Sturkey

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 ensigned 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.

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- (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.

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- (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;



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- (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 I

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

Title	Date of notification in Gazette	Date of commencement	Application, saving or transitional provisions
Designations and Insignia Ordinance	15 Apr 1986 (see Gazette 1986, No. S167)	12 Mar 1986	—
Changes to the Designations and Insignia Ordinance	19 Aug 1993 (see Gazette 1993, No. S256)	17 Aug 1993	—

Table of Amendments

ad.=added or inserted | am.=amended | rep.=repealed | rs.=repealed and substituted

Provision affected	How affected
S. 4	ad. 1993 No. S256
S. 5	ad. 1993 No. S256



INVESTITURE ORDINANCE



Governor-General of the
Commonwealth of Australia and
Chancellor of the Order of Australia

7th February 2018

INVESTITURE ORDINANCE

I, GENERAL THE HONOURABLE SIR PETER COSGROVE AK MC (Retd),
the Governor-General of the Commonwealth of Australia, hereby make the
following Investiture Ordinance in pursuance of section 30 of the Constitution
of the Order of Australia.

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

Mark Fraser LVO OAM
Secretary of the Order of Australia



INVESTITURE ORDINANCE

Short Title

- 1 This Ordinance may be cited as the Investiture 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) This Ordinance refers to awards within the General, Military and Honorary divisions.
- (4) A Warrant to Conduct is an authorisation issued by the Governor-General for a person other than the Sovereign or the Chancellor to conduct an investiture.

Investitures

- 3 (1) A person appointed to the Order or awarded the Medal of the Order shall be invested with the insignia of the Order by the Sovereign or the Chancellor of the Order or by such person, by Warrant to Conduct, as the Sovereign or the Chancellor may authorise.
- (2) The Chancellor may, by Warrant under the Seal of the Order, permit the ceremony of investiture to be dispensed with in respect of any person named in the Warrant.
- 4 A person appointed as a Companion of the Order shall usually be invested by the Chancellor of the Order at Government House, Canberra in accordance with sub-regulation 3(1).
- 5 A person appointed to be an Officer or Member of the Order, or a person awarded the Medal of the Order, shall usually be invested by the Governor-General, if the recipient is a resident of the Australian Capital Territory or surrounding region, or the Governor or Administrator in the State or Territory in which the recipient currently resides, in accordance with sub-regulation 3(1).
- 6 A person appointed to the Order or a recipient of the Medal of the Order may be invested overseas, usually by the Australian Ambassador or High Commissioner, if they reside or are a resident for the time being, within a foreign country, in accordance with sub-regulation 3(1).

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- 7 (1) A person appointed to the Order as a Companion or Officer shall be invested with the Neck Badge insignia suspended from a 38mm ribbon. This ribbon should not be used again in accordance with sub-regulation 7(2).
- (2) On all subsequent occasions the Neck Badge shall be worn in accordance with sub-regulations 8 or 9 of the Insignia Ordinance.

Note: On occasion it may be desirable for the Governor-General to invest recipients that reside outside the Australian Capital Territory and surrounding region.



CONSTITUTION OF THE ORDER OF AUSTRALIA (NUMBER OF APPOINTMENTS IN THE GENERAL DIVISION) ORDINANCE 2019

I, General the Honourable Sir Peter Cosgrove AK MC (Ret'd), Governor-General of the Commonwealth of Australia, acting under section 30A of the Constitution of the Order of Australia, revoke the Constitution of the Order of Australia (Number of Appointments in the General Division) Ordinance 2018 made on 19 April 2018, and make the following Ordinance.

Dated: 2 April 2019

Name

- 1 This Ordinance is the Constitution of the Order of Australia (Number of Appointments in the General Division) Ordinance 2019.

Commencement

- 2 (1) Each provision of this Ordinance specified in column 1 of the table commences, or is taken to have commenced, in accordance with column 2 of the table. Any other statement in column 2 has effect according to its terms.

Commencement Information

Provisions	Commencement	Date/Details
The whole of this Ordinance	The day this Ordinance is made.	Date of notification in Gazette: 2 April 2019 (C2019G00308)

Note: This table relates only to the provisions of this Ordinance as originally made. It will not be amended to deal with any later amendments of this ordinance.

- (2) Any information in column 3 of the table is not part of this Ordinance. Information may be inserted in this column, or information in it may be edited, in any published version of this Ordinance.

Authority

- 3 This Ordinance is made under section 30A of the *Constitution of the Order of Australia*.

Definitions

- 4 In this Ordinance:
Constitution means the *Constitution of the Order of Australia*.

Number of Appointments in the General Division

- 5 *Companions*
(1) For the purposes of section 14 of the Constitution, the number of persons is 35.
- Officers*
(2) For the purposes of section 16 of the Constitution, the number of persons is 140.
- Members*
(3) For the purposes of section 18 of the Constitution, the number of persons is 605.



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.

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- (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.

Gazettal

- 7 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.

Restoration

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

Note to the Terminations and Cancellations Ordinance

Note I

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.

Table of Instruments

Title	Date of notification in Gazette	Date of commencement	Application, saving and transitional provisions
Terminations and Cancellations Ordinance	7 Aug 1992 (see Gazette 1992, No. S223)	2 Aug 1992	—
Amendment to the Terminations and Cancellations Ordinance – 2007	13 Sep 2007 (see Gazette 2007, No. S177)	11 Sep 2007	—

Table of Amendments

ad.=added or inserted | am.=amended | rep.=repealed | rs.=repealed and substituted

Provision affected	How affected
S. 3	rs. 2007 No. S177
S. 4	rs. 2007 No. S177
S. 5	am. 2007 No. S177
S. 6	am. 2007 No. S177

Contact INFORMATION

Administering Australia's Honours

There are three organisations with primary responsibility for administering Australia's system of honours. They are the:

- Australian Honours and Awards Secretariat, Government House, Canberra;
- Honours and Symbols Section, Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet; and
- Directorate of Honours and Awards, Department of Defence.

Government House

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

The contact details for Government House, Canberra are:

Australian Honours and Awards Secretariat
Dunrossil Drive, Government House
CANBERRA ACT 2600
Phone: 02 6283 3604
Email: honours@gg.gov.au
Website: www.gg.gov.au

If you have a hard copy of this booklet, please visit our website for notification of changes since publication.

Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

The Honours and Symbols Section, Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet provides policy advice on the operation of the Australian honours system.

Phone: 02 6271 5601
Email: itsanhonour@pmc.gov.au
Website: www.pmc.gov.au/government/its-honour

Department of Defence

The Directorate of Honours and Awards of the Department of Defence provides policy advice on defence honours and awards. The Department is also responsible for administering defence awards.

Phone: 1800 333 362
Email: honoursandawards@defence.gov.au
Website: www.defence.gov.au/medals

