



Wearing right breast awards in St John Ambulance Australia



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Purpose

This document describes which right breast awards may be worn on the St John Ambulance Australia Operations Branch uniform and how they will be worn.

Definition

Right breast awards are those medals, badges, pins and other awards that do not comprise part of the Australian Honours and Awards System nor are they a recognised foreign award approved for wear by Government House in Canberra.

St John Ambulance Australia sanctions which right breast awards may be worn on Operations Branch uniform. In general, the right breast awards will have been awarded by St John, a sister Royal Charter organisation, the Australian Defence Force, a State/Territory/Federal statutory organisation, or by a State/Territory/Federal Government of the Commonwealth of Australia.

Allowable right breast awards

Right breast awards that can be worn on the Operations Branch uniform include:

- St John Ambulance Australia awards:
 - Life Saving Medal of Order of St John
 - St John Ambulance Australia Commendation
 - St John Meritorious Service Certificate
 - Sovereign's Award
 - Cadet of the Year Pin
 - St John Service Award and
 - St John Special Service Shields.
- Royal charter awards:
 - Royal Humane Society Bravery Medals and
 - Duke of Edinburgh's Award.
- Australian Defence Force:
 - Unit Citations
 - Australian awards:
 - Unit Citation for Gallantry (UCG) and
 - Meritorious Unit Citation (MUC).

- Foreign awards:
 - United States (US) Presidential Unit Citation (Army)
 - US Meritorious Unit Commendation (Army) and
 - Vietnamese Cross of Gallantry with Palm Unit Citation Emblem.
- Commendations

Right breast awards that may be considered for wear on Operations Branch uniform include:

- State/Territory and Federal Government Awards:
 - Police, Fire, Ambulance, SES/TES Service Commendations
 - Police, Fire, Ambulance, SES/TES Long Service Awards
 - Disaster and Emergency Response Medals and Commendations and
 - Anniversary and Special Service Medals.

Additional detail in relation to how these awards may be considered is contained within the schedule contained within this guideline.

Order of wear

The specific position of an individual award will be dependant upon what combination of awards the individual may have had made to them and the position of a name plate when wearing a shirt or jacket.

When worn all awards should be appropriately mounted, clean and in good order. Medals are worn in accordance with the order of dress, must be suspended in a horizontal line from a single bar brooch and central to the pocket of the shirt or jacket.

As a general concept right breast awards will be worn above the right pocket (from the wearer's perspective) – referred to as Position 2 in the Operations Branch Uniform Guidelines. A single medal is to be worn in line with the centre of the pocket in such a manner that when viewed from the front, the medal covers the pocket flap button and the bottom edge of the medal is no higher or lower than the bottom edge of the button.

Awards will be worn in not more than three rows in the specified order from inside to outside. If there is only one award being worn in a row it shall be placed in line with the pocket button ie: the centre line of the pocket.

Where there is only one row the bottom edge of the bottom row will be 5mm above the top edge of the pocket.

When there is more than one row of awards the bottom edge of the bottom row will be 5mm above the top edge of the pocket and there should be a gap of 5mm between the top of a row of awards and the bottom of the row immediately above.

Top Row

(From inside to outside)

St John Commendation, Australian Defence Force Commendations

Middle Row

(From inside to outside)

Sovereign's Award, Duke of Edinburgh's Award, Cadet of the Year Pin, Special Service Shield, Special Service Shield 2 (the lower level of the two), Australian Defence Force Unit Citations

Bottom Row

(From inside to outside)

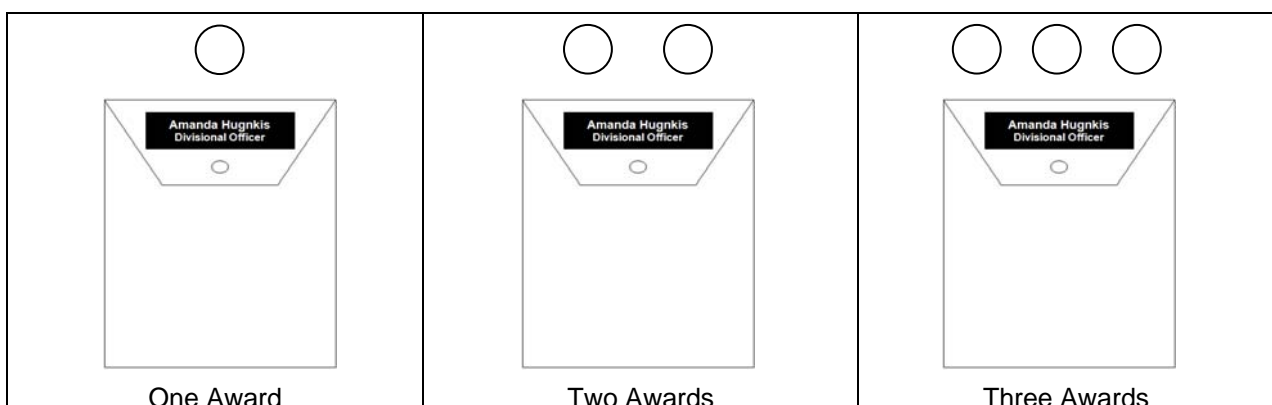
Awards with Medals/Ribbon Bars – Life Saving Medal of the Order, Royal Humane Society Bravery Awards, Service Commendations, Special Service Awards, Long Service Awards

Spacing the awards

In positioning the awards above the line of the pocket effort should be made to keep ribbon bars in the bottom row in line with any ribbon bars which are worn on the left breast.

When there is worn more than one award in a row they should be spaced evenly from the centre line of the pocket with the senior award worn closet to the wearer's midline with the more junior awards positioned distally.

The following figures provide an indicative illustration of how to apply the concepts detailed above.





Additional references

- St John Ambulance Australia Operations Branch Uniform Guidelines
- St John Ambulance Australia Guidelines for Formal Service Recognition
- Orders, Decorations and Medals: A Guide to Wearing St John Insignia
- Australian Government - Order of Wearing Australian Honours and Awards

Appendix 1– Indicative list of right breast awards

Award	Variants	Comments
St John Awards		
Bravery Medal of Order of St John	Bronze, Silver and Gold	Nil
Sovereign's Award	Nil	Nil
St John Ambulance Australia Commendation	Bronze, Silver and Gold	Only one of each level of Commendation is to be worn at any one time
Cadet/Cadet Leader of the Year Pin	Nil	Must be removed when the recipient reaches the age of 25 years.
St John Service Award	3, 6 and 9 years	Only the highest level is to be worn. Must be removed when the Service Medal of the Order is awarded
St John Special Service Shields	100, 200, 500, 800, 1000 and 2000 hours	Only one award is worn until the recipient reaches 1,200 hours. Subsequent awards may be added. Once 2,000 hours is reached a second award is not worn. Must be removed when the recipient reaches the age of 25 years.
External Organisation Awards		
Duke of Edinburgh's Award	Bronze, Silver and Gold	Only the highest level is to be worn.
Royal Humane Society Bravery Medals	Various	Nil
Statutory Authority Awards (Police, Fire, Ambulance, SES/TES)	Service Commendations and Long Service Awards	Awards made by the chief officer of a statutory authority will generally be recognised by St John but will require the endorsement of the St John Commissioner or equivalent in each state/territory prior to wear.
Other awards including state/territory government	Various: Disaster and Emergency Response Medals, Commendations, Anniversary and special service medals.	As determined by the St John Commissioner or equivalent in each state/territory prior to wear.