

CHANCERY HANDBOOK

TOPIC M – OTHER ORDER AWARDS

I have gathered together in this document everything you need to know about other Order awards ie those not already covered by a note in this series. The source documents are the Statutes, the Regulations and award-specific letters. The relevant extracts are reproduced below in Times New Roman font in text boxes.

DONATS

STATUTES

The concept is covered by Statute 40:

<p>40 Donats</p> <p>(1) Any person not being a Member of the Order who from an appreciation of the objects or work of the Order makes a worthy contribution to its funds or to the funds of a Priory may be appointed:</p> <p> (a) by the Grand Prior, on the recommendation of the Grand Council, a Donat of the Order; or</p> <p> (b) by the Prior of a Priory, on the recommendation of his Priory Chapter, to be a Donat of the Priory</p> <p>and thereafter his name shall be recorded in the List of Donats of the Order which shall be maintained by the Secretary-General or as the case may be in the List of Donats of the Priory which shall be maintained by the proper officer of the Priory.</p> <p>(2) The rights and privileges of a Donat of a Priory shall in all respects be the same as those of a Donat of the Order.</p> <p>(3) The appointment of a Donat shall lapse and his name shall be deleted from the List of Donats if he shall subsequently be admitted as a Member of the Order in any Grade.</p>

The reference to Priory Donats in Statute 40(1)(b) above is reinforced by Statute 17(d) below:

<p>17 Delegation to Priories in respect of Honours and Awards</p> <p>The Grand Council shall have the power to delegate to Priories in all cases subject to such conditions as it may from time to time prescribe:</p> <p>...</p> <p> (d) the appointment of Donats.</p>
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The details are to be covered in the Regulations (Statute 50):

<p>50 Insignia and Robes</p> <p>The Insignia and Robes of the Order shall be such as may from time to time be specified by Regulations and shall be used and worn as therein provided.</p>

REGULATIONS

The relevant Regulation as per Statute 50 is Regulation 35, which itself refers forward to Appendix II to the Regulations:

35	Insignia and Robes Appendix II shall have effect for the purposes of Statute 50, under which the Insignia and Robes of the Order may be specified and provision made as to their use and wearing.
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specifically Paragraph 12 of that Appendix:

APPENDIX II (Regulation 35)	
PART ONE: INSIGNIA	
12	Donat's Badge (i) The Donat's Badge is the Badge of the Order without the upper arm. (ii) The size of the Donat's Badge is 1¼ in (45 mm). (iii) The Donat's Badge is suspended from a black ribbon of a width of 1 ½ in (38 mm) down the centre of which is a white stripe of ¼ in (3 mm). (iv) A woman who is appointed a Donat suspends her Badge from a bow. (v) The Donat's Badge is illustrated in the schedule to this Appendix ...

VOTES OF THANKS

STATUTES

The topic is introduced at Statute 52:

52	Medals (1) The Order may award ... Votes of Thanks in accordance with such provision as may from time to time be made by Regulations.
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REGULATIONS

The relevant Regulations as per Statute 52(1) are Regulations 30 and 36; the latter refers forward to Appendix V to the Regulations:

30	Recommendations for the award of ... Votes of Thanks The Secretary-General shall report to the Grand Prior the recommendations of the Honours and Awards Committee and of Priories in relation to awards of ... Votes of Thanks and on receiving his approval shall arrange for the awards to be made.
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36 **... Votes of Thanks**

Appendices ... V shall have effect for the purposes of Statute 52 under which provision may be made concerning the award of ... Votes of Thanks.

**APPENDIX V
(Regulation 36)
VOTES OF THANKS ...
PART ONE – VOTES OF THANKS**

1 Order Votes of Thanks

1(1) An Order Vote of Thanks may be awarded by the Grand Prior on the recommendation of the Grand Council to those who have rendered conspicuous services to:

- a. the Order;
- b. any Establishment of the Order;
- c. The St John of Jerusalem Eye Hospital, or
- d. a Foundation of the Order or a Priory.

1(2) An Order Vote of Thanks shall be signed by a Great Officer and by the Secretary-General.

2 Priory Votes of Thanks

2(1) Without prejudice to the provisions of paragraph 1, a Priory Vote of Thanks may be awarded by the Prior of a Priory on the recommendation of the Priory Chapter of the Priory to those who have rendered conspicuous services to that Priory.

2(2) A Priory Vote of Thanks shall be signed by such officers as shall be specified by the [Priory] Rules of the Priory or by regulations made pursuant to them.

THE SOVEREIGN'S MEDAL OF MERIT

In 2010 the Grand Council agreed to recommend to HM The Queen that a new Order award be instituted, namely the Sovereign's Medal of Merit. Following Royal approval in July 2010, a design was agreed in July 2011 and nominations were to be considered at the November meeting of the Order Honours and Awards Committee (OHAC).

Further details are to be found in the Secretary-General's letter to SJEG (St John Executives' Group) members dated 7 Aug 2012. Firstly, criteria:

4 The basic criteria for the award of the Sovereign's Medal of Merit are as follows:

- a. The award would be for outstanding merit in fields which lie within the Order's Statutory Objects;
- b. The award would be made only in the case of exceptional merit. Save in the most exceptional circumstances, there would only be one award a year, and in some cases there might not be an award;
- c. This award can be made to an individual, a group of individuals, an association or a corporate body;
- d. Members of the Order are not eligible to receive the award.

Secondly, recognition. The recipient(s) receive(s) a Diploma, specially worded to record their achievements, and a Medallion (ie a medal that is not worn) 50 mm in diameter, struck in a gold-coloured metal, of sufficient thickness for the recipient's name to be engraved around the rim and presented in a custom-made box. The design of the medal is shown below (approximately full size):



The first nomination for this award was received in 2015.

THE AWARD FOR ORGAN DONATION

The Order Award for Organ Donation was introduced in the United Kingdom in September 2013, in conjunction with the various National Health Service (NHS) Blood and Transplant entities (England, Scotland, Wales, Northern Ireland, and including the Channel Islands and the Isle of Man).

An award is made to the families of deceased donors, consisting of a pin and a certificate. For all aspects of this award, responsibility now rests with the appropriate Priory.

DISCUSSION POINTS FOR CHANCERY STAFF

DONATS

There is no List of Order Donats (Statute 40) and none have been recognised since 1999. Do you recognise Donats in your Priory? If yes, do you maintain a List of Priory Donats?

VOTES OF THANKS

Do you issue Priory Votes of Thanks? If yes, do you maintain a List of Priory Votes of Thanks?

SOVEREIGN'S MEDAL OF MERIT

Are you aware of this award?

Are you likely to identify any candidates for this November's OHAC?