

PART TEN – THE SOVEREIGN’S AWARD AND THE GRAND PRIOR’S AWARD

SECTION ONE: THE SOVEREIGN’S AWARD

1 Name of award

The name of the award to be made pursuant to Section One of this Part Ten is “the Sovereign’s Award”.

2 Purpose

The Sovereign’s Award is established to recognise member of St John between the ages of 16 and 25 for outstanding achievement in personal development and benefit to the community through the work of St John.

3 Seniority

The Sovereign’s Award ranks immediately senior to the Grand Prior’s Award.

4 Objects

(1) The Sovereign’s Award is given to youths who are part of St John in recognition of outstanding work in three key areas:

- (a) personal development;
- (b) benefit to St John; and
- (c) benefit to the community.

(2) It is the premier award for members of St John between the ages of 16 and 25 and bears the personal signature of the Sovereign Head.

5 Local flexibility

(1) It is recognised that conditions and opportunities for members of St John between the ages of 16 and 25 vary considerably around the world. Accordingly, a degree of local flexibility is acknowledged to be necessary for the criteria for the Sovereign’s Award from Establishment to Establishment. Establishments should issue such expanded local guidance on the Sovereign’s Award as they consider necessary in the light of local circumstances, while maintaining the general principles set out in this Section One of Part Ten.

(2) The Secretary-General is responsible for the management of the Sovereign’s Award, including maintaining a roll of award winners.

6 Entry qualification

The Sovereign’s Award is open to members of St John Ambulance between the ages of 16 and 25 who have completed the Grand Prior’s Award, or similar demanding

projects in Establishments or 1,000 hours (or a commensurate number as set by the Establishment) of service.

7 Assessment

- (1) In each Establishment a panel of judges will examine all applications. The panel should be composed of people from a variety of backgrounds. The members of the selection panel may differ from Establishment to Establishment, but typically consist of:
 - (a) an independent external chair;
 - (b) a member of St John between the ages of 16 and 25 selected by their peers;
 - (c) the Chief Officer (Youth), or equivalent and/or experts in the field of assessing youth work.

8 Assessment criteria

The panel will assess the applications based on the evidence presented to them, according to the following criteria:

- (a) completion of either the Grand Prior's Award, or similar Establishment challenge;
- (b) significant personal development;
- (c) benefit to the work and vision of St John; and
- (d) service and benefit to the community, preferably over an extended period.

9 General

- (1) Details of nominees, together with a brief citation in relation to each nominee's project for which the Sovereign's Award is recommended, are to be submitted annually to the Secretary-General by 1 November in each year.
- (2) If an Establishment submits more than one citation at a particular time, the citations should be prioritised.
- (3) The Secretary-General shall submit citations received to the final Honours and Awards Committee meeting in each year.
- (4) The Honours and Awards Committee shall select those citations which are to be the subject of an award of the Sovereign's Award.
- (5) Each Establishment shall maintain a register of Sovereign's Awards made in respect of recipients in that Establishment's Establishment Territory.

10 Certificates

A person to whom a Sovereign's Award is made will receive a certificate signed by Her Majesty, the Sovereign Head. The certificate will be in a form determined by the Secretary-General.

11 Register

The Secretary-General shall maintain a register of Sovereign's Award recipients and their citations.

12 Sovereign's Award Badge

- (1) A person to whom the Sovereign's Award is granted shall receive a badge, known as the Sovereign's Award Badge.
- (2) The Sovereign's Award Badge may be worn as soon as the award is authorised.
- (3) The Sovereign's Award Badge is to be worn:
 - (a) on the right breast on the St John Uniform; or
 - (b) in such other manner consistent with the standing of the Sovereign's Award as may be specified by the relevant Establishment.

Illustration of the Sovereign's Award Badge



13 Cancellation of the Sovereign's Award

If, following the award of a Sovereign Award, facts become known which, if known at the time when the award was being considered, would have been likely to have resulted in the award not being made, the Establishment which made the award may cancel the relevant award.

SECTION TWO: THE GRAND PRIOR'S AWARD

14 Name of Award

The name of the Award to be made pursuant to Section Two of this Part Ten is "the Grand Prior's Award".

15 Purpose

The purpose of the Grand Prior's Award is to encourage to the fullest practicable extent the personal development of a member of St John under the age of 25 (a "Youth Member") and thereby to enhance their potential to contribute effectively to the community and to St John.

16 Seniority

The Grand Prior's Award is the highest award, other than the Sovereign's Award and awards for bravery, which the Order can confer on Youth Members.

17 Criteria for the Grand Prior's Award

- (1) The Grand Prior's Award is intended for Youth Members.
- (2) The Grand Prior's Award may be made to a person under the age of 25 who satisfies the criteria prescribed by his or her Establishment.
- (3) Each Establishment may prescribe the conditions of and the criteria for the Grand Prior's Award in relation to Youth Members within its Establishment Territory (including those within the territory of a Dependent Commandery which is dependent on that Priory).

18 Grand Prior's Award badge

- (1) A person to whom the Grand Prior's Award is made shall receive a badge, known as the Grand Prior's Award Badge.
- (2) The Badge, on a black background, comprises a depiction of a white oval wreath of St John's wort tied at the base and measuring 75mm vertical by 50mm surrounding the badge of the Order. It has at the top of the wreath a St. Edward's Crown showing an interior cap in red.
- (3) The Grand Prior's Award Badge is to be worn as soon as the Grand Prior's Award is authorised.
- (4) The Grand Prior's Award Badge is to be worn:
 - (a) on the left sleeve on St John Ambulance uniform midway between the elbow and the shoulder; or
 - (b) in such other manner consistent with the standing of the Grand Prior's Award as may be specified by the relevant Establishment.

19 Grand Prior's Award certificates

A person to whom the Grand Prior's Award is made shall, in addition to the Grand Prior's Award Badge, receive a certificate known as the Grand Prior's Award Certificate. The Certificate shall be in a form approved by the Secretary-General. Certificates for recipients from Establishments using "St John" rather than "St John Ambulance" will be issued in the name of St John.

20 Authority to make Grand Prior's Awards

- (1) The following Establishments are authorised to make the Grand Prior's Award on behalf of the Grand Prior to persons who satisfy the conditions set out in Section Two of this Part Ten:
 - (a) in relation to persons resident within the territory of a Priory, then that Priory; and
 - (b) in relation to persons resident within the territory of a St John Association, the Secretary-General.

- (2) Each Establishment which awards Grand Prior's Awards shall maintain a register of recipients.