

## Extract from The St John (Membership, Honours and Awards) Regulations 2022

### PART SEVEN – THE SOVEREIGN’S MEDAL OF MERIT

#### 1 The Sovereign’s Medal of Merit

The Sovereign’s Medal of Merit is the highest award (other than membership) made by the Order and is awarded to recognise outstanding merit in furtherance of the Order’s objects and purposes.

#### 2 Recipients

- (1) The Sovereign’s Medal of Merit may be bestowed on an individual who is not a Member of the Order, a group of individuals (none of whom is a Member of the Order), a corporate body, partnership or similar entity or an unincorporated association.
- (2) The Sovereign’s Medal of Merit cannot be bestowed on a Member of the Order.
- (3) The provisions of Regulation **Error! Reference source not found.**, **Error! Reference source not found.** and **Error! Reference source not found.** shall, with any necessary modifications, apply in relation to the Sovereign’s Medal of Merit.

#### 3 Conditions

The Sovereign’s Medal of Merit is awarded only for outstanding and exceptional merit in furtherance of the Order’s objects and purposes.

#### 4 Nominations for Sovereign’s Medal of Merit

- (1) The Sovereign’s Medal of Merit is awarded by the Sovereign Head on the recommendation of the Grand Prior, acting on the advice of the Honours and Awards Committee, either acting by itself or following a proposal by a Priory or other Establishment.
- (2) If the actions which give rise to a nomination for an award of the Sovereign’s Medal of Merit have taken place in an Establishment Territory, the nomination should be submitted by the relevant Establishment to the Honours and Awards Committee through the Secretary-General.
- (3) If a nomination for an award of the Sovereign’s Medal of Merit is received directly by the Secretary-General in respect of actions which took place in an Establishment Territory, the Secretary-General shall refer it to the relevant Establishment for comment before it is considered by the Honours and Awards Committee. The Honours and Awards Committee shall only consider that nomination if it is supported by the relevant Establishment.

## 5 Supporting information and documents

Nominations for award of the Sovereign's Medal of Merit shall contain the following information:

- (a) the full name and country of residence of a nominee who is an individual; or the full name, address and place of incorporation (if relevant) of a nominee which is a corporate body, partnership or similar entity;
- (b) details of the actions and achievements of the nominee which support the nomination;
- (c) details of any connection which the nominee has with the Order or any of its Establishments.

## 6 Diploma

A Diploma is awarded with each Sovereign's Medal of Merit and bears the personal signature of the Sovereign Head. The Diploma describes the actions and achievements of the recipient which led to the award of the Sovereign's Medal of Merit. The Diploma shall be issued under the seal of the Order.

## 7 Design of Sovereign's Medal of Merit

- (1) The Sovereign's Medal of Merit is a medallion 50mm in diameter and struck in silver. The Obverse bears the badge of the Order, surrounded by the words "THE MOST VENERABLE ORDER OF THE HOSPITAL OF ST JOHN OF JERUSALEM". The reverse bears the Seal of the Order, surrounded by the words "THE SOVEREIGN'S MEDAL OF MERIT OF THE ORDER OF ST JOHN".
- (2) Upon issue, each Sovereign's Medal of Merit shall be engraved upon the rim with the name of the recipient and the year in which the award was made.

Illustration of the Sovereign's Medal of Merit

