



# **THE RSL IS NO PLACE FOR FRAUDS**

## **MEDAL COMPLIANCE**

### **MEDALS**

Military service to your country is a proud achievement. The Australian Government awards medals and honours to signify service and contribution to the nation. Most people wear medals appropriately, knowing that they have earned them. A minority embellish their service with lies and trinket medals, thinking it will earn them respect. It does not; it diminishes the worth of their real awards. In some cases individuals who have little or no military service infiltrate ex-service organisations with false claims. These frauds are not welcome in the RSL.

### **WEARING MEDALS**

When the situation is appropriate, medals awarded to you are worn on your left breast. These include medals issued by the Australian Government and foreign awards authorised by the Governor-General for wearing. They should be worn in the correct order of precedence and not include unauthorised medals.

Medals issued to another person, which you wear in commemoration of their service, and approved state and territory government issued awards, may be worn on your right breast.

### **UNOFFICIAL MEDALS**

Purchased or unofficial commemorative medals, known as *tinnies*, must not be included with approved medals and not worn on your left breast at public ceremonial or commemorative events.

This also applies to unofficial medals issued by organisations and non-approved foreign medals.

A small number of society and organisation issued medals are approved.

Examples of purchased, unofficial medals include:

Regular Forces Medal

Citizens Military Forces Medal

Commemorative Peace Medal

Active Service Medal

Conscripted Service Medal

General Service Cross

Atomic Test Medal

Volunteer Service Medal

Vietnam Veterans Medal

**RSL members with unauthorised and non-compliant medals or clasps in their awarded medal group must remove them from the group.**

### **BADGES**

Defence issued badges including the Returned from Active Service Badge, Infantry Combat Badge, Army Combat Badge, Army Individual Readiness Notification Badge, ADF Commendation Badges, Instructor Badges and Unit Citations are worn only by the person entitled to wear them and only when appropriate. Some may only be worn whilst serving and only on ceremonial uniform. Relatives should not wear them.

### **FALSE CLAIMS**

If you have given false written and/or verbal statements about your military service you should advise your Sub-Branch committee of the false claims so that records can be corrected. This may be embarrassing but is preferable to being found guilty of a federal offence and fined, or being exposed in the media.

### **OFFENCES**

It is a federal offence to falsely represent as, or impersonate, a member of the ADF or to falsely wear medals. It is also immoral and an insult to serving and ex-service personnel to misrepresent service. It is not an offence to wear uniforms or medals as part of a dramatic portrayal, such as a film or play, or artistic representation.

### **INFORMATION**

[www.pmc.gov.au/government/its-honour](http://www.pmc.gov.au/government/its-honour)

[www.defence.gov.au/medals](http://www.defence.gov.au/medals)