



## 2021 ADELAIDE ANZAC DAY COMMEMORATIVE MARCH - STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLES

This year Anzac Day commemorations are affected by Covid-19 regulations regarding distancing, gathering sizes, contact tracing and hygiene. This statement applies in accordance with Covid-19 regulations as of 01/04/21 and is subject to state government and Anzac Day Committee changes at short notice.

The Adelaide Anzac Day Commemorative March is a solemn commemoration of the sacrifice of the nearly 103,000 Australian service personnel who have lost their lives in the service of the nation, and is akin to a procession of soldiers to the graveside following a funeral service. The Dawn Service represents the funeral, and the Service of Remembrance at the Cross of Sacrifice that follows the March represents the gathering at the graveside of those that have made the ultimate sacrifice. The Commemorative March is not a "parade", and does not prioritise recognition of the living.

The RSL (SA) State Board entrusts the Anzac Day Committee to be a vigilant custodian of Anzac Day traditions in the City of Adelaide. The Committee maintains and, where appropriate, modifies, the long-established traditions of Anzac Day as it plans and conducts Anzac Day events each year. Anzac Day Marches throughout Australia are organised by different organisations, and not all are guided by similar principles.

As the Anzac Day March is a uniquely Australian and New Zealand commemoration, all serving and former Australian and New Zealand service personnel who have seen warlike or non-warlike operational service are *entitled* to march. Other serving and former Australian and New Zealand service personnel are *authorised* to participate in the March.

In a spirit of comradeship, and as a matter of long-standing Anzac Day tradition, those members and former members of foreign armed forces who have *personally served alongside Australian forces in a conflict* as allies, as members of a coalition that included Australia, or on peacekeeping operations to which Australia has contributed, are *invited* to participate in the March. Serving or former members of foreign armed forces who have not *personally served* alongside Australian forces as allies, part of a coalition that included Australia, or on a peacekeeping operation that Australia has contributed to are *not authorised* to march.

Where a marcher is frail and needs assistance to participate, one or two carers may accompany the marcher according to need.

Traditionally the descendants of deceased veterans who were eligible to march have been permitted to participate in the March within dedicated groups at the rear of the March. It has **not** been possible to include these groups in the March this year as all assembly areas are required by current and former Australian service personnel and allied personnel due to the physical distancing required by Covid-19 regulations.

The March is organised chronologically, by warlike or non-warlike operational service, conflict, service and where applicable, the seniority of various parts of each service. There are some minor exceptions at the head of the March, based on tradition. There are several additional principles:

- All marchers should be dressed in an appropriate manner; jacket and tie for men, equivalent for women (some serving Australian personnel are required to march in uniform)
- Serving and former Australian service personnel who have seen warlike or non-warlike operational service march ahead of serving or former members of Australian forces who have not seen such service; and
- Contact tracing information will be required from all Marchers.

The general public are not encouraged to attend as spectators in 2021. Immediate family of Marchers, and veterans, ex-service members and allied personnel who are not marching are welcome to attend as spectators, but must maintain physical distancing. Thank you for your cooperation and understanding.