



VIETNAM VETERANS ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA SOUTH AUSTRALIA BRANCH INCORPORATED

Administrative Instruction 38/2011

Associate and Second Membership

Introduction

1. The National Constitution defines the criteria for Ordinary membership of the Association and members should be assigned ordinary status whenever the criterion applies. However, there are some circumstances where the constitution allows for other types of membership, which require separate administrative arrangements.
2. The aim of this AI is to identify those circumstances when other membership categories are acceptable and to explain the special administrative arrangements required.

Detail

Associate Members

3. Associate members are generally non Vietnam veterans and/or their family members who are interested in contributing to the Association and the welfare work that is done. Some of these members have been honored with Honorary Life Membership because of their contribution.
4. VVAA sub-branches have the right to accept or reject applications for persons to join as associate members and generally the acceptance of an application will depend on the anticipated contribution of the applicant. The associate becomes a member of the VVAA and is entitled to wear the lapel badge. Furthermore, as a member of the VVAA, the Association has legal and insurance responsibilities regarding the member's activities.
5. Specific restrictions apply to associate members and because of these restrictions no capitation payments are made. The membership payment will be same as that of an ordinary member of \$27 per membership year. The restrictions that specifically apply to associate members are:
 - They cannot vote on VVAA policy nor be elected to the State Committee; however, they can serve on sub-branch committees.
 - That the number of associate members may not exceed 25% of any committee
 - That an associate member cannot be a President of a sub-branch nor can the member represent the sub-branch as a delegate.
 - That the sub-branch has the sole right to either accept or reject Associate membership without the associate member having any recourse to the VVAA grievance procedure.

Second Member

6. Second membership applies to Vietnam veterans who wish to retain ordinary membership of one sub-branch whilst also being involved in the activities of another or more sub-branches. An ordinary member of a sub-branch is automatically barred from holding ordinary membership of another sub-branch to prevent branch stacking and or artificially altering the voting on any particular issue. To overcome this difficulty, the category of second membership was approved subject to the membership restrictions as applicable to associate members as at para 5.

Authority

State Council Meeting: 20th Feb. 2011

**CONSTITUTION OF THE
VIETNAM VETERANS ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA
NATIONAL COUNCIL INCORPORATED**

13. ORDINARY MEMBERSHIP:

- a. The following persons are eligible to be admitted as Ordinary members of the Association:
- (1) Any person who served in South Vietnam between the 23rd May 1962 and the 29th April 1975 (both dates inclusive) in any of the following capacities:
 - (a) As a member of the Royal Australian Navy, the Australian Army or the Royal Australian Air Force:
 - (b) As a member of HMA Ships Vendetta and Quickmatch on the visit to Vietnam in January 1962.
 - (c) As a civilian accredited with one of the Australian Defence Forces, or who was granted Special Service status for the Vietnam conflict:
 - (d) As member of the New Zealand, the United States of America, South Vietnam, South Korea, Thailand or the Philippines Military Forces:
 - (e) As a civilian accredited with one of the Military Forces of New Zealand, South Korea, Thailand or the Philippines, or who was granted a form of 'Special Service' status for the Vietnam Conflict by his or her Government.
 - (f) Any person included on the Vietnam Veterans Nominal Roll and not previously mentioned.
 - (2) Dependants of persons listed in sub-clauses (1)(a) to (1)(d) above and;
 - (3) Descendants of persons listed in sub-clauses (1)(a) to (1)(d) above.
 - (b) For the purposes of this clause service in South Vietnam shall include members of the forces, who were land based in South Vietnam, or who, while on board Naval or merchant vessels, operated in waters about the coastline of Vietnam or berthed or anchored in ports of South Vietnam,
 - (c) Notwithstanding the foregoing; recommendations to State Bodies contained in this clause₁ the Association may admit to membership any other person who served in, or was accredited to the Military Forces of Australia, New Zealand, The United States of America, South Vietnam, South Korea, Thailand or the Philippines who operated in South East Asia during the period of hostilities in that area, but who does not come within the definition of this clause as expressed in sub-clause (a), his dependants and his descendants.
 - (d) All ordinary members shall be of equal status within the Association without regard to service rank or title.
 - (e) The number of Ordinary members shall be unlimited.
 - (f) The Association will consider individual case applications on their merit