

THE BRIGADE DRESS CODE

Introduction

1. The Brigade's uniform has changed considerably over the years reflecting the passage of time and the types of activity undertaken. It has evolved from a service dress style uniform, through a less formal shirt and trousers ensemble for men and boys and dresses or blouses and skirts or trousers for ladies and girls, to a casual sweatshirt. The three styles of uniform are still worn although the officers' alternative uniform, which is expensive and only suitable for formal occasions, is seen less frequently.
2. The style of uniform worn within a company is the prerogative of the Officer in Command. Companies within a formation may adopt different styles of uniform and it is acceptable for companies to wear different styles of uniform when on parade together. Within a company different sections may wear different styles of uniform but within sections the same style of uniform should be worn unless there are extenuating circumstances.
3. All the uniform items are available from National Headquarters and companies and formations are encouraged to purchase their uniforms from Headquarters. For companies wishing to customise sweatshirts or polo shirts there is a responsive service.

Rank Insignia, Badges and Awards

4. Badges of rank and insignia are described in this dress code. The qualifications for each rank are given in "Formation Appointments and Responsibilities".
5. Where badges are awarded as part of a section programme the qualifications for the award of the badges is in the programme material and no further reference is made to them in this code. But for all other badges guidelines for their award are contained in this code.

General

6. Section colours are Green for the Senior Corps, Red for the JTC, Blue for the Y Team and Yellow for the Martins. Where sections wear the dress uniform they will wear appropriately coloured shoulder flashes, one on each shoulder flap, and ties the tips of which should touch the top of the belt. Where girls wear the white sling the tie should be underneath.
7. Long hair must be properly groomed. It may be worn up, tied at the back of the head or plaited. If ribbon is used it should be dark blue. Brightly coloured slides or clips should not be worn
8. Band members may wear dress cords, white cotton gloves and a white plastic belt when parading with the band. Dress cords must be the same pattern throughout the band.
9. Lanyards may be worn over the left shoulder to denote membership of sections or squads. Only one lanyard may be worn at a time.

Polo Shirts

10. Brigade polo shirts carrying the appropriate logo or the Brigade Crest may be worn as an alternative in warm weather to the sweatshirt.

Ladies and Girls Hosiery

11. It will be customary for ladies to wear black stockings or tights with their uniforms. Young girls should wear either black stockings or tights or white knee length or ankle socks depending on their size and maturity.

Ladies Trousers

12. Ladies and girls may wear trousers with all patterns of uniform. The trousers will not normally be embellished with a red welt. However female members of bands may exceptionally wear trousers with a red welt.

Gorgets

13. Commanding Officers, Staff Officers of National Headquarters and Regiments will wear gorget patches of dark green cloth having down the middle a line of red silk gimp with a gorget button at the point.
14. National Band members will wear gorget patches of maroon cloth having down the middle a line of gold silk gimp for the duration of their membership after their induction period.
15. National Choir members will wear gorget patches of light blue cloth having down the middle a line of red silk gimp for the duration of their membership after their induction period.

Head-dress

16. Appropriate head-dress will be worn with the dress and officers' alternate uniforms. When wearing head-dress compliments will be made to officers. Head-dress other than Brigade baseball caps should not be worn with the casual uniform and compliments should not be made.
17. When appearing with the National Band men and lads will wear red cap covers.

Brigade Medals

18. Brigade medals will be worn centrally above the right breast pocket or in a similar position if there is no pocket in the following order starting from the right shoulder:

The Brigade Cross
The Officers' Service Medal
The Service Medal
The Senior Corps Attendance Medal
The JTC Silver Medal

Review Medals

19. **The Brigade Cross**

This is the highest award in the Brigade made in recognition of exceptional service to the wider Brigade. Bronze Cross, Dark Red ribbon.

20. **The Officers' Service Medal**

Awarded for quality of service within a company or battalion normally not less than 15 years. Silver coloured Cross, Light Blue ribbon.

21. **The Service Medal**

The Service Medal is awarded to all ranks for periods of 5 years consecutive membership. Bronze medals are awarded for 5 and 10 years, Silver for 15 and 20 years and Gold for 25 and 30 years. For every 5 years after the award of the 30 year medal a Tudor Rose may be added to be worn in a horizontal line above the medal. Service may begin from the fifth birthday. Red, Yellow and Blue ribbon.

22. **The Senior Corps Attendance Medal**

Awarded to members of the Senior Corps for exemplary attendance over a Brigade Session. For succeeding exemplary attendance in further years a Tudor Rose may be added to be worn in a horizontal line above the medal for each year of exemplary attendance up to a maximum of five. Bronze coloured Cross, Red, Yellow and Blue ribbon.

In the past very strict guidelines were laid down for the award of the Attendance Medal reflecting a rather different lifestyle than obtains today. Accepting that there will be instances where members of the Senior Corps cannot attend events because of other commitments the award of the Medal should be based upon an individual's overall commitment to the Brigade and his or her performance rather than attendance at specific events. Companies are still at liberty to lay down minimum requirements, such as attendance at weekly parades and Church services, but should ensure that due consideration is given to the quality of attendance as well as the quantity.

Officers in Command should consult with the Company Chaplain and young members of the Company to decide upon the criteria to be adopted in their own Company for the award of the Attendance Medal.

23. **The JTC Silver Medal**

The Medal is awarded to the best JTC member in a company judged on his or her overall performance throughout the Brigade Session. Should the same member be awarded the Medal a second time a second Medal will not be issued. The Medal may continue to be worn when the member moves up to the Senior Corps until the rank of warrant officer or officer is attained when it will cease to be worn. Silver coloured with Red Cross, Green ribbon.

Brigade Awards

24. Gallant Conduct, Fortitude and Christian Service Awards

The Gallant Conduct Award is made to any member who makes a deliberate and brave attempt to save the life of another person.

The Fortitude Award is made to any member of the Brigade who has demonstrated tenacity and personal courage over a long period of adversity.

The Christian Service Award is made to any member who over a lengthy period has given outstanding service to the work of the Church and others.

These Awards are in the form of a star shaped gold wire badge with the designation of the Award embroidered in the centre.

They are worn above the right breast pocket or similar position if there is no breast pocket above any medals if worn and to the right of the Merit Award and Duke of Edinburgh's Award badges.

25. Attendance Awards

For the Martins, Y Team and JTC there is a common theme based on cloth badges which are awarded on the basis of one for each session up to a maximum of three. They are worn on the upper left arm above the activity badges. The badges are identical in design being a Blue star on a Yellow background for the Martins, a Yellow star on a Blue background for the Y Team and a Red star on a Blue background for the JTC.

In common with the guidelines laid down for the Senior Corps there are no hard and fast prescribed norms for these Attendance Awards. The individual's own commitment and performance should be the arbiter of the decision to make an award not the enthusiasm of the member's parents especially in the case of the younger members.

Officers in Command should consult with the Company Chaplain and the younger members of the Company to decide upon the criteria to be adopted in their own Company for the award of the Attendance Stars.

26. Merit Badges

Merit Badges are awarded to officers and warrant officers and members of the Senior Corps, JTC and Y Team in recognition of their achievements in the sections they have recently graduated from. There are three levels of Award. Only one level is to be worn above the right breast pocket or in a similar position if there is no pocket and immediately above any medals.

The Martins Award Badge is awarded to Martins members for wear in the Y Team on completion of their membership of the Martins. Recipients should have been regular attendees and completed the badge scheme.

The Bronze Award is made to Y team members for wear in the JTC on completion of their membership of the Y Team. Recipients should have been regular attendees and completed the badge scheme.

The Silver Award is made to JTC members for wear in the Senior Corps on completion of their membership of the JTC. Recipients should have been regular attendees and completed the JTC Award scheme at an appropriate level.

The Gold Award is made to members of the Senior Corps for wear as officers or warrant officers. Recipients should have been regular attendees for at least two years.

27. Young Leaders' Badge

Young Leaders will wear a Green cloth Star on the right upper arm to denote participation in the training programme. Where a band badge is worn the star will be immediately below it and above any rank chevrons.

28. Band Badges

Band members may wear Drum, Bugle or Lyre Badges on the right upper arm. Gold Badges will replace Silver Badges.

29. First Aid Badges

The Brigade First Aid Badge, a circular enamel badge with a Green Cross on a White background, may be worn 160mm from the bottom of the left sleeve provided the member has a current certificate provided by an authorised body.

Saint John Ambulance and British Red Cross Badges may also be worn. Only one First Aid badge will be worn.

30. Duke of Edinburgh's Award

The enamel badge may be worn above the right breast pocket or in a similar position if there is no pocket, immediately above medals if worn, and to the left of any Brigade Merit Award.

31. For Service Badge

Awarded to helpers in recognition of a minimum of ten years' service to the Brigade.

32. Other Nationally Recognised Awards or Badges

Decorations and awards such as the MBE and Mothers' Union badges may be worn immediately above the left hand breast pocket.

Badges of Rank

33. Badges of rank are not worn by the Martins or the Y Team. For companies that have adopted the casual uniform and wish to recognise rank there is currently no provision for officers but a trial batch of NCOs' chevrons mounted in a small circular badge for wear directly beneath the Brigade Crest on the left breast of the sweatshirt is available. The following insignia are applicable to the dress uniform and officers' alternate uniforms:

JTC Lance Corporal	1 chevron worn on the right upper arm
JTC Corporal	2 chevrons worn on the right upper arm
Lance Corporal	1 chevron worn on both upper arms
Corporal	2 chevrons worn on both upper arms
Sergeant	3 chevrons worn on both upper arms
Warrant Officer	Woven crown on both forearms
Company Warrant Officer	Woven crown below red strip on both forearms
Battalion Warrant Officer	Woven crown in wreath on both forearms
Regimental Warrant Officer	Embroidered Brigade Arms on both forearms
Second Lieutenant	1 star on each shoulder flap
Lieutenant	2 stars on each shoulder flap
Captain	3 stars on each shoulder flap
Major	1 crown on each shoulder flap
Lieutenant Colonel	1 crown above a star on each shoulder flap
Colonel	1 crown above 2 stars on each shoulder flap

34. **Retired Officers**

On retirement officers may continue to wear uniform. When wearing the formal or informal uniform retired officers will wear a retirement badge immediately below the rank insignia on the shoulder flap.

35. **Registered Helpers**

Helpers who are registered with NHQ may wear uniform consisting of shirt, trousers/skirt, navy tie, belt, peaked cap/tricorn hat with badge. They are not entitled to wear Officers flashes, rank insignia, plumes or dress cords.