



# **Guidelines Kit for Prospective Members (Nominees)**

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## **ELIGIBILITY**

1. The prospective member (Nominee) is someone who has served in either the Australian Defence Forces or a Commonwealth Defence Force, or is a person who wants to support the Sub Branch. The person must be an Australian Citizen.
2. A Service Member Nominee will be under probation for a minimum period of 6 months and Sierra Squad Members will be under probation for a minimum period of 3 months before the Sub Branch Executive reviews his/her performance and calls a general meeting to either grant or deny membership status as either a Service Member or Sierra Squad Member. A vote of all Service Members is taken before a Nominee is admitted to the Sub Branch.

## **RESPONSIBILITIES**

3. Nominees are to attend as many Sub Branch functions as possible and be the first to arrive and last to leave where possible. This is to ensure that they:
  - a. meet and interact with all members of the Sub Branch; and
  - b. build a bond with all Sub Branch members.
4. Nominees will need to demonstrate their commitment and dedication to the development of the Sub Branch.
5. All Nominees have a responsibility to the Sub Branch and include:
  - a. Abiding by the Constitution and rules of the Military Brotherhood MMC Inc.;
  - b. Understanding the protocols at the Military Brotherhood MMC Inc. and other motorcycle Chapters;
  - c. Showing full support to the Sub Branch;
  - d. The understanding for the Do's and Don'ts of the Military Brotherhood MMC Inc., 1% Chapters and other Social Clubs;

- e. Getting to know all full members and confirmed supporters;
  - f. Showing respect at all times to all members and supporters of the Sub Branch;
  - g. Showing commitment to the Sub Branch through attendance and helping out in all Sub Branch events;
  - h. All Nominees for Service Membership must either:
    - 1) own a current registered motorcycle, 600 cc; or
    - 2) hold a current motorcycle licence; and
    - 3) A Service Member not owning a motorcycle shall remain within the Sierra Squad until a motorcycle is acquired.
  - i. If it is the first time the Nominee has ridden with a Sub Branch he/she is to inform the Road Captain or a Service Member and let them know of his/her lack of experience within a pack; and
  - j. Ensuring that the order of ride and formation is adhere to at all times.
6. The Sierra Squad Leader will be responsible to educate all Nominees in the Club SOPs and protocols, and protocols of other motorcycle clubs.

### **VOTING RIGHTS / SUB BRANCH POSITIONS**

7. Nominees have no voting rights and can not hold a position within the Sub Branch whilst on probation.

### **ANNUAL FEES**

8. Nominees on confirmation are to pay the prescribed application fee of \$150.00 as a Service Member, or \$50 as a Sierra Squad Member (not applicable to Service Members partners). Each Service Member and Sierra Squad Member are also obliged to pay the \$10 per month fee towards the Sub Branch Building Fund (not applicable to Service Members partners).

### **BREAST PATCH**

9. All nominees are to wear the Military Brotherhood MMC Sierra Squad breast patch on their vest. Once Service Member nominees have completed their probation period, and have been voted in as a Service Member, they are to hand back their Sierra Squad Member breast patch and have it replace with a Service Member breast patch, unless the provisions of sub section 5(h) apply.

### **BREACH OF RULES**

10. Nominees in breach of the rules of the Sub Branch, or who bring the Sub Branch into disrepute, or subject the Sub Branch or its members to outside criticism, will have to answer to the Sub Branch Executive and membership and may have their probation terminated. Personal differences between Nominees are to be resolved privately, or brought to the attention of the Squad Leader.

**MEDIA / PUBLIC RELATIONS (PR)**

11. The only authorized members to speak to the Media on public relations matters is a member of the Sub Branch Executive, or a nominated fully patched Service Member who has been so authorized by the Sub Branch Executive.

**DRESS CODE**

12. The required Dress Code for all Nominees is as per SOP 3 – CSODs and as follows:

a. General

- (1) Vest;
- (2) Jeans - Blue, Black or Cams;
- (3) Closed leather footwear.

b. Parades / Funerals

- (1) Vest with ribbons or medals;
- (2) Jeans Blue or Black ;
- (3) Closed leather footwear.

13. The following items of dress are not to be worn with a vest:

- a. Shorts, thongs or sandals or similar types of footwear;
- b. When riding a motorbike - in shorts, thongs or sandals or similar types of footwear;
- c. *Note!! Whilst in a motorcar - your vest must not be worn.*

**REMINDERS**

14. **No Bike No Vest.** Nominees are only to wear their vest while riding or as a pillion passenger on a motorcycle. The designated motor vehicle driver on a Sub Branch run may bring his or her vest.

15. All Nominees are responsible to secure their Vest.

**NOMINEE CHECKLIST**

This checklist is to remind all Nominees how they should conduct themselves during their 6 month probation period.

Rule 1	<b>COMMITMENT</b>	Show commitment to the Sub Branch by attending the designated club house and scheduled events as much as possible. These attendances count when the Executive meets at the end of your 6 month probation and votes on your conduct over that time.
Rule 2	<b>MATESHIP</b>	Ensure you greet all members with a handshake. Make a point of being seen, by moving around and greeting everyone. Try not to miss anyone. Take the time to talk to all members. This effort on your part counts towards getting to know you, while you are getting to know the membership. The same when you leave – shake hands with all to let them know you are leaving.
Rule 3	<b>KNOWLEDGE</b>	Make every effort to talk with members and question them about various aspects of the Sub Branch, how it operates, how other Sub Branchs operate, and what to be wary of. Do not hesitate to ask the smallest question. You will learn much quicker by talking with everyone, not just the usual couple of friendly guys. Be prepared for some hard words at times. But balance these comments against other comments.
Rule 4	<b>ATTITUDE</b>	Never make the mistake of being larger than you are. Many members have done things that are bigger than you. You will get to know these when you get to know each member. DO NOT think just because you get on with someone, you will be voted in. The vote is 100% of the membership, and you might be surprised who votes against you. Keep your attitude to yourself, and enjoy the company of new people. GET TO KNOW THEM AND THEY WILL GET TO KNOW YOU!
Rule 5	<b>RESPECT</b>	Ensure you maintain respect for those who are due it. As a Nominee, that means respect everyone in the Sub Branch. Play safe, and get to know everyone first before you shoot your mouth off. All Service Members have Defence service. If you are a Nominee applying for Service Membership, respect will help you through. If you are a Nominee to be a Sierra Squad Member, respect will get you most of the way. Remember, you have nothing to prove to anyone, except that you want to be a member of the Sub Branch.
Rule 6	<b>FAMILIARITY</b>	Get familiar with what the Sub Branch stands for, where it wants to go, and how you can help improve

## Military Brotherhood MMC Inc

		it. Nothing is set in concrete. Every member is a valued member. We all listen to each other, and so far it has worked great. Become familiar with our Constitution and SOPs. Find out who does what in the Sub Branch.
Rule 7	<b>ORIENTATION</b>	We are a family orientated Sub Branch. We like women and children joining our runs and overnighter events. We enjoy other Sub Branchs joining our runs. We follow the same policies as the Defence Department. We are open to having females as Service Members and Sierra Squad Members. Our orientation is aimed at being sociable. We are a military Sub Branch. We do respect the rights of 1% Sub Branchs.
Rule 8	<b>DEDICATION</b>	<p>We are dedicated to a 'brotherhood' of military and ex-military members and valued supporters. As such our four (4) main Stone Runs (compulsory runs) each year are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ANZAC DAY (April),</li> <li>• UN DAY Commemoration Service (October), and</li> <li>• Sub Branch AGM (Dec).</li> <li>• All Sub Branchs muster every two years.</li> </ul> <p>If you miss one of these, start having a second thought about why you want to join us. As a Sub Branch, our one big chance at giving something back to the community is our UN DAY COMMEMORATION SERVICE. We invented this, and a lot of external organisations now support us. We conduct this service!!! This belongs to us. No other MMC Sub Branch or other Sub Branch in Australia conducts this service.</p>
Rule 9	<b>PRIDE</b>	No, not one of the seven deadly sins, but part of the attitude we need you to adopt – pride in your Sub Branch, the colours and the MB patch. Get to know what the colours represent, and where the design for the breast patch came from. When you become fully patched up, show your pride by wearing your vest everywhere you ride. You will be amazed at what the general public think when you explain the Sub Branch to them. Be mindful that your vest is our colours. If they start to look tacky, be prepared for some harsh words from the membership.
Rule 10	<b>DONT FORGET THE OTHER NINE RULES</b>	