



Military Brotherhood MMC

SOP 26 – 24 Mar 16

Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) 26

CLUB MEMBERS NOT BEING PART OF A SUB BRANCH

General

1. The Club has recognised the need for latitude regarding membership, where existing and potential members are outside the Area of Responsibilities (AOR) of an existing Sub Branch.
2. The Club understands the various conditions which apply to currently serving and ex-service Defence members who are in locations where a Sub Branch does not exist. The Club also recognises the need for a Service Member who wishes to raise a new Sub Branch while in their location.
3. The Club also recognises that members without service (Sierra Squad) may want to contribute to the Club and exist outside of a Sub Branch AOR, but be available to assist ex-Defence members and Veterans to start a Sub Branch.
4. The following conditions are applicable to Club members (and their partners) and includes:
 - a. Serving Defence members who are already Club Service Members and who may find themselves posted out of their Sub Branch to locations which are over 50 kilometres away from other existing Sub Branches;
 - b. Current or Ex-service members who have moved from their previous location and who are over 50 kilometres from an existing Sub Branch and wish to eventually start a Sub Branch;
 - c. Current or Ex-service members who have newly joined the Club and who are over 50 kilometres from an existing Sub Branch and wish to eventually start a Sub Branch;
 - d. New Sierra Squad members who are committed to helping to start a Sub Branch in their location; and
 - e. All members – either Service Members or Sierra Squad Members - of the Club who are not members of a Sub Branch are required to report their circumstances each month to NATHQ as do all Sub Branches (*Club SOP 7 Sub Branch Monthly SITREP- Amended 10 Dec 15*).

Posted Defence Members

5. A Service Member who is – due to Defence service - posted out of a location which contained a Sub Branch - shall revert to UNDER ADMINISTRATIVE COMMAND of NATHQ if their previous Sub Branch is located 50 kilometres outside their posted locale. However, that Service Member will continue to be supported by the Club Executive, working together with his/her previous Sub Branch until that Service Member is confident he/she can continue to support the Club.

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Ex-Defence Members

6. An ex-Defence member who elects to join the Club but is not within 50 kilometres of an existing Sub Branch may do so through the National Headquarters Sub Branch and will be UNDER ADMINISTRATIVE COMMAND to the National Headquarters Sub Branch until a Sub Branch is raised in his/her location.

7. The Club recognises the need of current and ex-service members who wish to join the Club or remain as a Service Member but may not be in a location to belong to an existing Sub Branch.

Applying to become a Service Member without a Sub Branch

8. Any ex-Defence member who wishes to join the Club and has been advised of a Sub Branch but that Sub Branch is over 50 kilometers of his/her location, can operate as a Service Member within his/her location but UNDER ADMIN COMMAND of NATHQ.

9. Any current Service Member who is posted to a location away from his/her previous Sub Branch, and his/her new location is more than 50 kilometres from any other Club Sub Branch, may operate as a Service Member within his/her location but UNDER ADMIN COMMAND of NATHQ.

Applying to become a Sierra Squad Member without a Sub Branch

10. Any member without service who wishes to join the Club and has been advised of a Sub Branch but that Sub Branch is over 50 kilometers of his/her location, can operate as a Sierra Squad Member within his/her location but UNDER ADMIN COMMAND of NATHQ.

11. Any current Sierra Squad Member who moves to a location away from his/her previous Sub Branch, and his/her new location is more than 50 kilometres from any other Club Sub Branch, may operate as a Sierra Squad Member within his/her location but UNDER ADMIN COMMAND of NATHQ.

Service Members who are not part of a Sub Branch but who have an issue

12. Any Service Member not being a member of a Sub Branch must advise NATHQ of any issue which they may have, either through the Monthly SITREP or direct to the Club Secretary.

Wearing of Full Member Regalia

13. The Club Executive may authorise a new Service or Sierra Squad Member not belonging to a Sub Branch the right to wear the full Club regalia during his/her first three months (3) or six (6) months probation period.

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NATHQ Responsibility

14. NATHQ has responsibility for all Service and Sierra Squad Members who do not belong to a Sub Branch as a Sub Branch member.

15. All correspondence regarding a Sierra Squad or Service Member UNDER ADMIN COMMAND of NATHQ must be directed to NATHQ in the first instance.

Authors Note: The MBMMC is the first and continuing Club to raise the concept of “Lone Riders”, to recognise that not all current serving, ex-Defence and Veterans are equal in circumstances. To date, eight out of ten of our Sub Branches have been raised by ‘Lone Riders’ who showed determination and commitment.

Task is Ours.