

Introduced February 2007

TASMANIA VOLUNTEER FIRE-FIGHTER AWARDS FRAMEWORK (TVFFAF)

CONDITIONS & RULES

As amended Sept 2010 Removal of reference to “Tassie Devil Award”



TFS YOUTH AWARD

For further information please contact

TVFFAF State Co-ordinator

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Should an area of misunderstanding re rules etc be encountered reference should be made to the Rules & Conditions of the TFS Volunteer Medal & TFS Volunteer Award. If not covered in that document please seek clarification from the Awards Management Committee representative from either Volunteer Fire Brigades Association.

TVRFA - Bruce Corbett

TVFBA - Don Mackrill

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TFS Youth Award - Conditions & Regulations 2007

PREFACE:

Towards the end of 2005 the TVFFAF Management Committee, considered it appropriate to introduce a TFS Junior Award that they consider will assist in the retention of Junior/Cadet Members into the ranks of a senior fire brigade.

Considerable effort and research was occurring within the Volunteer Associations along with the TFS Administration in an effort to retain volunteer firefighters. At that stage the statistics indicated that our retention figures were on a down would trend – that is we were losing minimally more than we were recruiting on an annual basis.

The TVFFAF Management Committee felt that an incentive and recognition should be offered to Junior/Cadet Members who had moved from a Junior/Cadet Member to that of a “senior” member (at the age of 17 years) by joining their brigade as a full member. To some degree the award should be seen as a graduation award after “:moving up”.

In early 2006, discussions were held with a senior TFS Officer (Mr Mike Brown AFSM) who supported the concept endorsed by the TVFFAF Management Committee. After these discussions, they moved towards the establishment of an appropriate badge recognising the achievement.

It is intended to have the award ready for the first nominations and presentation by the end of the calendar year 2007 (or before).

The award with the approval of the Tasmania Fire Service will be worn on the outer uniform garment above the right pocket as per the attached rules.

This award supplements the existing TFS Volunteer Medal and TFS Volunteer Award which commenced in 1999 and again is:-

“By the volunteers for the volunteers”.

TFS Youth Award - Conditions & Regulations 2007

1: TFS Youth Award:

1.1 TFS Youth Award.

As amended Sept 2010

The TFS Youth Award will be known as the “TFS Youth Award” and will consist of a metallic badge coloured with words:-

“Tasmania Fire Service” – “Youth Award” around the edge of the badge.

It may only be awarded to TFS Junior/Cadet Members who have served a period of a minimum of two (2) years and have then due to their age of 17 years, progressed to the ranks as a senior brigade member.

1.2: Descriptions:

The TFS Youth Award is shown in Appendix “A”. It is a metallic badge with a coloured centre of approximately 35mm diameter. It is fastened to the outer uniform garment by a clip or clutch pin.

In the centre of the badge is a coloured picture of a Tasmanian icon, the Tasmania Devil. The devil is clad in fire fighting clothing .

TFS Youth Award - Conditions & Regulations 2007

2: PROCEDURE:

2.1: TFS Youth Award – nomination procedure:

As amended Sept 2010

A TFS volunteer member may be nominated for this award by the Brigade Chief, Officers of the Brigade and/or the person(s) who is the co-ordinator of the Junior Brigade Members. The nomination form must be signed by the Brigade Chief and the Junior Members Coordinator, before being forwarded to the TVFFAF State Co-ordinator for approval.

The info submitted in the nomination should be supported by a printout of the personal information available on the TFS RMS. This will be obtained by the State Co-ordinator TVFFAF if the Brigade Chief is unable to do so, and/or a nomination arrives without this document.

This is required to substantiate the qualifying period both as a junior/cadet member.

The nomination period will be the same as that of the Volunteer Medal and Award (1st Nov to 1st March) other than the introductory year which will be from 1st May 2007 to 1st August 2007). The second nomination period will commence on 1st Nov 2007 and fall inline with the nomination period of the TFS Volunteer Medal & Award from that period.

The nomination form is as indicated in Appendix “B”

TFS Youth Award - Conditions & Regulations 2007

2.2: Service Criteria - for TFS Youth Award

Means a minimal period of two (2) years continuous service as a Junior/Cadet Member in the Tasmania Fire Service. This service may have accrued in more than one brigade; however it is acknowledged that in most cases this will occur as a member of one brigade.

Accrual of service will be from June 1996 (approx 10 years prior to the introduction of the TFS Youth Award). The commencement period (date) has been established similarly to that when the TFS Volunteer Medal & TFS Volunteer Award was introduced thus providing an opportunity for the establishment of that recognition.

It is acknowledged that in the introductory period of the TFS Youth Award, there may be recipient members who commenced their qualifying period(s) earlier than 1996. This will be acceptable but only for the first year of allocation 2007, unless approved by the State Co-ordinator in association with the TVFFAF Management Committee.

Service as a Junior/Cadet Brigade member in another State's fire authority is not considered applicable.

2.3: Member:

Means a Junior/Cadet Member, in the first instance, which is listed on a brigade's strength. Operational means a member of "volunteer" and/or "retained" fire brigades.

TFS Youth Award - Conditions & Regulations 2007

3: WEARING:

3.1: TFS Youth Award:

As amended Sept 2010

The TFS Youth Award will be worn on the outer uniform garment (normally “station wear”) of the TFS. The Award is not worn on PPE.

Members in receipt of the Award may if they so choose also wear the Award on civilian clothes.

If worn on civilian clothing it should be worn on the right side of the garment, on the collar area.

As amended Feb 2008 & Sept 2010

When worn on uniform, the location of the TFS Youth Award will be in the centre of the pocket centrefold of the right side shirt pocket. If a recipient, at a later date, receives the TFS Volunteer Medal, which is also worn on the right side (above the pocket), the TFS Youth Award should (when wearing both the Medal & Award), be worn below the base of the medal. If only wearing the TFS Volunteer Medal ribbon bar, the TFS Youth Award will still be worn in the centre of the pocket centrefold.

See annex “C”

TFS Youth Award - Conditions & Regulations 2007

4: ELIGIBILITY

4.1: Eligibility:

As amended Sept 2010

The TVFFAF Management Committee reserves the right to refuse to grant, revoke or prohibit a member wearing the TFS Youth Award, where the Management Committee is satisfied that such a member does not meet the criteria for the medal or award.

The Management Committee may, in exceptional circumstances, grant a TFS Youth Award where the eligibility criteria have not been fully met.

4.2: Serving members:

All serving members will be considered for the TFS Youth Award should they have completed the basic prerequisite of two (2) years service as a Junior/Cadet Member.

It is acknowledged that in the earlier years of this Award. It may be difficult to substantiate membership as a junior in some cases due to the recording of information in some brigades. On that basis the approval will be made via the State Co-ordinator and in consultation with TVFFAF Management Committee should it be deemed a requirement.

5: PROCEDURES

5.1: Nominations may be made as follows:

As amended Sept 2010

- by self nomination. (by individual)
- by Brigade or Group nomination.

All nominations must be made on the prescribed “nomination form” as annexed to these conditions & regulations and must be signed by the Brigade Chief and Junior Brigade Coordinator as “recommended”.

5.2: Dates for nomination:

Completed nomination forms must be forwarded to the TVFFAF State Co-ordinator by the 1st March annually. .

The nomination period will commence on 1st November annually and conclude on 1st March the following year.

Late nominations will be at the discretion of the State Co-ordinator. Email notification of a nomination arriving on the 1st March (or within the immediately following week) will be acceptable. Nominations arrival of the scheduled address after these dates will be held over till the following year.

5.3: State Co-ordinator TVFFAF (Awards Management Committee)

Will annually consider all nominations as submitted by nominees, and will make every attempt to have the “approved” nominations completed by 31st July annually and the recipient advised in writing.

The Award’s Management Committee will:- (via the State Co-ordinator)

- ◆ advise approved recipients in writing as soon as possible. At the same time the appropriate BC will be advised in writing.
- ◆ advised unsuccessful nominating parties of the reasons for the rejection, advising them also of the “Grievance Procedure”
- ◆ determine the place of presentation. (in conjunction with BC)
- ◆ maintain a nomination register for the TTF Youth Award.
- ◆ arrange for the Award to be inscribed with name and date of issue.

In addition to the above the Award's Management Committee (via the State Co-ordinator) will:-

- ◆ maintain appropriate financial records for the TFS Volunteer Award System
- ◆ maintain a stock of TFS Youth Awards, etc as required.
- ◆ make annual application to the Volunteer Associations for funding grants. (in the initial introductory year(s) it is envisaged that no additional funds will be required from the associations to facilitate this Award.
- ◆ facilitate all other management responsibilities for the TFS Youth Award
- ◆ maintain all records, minutes of meetings etc for the TFS Youth Award system.
- ◆ be the sole authority for the interpretation of these rules.

5.4 Awards Grievance Committee:

5.4.1: Aggrieved member:

- Should a member or nominating party, after receipt of advice from the Award's Management Committee wish to lodge a grievance against the decision, they must notify the Chair Person of the Award's Grievance Committee in writing, stating their grounds for such grievance. Details of contacts re grievance Committee are available from the State Co-ordinator. The committee members handling the TFS Volunteer Medal & TFS Volunteer Award will form membership of this Committee.
- On receipt of the grievance, the Chair Person will call a meeting to determine if the grievance is "upheld" or "turned down". The Grievance Committee will be the only step in this procedure with the member being able to address the Committee if either party requests.

5.4.2: Referral to Award's Management Committee:

- After completion of the meeting the Award's Grievance Committee will advise the Award's Management Committee of their decision in writing.
- The member or nominating party will inturn be advised of the decision by the State Co-ordinator (Award's Management Committee). In the case of a grievance being determined by the Award's Grievance Committee their decision will be final.

6: PRESENTATIONS:

6.1: Presentation of TFS Youth Award:

As amended Sept 2010

The presentation of the TFS Youth Award will be made by, the recipients Brigade Chief or another person nominated/agreed to by the Brigade Chief.

6.2: Dress for presentation:

It is considered appropriate that recipients of the TFS Youth Award should be dressed appropriately for the occasion, eg: wearing the appropriate TFS Uniform (station wear)

Other Brigade members present, at the presentation, should be wearing their honours and awards

For further information and/or discussion re “Conditions & Rules”
Please email State Co-ordinator on:

rove@tassie.net.au

or through:

State Coordinator TVFFAF
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