Royal Canadian Mounted Police
Veterans’ Association
Ottawa Division

ORDERS OF DRESS

Ratified by the National Board of Directors (BOD)
April 23, 2014
**RCMP VETERANS’ ASSOCIATION ORDERS OF DRESS**

This is the national policy regarding orders of dress of the Association. It is intended to provide clarity while encouraging both uniformity and inclusiveness. It further provides division-level discretion in specifying orders of dress commensurate with local circumstances.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Orders of Dress</th>
<th>Men</th>
<th>Women</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>No. 1. Duty and Parade Dress</strong></td>
<td>▪ blue blazer, with veterans’ crest and regimental brass buttons</td>
<td>▪ blue blazer, with veterans’ crest and regimental brass buttons</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>▪ grey trousers, with black leather belt</td>
<td>▪ grey slacks or skirt, medium length</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>▪ white shirt, with tie, traditional or tartan</td>
<td>▪ white shirt/blouse, with tie/scarf, traditional or tartan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>▪ black oxford-style leather shoes, with black socks</td>
<td>▪ black close-toed leather shoes, with neutral nylon stockings</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>▪ wedge cap</td>
<td>▪ wedge cap</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To be worn while conducting routine duties on behalf of the Association, and for RCMP parades and similar public events, e.g. Change of Command parades, Remembrance Day parades.</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>No. 2. Ceremonial Dress</strong></td>
<td>▪ red blazer, with veterans’ crest and regimental brass buttons</td>
<td>▪ red blazer, with veterans’ crest and regimental brass buttons</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>▪ dark blue trousers, with black leather belt</td>
<td>▪ dark blue slacks or skirt, medium length</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>▪ white shirt, with tie, traditional or tartan</td>
<td>▪ white shirt/blouse, with tie/scarf, traditional or tartan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>▪ black oxford-style leather shoes, with black socks</td>
<td>▪ black close-toed leather shoes, with neutral nylon stockings</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>▪ wedge cap</td>
<td>▪ wedge cap</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To be worn for ceremonial occasions sponsored by the RCMP, the Veterans’ Association, or at the request of other institutions/individuals, e.g. receptions, funerals and memorial services</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**No. 3. Formal Dress.** To be worn at RCMP or Veterans’ sponsored formal evening events, or similar events hosted by public/private groups, e.g. mess dinners, dining-in nights, formal civilian dinners/dances.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>red blazer, with veterans’ crest and regimental brass buttons</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>dark blue trousers, with black leather belt</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>white formal shirt, with bow tie, black or tartan</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>cummerbund, black or tartan</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>black oxford-style leather shoes, with black socks</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>red blazer, with veterans’ crest and regimental brass buttons</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>dark blue slacks or skirt, full length</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>white formal shirt/blouse, with tie/scarf, traditional or tartan</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>black formal leather shoes, with dark nylon stockings</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**NOTES:**

**General.**

- **This policy pertains to all members** of the RCMP Veterans’ Association.
- **The division executive or designate [protocol officer or sergeant at arms] may exercise discretion** in specifying the appropriate order of dress. For example, parade dress may be worn without headdress for routine meetings/gatherings; parade dress may be worn for funerals/services instead of ceremonial dress; and ceremonial dress may be worn without headdress at indoor funerals/services.

**Attire.**

- **Veterans’ Association members**, who left the Force in good standing as regular or special constable members, may wear the RCMP uniform on state and official occasions. See references below.
- **Veterans’ Association members** may wear appropriate civilian business or formal attire in lieu of, and consistent with, orders of dress described above.
- **The headdress of the Association is the 1901 pattern Field Service Cap** (wedge cap), dark blue with yellow piping, with Veterans’ Association metal cap badge. See references below.
- **Regimental ties**, in accordance with the RCMP Uniform & Dress Manual (UDM), include both the traditional blue/gold striped pattern and the RCMP tartan.
- **A plain dark blue overcoat**, ¾ length, is worn over Parade and Ceremonial Dress when part of a formed unit parading outdoors in inclement weather.
- **Chaplain’s attire** provides for the wearing of a clergy shirt with ‘roman collar’, in a colour consistent with the Chaplain’s denomination. Chaplains’ stoles, with RCMP or Veterans’ Association crest(s) affixed, may be procured from the RCMP through the master tailor at Central Stores in Ottawa.
Medals, Decorations and Insignia.

- **Medals.** Large medals are worn for parades, services and ceremonies and other daytime functions, centered on the left breast of the blazer, with the bottom of the medals .625 cm (¼”) above the top of the pocket line. Large Medals are worn on the left breast of the overcoat when worn over the blue/red blazer on parade. Miniature medals are worn after 18:00 hrs. for formal dinner/evening events on the left lapel of the blazer immediately below the buttonhole.

- **Authorized Orders & Decorations.** Information on authorized wearing of medals and the order of their precedence is outlined on the Governor General of Canada web site under Honours at [http://www.gg.ca/document.aspx?id=14979](http://www.gg.ca/document.aspx?id=14979). Information on Canadian National Honours, RCMP Long Service Awards and Foreign Orders, Decorations and Medals as they pertain to the RCMP are outlined in the Administration Manual, AM II.3, and the Uniform and Dress Manual, UDM 1.G.1 and G3, and UDM Appendices 1-1, 7-1. Medals or bars for provincial and/or territorial awards for valour, meritorious and long service may be worn by association members who have been officially presented with these awards by the granting province or territory (UDM Bulletin 167 refers).

- **Commendation Insignia.** The RCMP Commissioner’s, Commander’s, Canadian Force’s Commander in Chief, Vice-Regal and Territorial Commissioner’s commendation bar/insignia is worn centered and immediately below the bottom of large medals, and on the lapel immediately below the bottom of miniature medals.

- **Court-Mounting.** Two or more large or miniature medals may be court-mounted with scarlet red court-mounting cloth. For large medals, the total length from top to bottom is 9 cm (3 ½”). For miniature medals, the total length from top to bottom is 5 cm (2”).

- **Undress Ribbons.** Undress ribbons may be worn on the blazer centered and .625 cm (¼”) above the top of the pocket line.

- **Business and Formal Civilian Attire.** Veterans wearing business or formal civilian attire may wear medals. Occasions for wear include: state functions, RCMP funerals/services and parades, mess dinners and regimental balls, and other occasions as sanctioned by the association. Large medals are worn centered on the left breast of the jacket, with the bottom of the medals .625 cm (¼”) above the top of the pocket line. Miniature medals are worn on the left lapel of the jacket immediately below the buttonhole.

**Pins and Emblems.**

- **The President’s Medallion,** complete with scarlet & gold ribbon for the national president and governors, and blue & gold ribbon for division presidents, is worn around the neck and centered directly below the tie knot. The medallion, with ribbon, is worn during formal functions with large/miniature medals.
- **Veterans’ service pin, bar(s) and nametag** are worn on the right lapel of the blue/red blazer in Parade and Ceremonial orders of dress. The nametag is worn immediately above the veterans’ service pin and bar(s). When large/miniature medals are worn, the nametag, pin and bar(s) are removed.

- **The Mourning Ribbon**, adopted for use of the RCMP and Veterans’ Association, is the black and blue looped ribbon, held in place by a silver police badge emblazoned with a maple leaf. It is the official pin of the Police and Peace Officers’ Memorial Ribbon Society. The Society website is found at [http://memorialribbon.com/en/honour-roll/protocol-criteria.php](http://memorialribbon.com/en/honour-roll/protocol-criteria.php). It is worn while attending federal, provincial/territorial or municipal memorial parades and services honouring peace officers that have lost their lives on or in the line of duty. It may also be worn at a funeral/service of a serving or retired peace officer who has died other than on duty. It is worn on the left lapel between the buttonhole and the top of the breast pocket. When large/miniature medals are worn that overlap the left lapel, the pin is worn immediately above the medals on the lapel.

- **The Poppy** is worn while attending Remembrance Day parades and services. With headdress, the Poppy is worn immediately behind the cap badge. When headdress is not worn, the Poppy is worn on the left lapel between the buttonhole and the top of the breast pocket. When large/miniature medals are worn that overlap the left lapel, the poppy is worn immediately above the medals on the lapel.

- **The Maple Leaf Pin** may be worn during Canada Day celebrations on the left lapel between the buttonhole and the top of the breast pocket. When large/miniature medals are worn that overlap the left lapel, the pin is worn immediately above the medals on the lapel.

- **The Veterans’ Retirement Lapel Pin**, issued to or procured by Regular Members upon retirement, is worn on the left lapel between the buttonhole and the top of the breast pocket. When large/miniature medals are worn, the lapel pin is removed.

**REFERENCES:**

- **The RCMP Uniform.** Section 68 of the RCMP Regulations, effective 1988-06-30, permits the Commissioner to authorize regular members and special constable members, who retire or are medically discharged, to continue to wear the RCMP uniform on state and official occasions (UDM 1.K.1 refers). Section 68 is not retroactive, therefore regular and special constable members who retired before 1988-06-30 are not authorized to wear the uniform. Under the Commissioner’s delegation of authority to Commanding Officers, a regular or special constable member in good standing may be authorized to wear the appropriate RCMP uniform if he/she:
  - retired with a minimum of 20 years of RCMP service, or
  - discharged from the RCMP for medical reasons pursuant to Section 19 (a) of the RCMP Regulations and requests permission, or
  - under exceptional circumstances, retires in good standing with less than 20 years of RCMP service and requests permission, or
  - converts to a civilian member and meets the requirements.
- **Blue blazer.** The blue blazer was first approved for wear by the Association in 1933, and was re-designed in 1948. *Uniforms of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, James J. Boulton, Turner-Warwick Publications Inc., 1990.*

- **Red blazer.** There is no known record, from Annual General Meeting (AGM) minutes, that confirms the adoption of the red blazer as official attire of the Association. It is surmised that the red blazer appeared as conventional attire in light of Section 68 of the RCMP Regulations that came into effect on 1988-06-30. Because the regulation was not retroactive, association members who are not grandfathered adopted attire that included the red serge.

- **Field Service (Wedge) Cap.** The field service cap was adopted as the official headdress of the Association at its Annual General Meeting (AGM) held in Charlottetown, PEI, June 6-7, 2003. Officers of the Force wore variants of the field service cap starting in 1880. The pattern adopted by the Association was worn by other ranks from 1901 and was discontinued in 1904. *Uniforms of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, James J. Boulton, Turner-Warwick Publications Inc., 1990.*
No. 1 – Duty and Parade

with headdress, placement of large medals

No. 1 – Duty and Parade

with overcoat, placement of large medals

No. 1 – Duty and Parade

placement of poppy on headdress

No. 1 – Duty and Parade

without headdress, placement of poppy
**No. 1 – Duty and Parade**

- Without headdress, no medals, placement of pins

**No. 2 – Ceremonial**

- With headdress, placement of large medals

**No. 1 - Duty and Parade**

- With headdress, women’s’ scarf

**No. 2 – Ceremonial**

- With headdress, mid length skirt
**No. 2 – Ceremonial**

Placement of large medals, pins & emblems

**No. 3 – Formal**

Placement of miniature medals

**Formal**

No. 2 – Ceremonial

with headdress, slacks

No. 3 – Formal

with full length skirt