



# SAMVO

South African Military Veterans Organisation

## Constitution

### Constitution of the International South African Military Veterans Organisation; formally known as SAMVOINT

2024  
**SAMVO**



South African  
Military Veterans Organisation

Updated June 2024

#### **SAMVO's dedication, motto and inspiration:**

*This Veteran Organisation, through its subordinate organisations, globally, dedicates itself, in grateful recognition and memory of our countrymen, the Immortal Dead of South Africa, who, at the call of duty, made the supreme sacrifice on the battlefields of Africa, Europe and Asia, on land, at sea and in the air.*

***Their ideal is our legacy, their sacrifice our inspiration.***

### **SAMVO Aims and Objectives**

#### **1. Lest We Forget:**

SAMVO Veterans, via its global Zones, will endeavour to participate nationally in recognised Memorial Services and Ceremonies, that are particular to the culture, demographics and political acceptance to the Zone represented and in which they reside, notably:

- a. SS Mendi Memorial Service – United Kingdom – Portsmouth / Southampton – approximately on the 21<sup>st</sup> February each year.
- b. SS Mendi Memorial Service – South Africa - Cape Town / Pretoria – approximately on the 21<sup>st</sup> February each year.
- c. ANZAC Day – Australia and New Zealand and High Commissions - 25<sup>th</sup> April each year.
- d. SADF Wall of Remembrance in Pretoria – Closest Sunday to end of May each year.
- e. Memorial Day – USA – Last Sunday in May each year.
- f. Anglo-Boer War Memorial Service – Globally – 31<sup>st</sup> May marks the anniversary of the end of the Boer War.
- g. Delville Wood Memorial Service – France – 14<sup>th</sup> July each year and in South Africa, in major centres on the closest Sunday to 14<sup>th</sup> July.
- h. Boshoe Dag – Globally - 26<sup>th</sup> August each year.
- i. Remembrance Sunday Memorial Service – Globally - Closest Sunday to 11<sup>th</sup> November each year. In the USA, this is known as Veterans Day.

## 2. Marketing:

- a. Promote the ultimate sacrifice made by ordinary South Africans in the defence of their country;
- b. Promote the image of SAMVO and the recognition of its Veterans globally, via its associated Zones.
- c. Promote the image of the SANDF and its predecessors, the UDF and SADF;
- d. Promote the image of the Corps, Regiments and Units within the SANDF and the former SADF and UDF;
- e. Promote the roll of the Reserve Forces in the defence of South Africa; and
- f. Promote the Community and Veteran Upliftment Projects established by SAMVO.

## 3. Mutual Support and Brotherhood:

- a. Comradeship and good fellowship;
- b. Networking to better support each other;
- c. Care and support for aged, former South Africans now living in their respective host countries.
- d. Facilitate and encourage the development of Branches of Regimental Associations.
- e. Promote and conduct Zone-specific projects, in agreement with SAMVO, that support that Zone's needs in relation to their domestic host country's requirements or needs, which also supports SAMVO's long term aims and objectives. The specific Zone Chairman will structure and manage the project and will decide on the rules that will apply in control of the project. SAMVO members should be made aware of the project details should they wish to support the project.
- f. Recognition of Veterans' military contributions by facilitating due process to ensure the just award of Decorations, Medals and Awards, and;
- g. The collection and display of suitable militaria as a record for future generations.

## 4. Affiliations and Associations:

- a. SAMVO is an umbrella organisation to which Member Organisations are affiliated for the purposes of representing its members and to standardise under a single, common brand.
- b. SAMVO has been affiliated to the CMVO (Council of Military Veteran Organisations) of South Africa since the 22<sup>nd</sup> November, 2007. It is a full and active member along with the Veteran Military Organisations of the statutory forces of South Africa.
- c. Through the CMVO, to the World Veterans Federation, established in Paris in 1950, made up of 172 Veteran Organisations from 121 countries, representing 45 million Veterans worldwide.
- d. The Veteran Organisations of our respective host nations.
- e. Member Organisations affiliated to, or associated with the CMVO.
- f. The Veteran Organisations of our respective host nations.

## The Organisation

SAMVO is an "umbrella" ex-servicemen/women's organisation comprised of Military Veterans who were conscripted or volunteered to serve their country, South Africa, in the UDF, SADF, SANDF, SAP, SAPS, SARP or Prison Services, who now reside in countries external to South Africa, as well as in South Africa.

SAMVO is a *non-political, non-religious* and *non-sexist* organisation and discussion or debate on these aspects is *not supported or permitted*. A doctrine, incorporated in its entire subordinate corporate group of organisations.

SAMVO is a single rank organisation with "Veteran" being the only title. The organisation's strength will come from veteran membership and comradeship at Club level. The organisation will take its lead and direction from this membership level. All Veterans will belong to a Club, irrespective of the office they hold. Any Veteran will be able to aspire to serve in any office of the organisation, based on his or her dedication and capability. Clubs form sub-units of Regions, likewise Regions form sub-units of a Zone (a national-unit), all working towards unity; under the umbrella of SAMVO.

## 1. **SAMVO's Composition:**

The broad structure of SAMVO is comprised of Club Veterans, Club Executives, Regional Executives, Zone Executives and an International Executive.

The Zone boundaries are as follows:

1. Zone 1 - SAMVOA – Australia, New Zealand, Asia and countries peripheral to this Zone 1.
2. Zone 2A – SAMVOZA – South Africa, Rest of Africa, and countries peripheral to Zone 2A.
3. Zone 2B – SAMVOE - Great Britain, Europe, Ireland and countries peripheral to Zone 2B.
4. Zone 3 – SAMVOTA – United States of America, Canada, Mexico, South America and countries peripheral to Zone 3.

**Note:** - the various Zones will simply be referred to within this document as SAMVO Entity, where appropriate, as a common acronym for all South African Military Veteran Organisations under the umbrella of SAMVO.

## 2. **Organisational Structure (Modus Operandi):**

### A. **The Club Executive:**

1. The Club Chairperson is responsible to the Regional Chairperson for the good standing of his/her Club and its members and for its smooth running and effectiveness. He/she will be the official SAMVO Entity representative at functions within the Club district.
2. The Club Master-at-Arms will act as deputy chair, responsible for membership growth and for the drill, dress and discipline of the Club's Veterans.
3. The Club Communications Officer is the marketing officer of the Club, responsible for promoting the Club and raising the profile of the SAMVO Entity and where necessary SAMVO. He/she will also be the historian of the Club and ensure correct record-keeping of the Club's functions and activities. He/she will ensure that noteworthy events are posted on the SAMVO Website and/or Face Book. He/she will liaise with the Regional Communications Officer, who will have a staff-function to this Club Officer on any Regional PR project.
4. The Club Treasurer will be the Club 'fund-raiser' and will account for the good financial standing of the Club and its members. The Club Treasurer will also act as the "SAMVO Store" logistic manager and will coordinate inventory requisitioning from the Regional Quartermaster. He/she will liaise with the Regional Treasurer, who has a staff-function to the Club Treasurer, on all Regional financial accounting matters.
5. The Club Special Projects Officer will run specific projects in line with SAMVO policy and Brand guidelines. He/she will be accountable to the Club Chairperson for their success and he/she will liaise with the Regional Special Projects Officer on Regional projects.

### B. **The Regional Executive:**

1. The Regional Chairperson is responsible to the Zone Chairperson for the good standing of the Clubs and members within the Region, and for its smooth running and effectiveness. He/she will be the official SAMVO Entity representative at functions within the region and forms part of the Zone Executive.
2. The Regional Vice-Chairperson will act as a sounding board for the Regional Chairperson and be delegated full responsibility in the Chairperson's absence. Regions who believe that the Master-at-Arms is adequate for the position, need not necessarily appoint a Vice-Chair.
3. The Regional Master-at-Arms is responsible for membership growth and for the drill, dress and discipline of the Region's Veterans. He/she will liaise with the Zone Master-at-Arms, who has a staff-function to the Regional Officer on all drill, dress and discipline issues, or matters.
4. The Regional Communications Officer will act as the marketing officer for the Region, and will be responsible for promoting the Region's activities and raising the profile of the SAMVO Entity and where necessary SAMVO. He/she will be the historian of the Region and ensure correct records of functions and activities at Regional level are maintained. He/she will ensure that noteworthy events are posted on the SAMVO Website and/or Face Book. He/she will liaise with the Zone Communications Officer, who will have a staff-function to the Regional Officer on any National project.

5. The Regional Welfare Officer is responsible for establishing SAMVO Entity members, who may require religious and/or psychological support. He/she is responsible for implementing the Zone Welfare plan, in association with its partners and in making this available to Regional sufferers. He/she will liaise with the Zone Welfare Officer, who will have a staff-function to the Regional Officer on any Zone project.
6. The Regional Treasurer will account for the good financial standing of the Region and its members. He/she will be responsible for conducting fund-raising campaigns within the Region, to meet the cost of approved projects. He/she will liaise with the Zone Treasurer, who has a staff-function to the Regional Treasurer, on all Zone financial accounting matters. The Regional Treasurer will ensure that all transactions are recorded in line with the Zone's Financial Policy, which must be in accordance with the respective country's banking requirements.
7. The Regional Quartermaster controls a local stock holding by requisitioning bulk stock from the Zone Stores; issuing to members of the Region as required. He/she will ensure that payments are received from members to be deposited into the Region's bank account.
8. The Regional Special Projects Officer will run specific projects in line with the SAMVO Entity policy and guidelines, and where appropriate and necessary, SAMVO's policy and guidelines. He/she will be accountable to the Regional Chairperson for their success. He/she will liaise with the Zone Special Projects Officer on National Projects.

**C. The Zone Executive:**

1. The Zone Chairperson is responsible to all his/her SAMVO Entity members for the success of the organisation, which includes raising the SAMVO Entity's zone profile and for the good standing, smooth running and effectiveness of the organisation. He/she will be the official SAMVO Entity's representative at functions on the highest level. He/she is accountable to the SAMVO International Chairperson (ascending) and to the Regional Chairpersons within his/her Zone (descending).
2. The Zone Vice-Chairperson may be any member of the SAMVO Entity, whom the Zone Chairperson may choose as a candidate, based on whomever the Zone Chairperson deems as being the best candidate to support his/her chairpersonship. The Zone Vice-Chairperson must be prepared to step in at any time to ensure the ongoing and smooth running of the SAMVO Entity, should the situation arise. His/her primary focus will be on retaining and increasing membership.
3. All Regional Chairpersons form part of the Zone Executive. They are entitled to attend and raise issues and vote at the Zone Executive meetings they attend.
4. The Zone Master-at-Arms is responsible for implementing the SAMVO policy in terms of drill, dress and discipline, as determined by the International Master-at-Arms and ratified by the SAMVO Executive. Should the need arise, he/she will research, formulate and propose new or amended policy for consideration by the International Master-at-Arms. His/her line responsibility is to the SAMVO Entity Chairperson, with staff accountability to the SAMVO Master-at-Arms (ascending) and to the Regional Masters-at-Arms within his/her Zone (descending).
5. The Zone Ambassador-at-Large is an veteran who is well connected within the Zone's veteran community, who has strong personal contacts with the local veteran structures and has an in-depth knowledge of the demographics and culture of their Zone and associated regions. He/she will focus on raising awareness of the SAMVO Entity and SAMVO itself through the establishment and retention of community, individual associations and relationships. In the absence of SAMVO Entity Executive representation, the Zone Ambassador-at-Large can be called upon to represent the organisation, as and when, the occasions demand.
6. The Zone Communications Officer will manage all matters pertaining to membership satisfaction, public image and liaison with similar organisations, including South African support organisations within the SAMVO Entity's Zone of influence. He/she will ensure that noteworthy events are posted on the SAMVO Website and/or Face Book. He/she will formulate and propose policy for consideration by the Zone Executive, in line with cultural and demographic sectors of the Zone and/or associated, in accordance with the SAMVO Director Communications. His / her line responsibility is to the SAMVO

Entity Chairperson, with staff accountability to the SAMVO - Director Communications (ascending) and to the Regional Communication Officers within his/her Zone (descending).

7. The Zone Treasurer is responsible for the fiscal policy of the SAMVO Entity and its implementation, in accordance with the economics and fiscal policies and rules of the residing Zone and or Countries and Regions within. This includes ensuring that the Clubs, Regions and SAMVO Entity, function within the law of the land and that absolute accountability and due diligence is exercised at all times. His / her line responsibility is to the SAMVO Entity Chairperson, with staff accountability to the SAMVO Chairperson (ascending) and to the Regional Treasurers within his/her Zone (descending).
8. The Zone Welfare Officer is a specialist officer, responsible for researching the need for religious and/or psychological support to its members; assessing the SAMVO Entity's capability to meet this need. As a professional, he / she will liaise with Zone organisations capable of delivering such support. In so doing, he/she will be responsible for developing the SAMVO Entity's policy and capability to provide this level of support to its members. His/her line responsibility is to the SAMVO Entity Chairperson, with staff accountability to the SAMVO Director Peer Support (ascending) and to the Regional Welfare Officers within his/her Zone (descending).
9. The Zone Legal Officer will be responsible for the legal standing of the SAMVO Entity and its Regions and Clubs. He/she will also research, formulate and propose new or amended policy for consideration by the Zone Executive, in keeping with the respective countries judicial/legal policies appropriate to their particular Zone. His/her line responsibility is to the SAMVO Entity Chairperson, with staff accountability to the SAMVO Chairperson (ascending) and to the Regional and Club Legal Officers or Chairpersons within his/her Zone (descending).
10. The Zone Special Projects Officer will run specific projects in line with the SAMVO Entity's policy and guidelines. He/she will determine these guidelines and be accountable to the National Chairperson for the success of all the SAMVO Entity's projects. He/she will liaise with Regional Chairpersons or his/her delegated person/s at Regional level to ensure maximum exposure for the project and best outcomes and results.

**D. The International Executive:**

1. The SAMVO Chairman will be responsible to all Veterans for the success of SAMVO. This will include lifting its profile and good standing to the highest level and for the smooth running and effectiveness of the global Organisation. He/she will be the official SAMVO representative at functions at the highest level. He/she will develop his/her staff team around what best meets the SAMVO global needs. He/she may, through the respective Zone Chairperson, access the resources held at Zone level in order to achieve the overall SAMVO objectives.
2. The SAMVO Vice-Chairman may be any member of SAMVO, whom the SAMVO Chairperson may choose as a candidate for this position, based on whomever the SAMVO Chairperson deems as being the best candidate to support his/her chairmanship. Should the situation arise, he/she must be prepared to step in at any time to ensure the on-going and smooth running of SAMVO. His/her primary concern will be to find ways and means to increase and retain membership. In the event that a Vice-Chairman is not nominated, the SAMVOINT Master-at-Arms will act in this capacity.
3. The SAMVO Master-at-Arms will be responsible for membership moral globally, membership policy in terms of drill, dress and discipline, as well as its implementation. Should the need arise, he/she will research, formulate and propose new or amending policy for consideration by the International Executive and his/her Zone counterparts. He/she should ensure that SAMVO's standing instructions are compatible with local drills and modus operandi. This he will achieve through the Zone Masters-at-Arms and he/she will have a staff-function to the four Zone Masters-at-Arms.
4. All four Zone SAMVO Entity Chairpersons will form part of the SAMVO Executive.
5. Specialist International Executives will bring their speciality portfolios to bear; delivering their knowledge and expertise to the betterment of SAMVO and its veterans. In conjunction with their Zone counterparts, they should develop policy within their area

of responsibility for ratification by the SAMVO Executive. This should be to 'World's Best Practice' in their respective disciplines: These appointments include:

- i. SAMVO Ambassador at Large.
- ii. SAMVO Principal Representative at the CMVO.
- iii. SAMVO Director Communications.
- iv. SAMVO Director Digital Asset Owner.
- v. SAMVO Director Digital Transformation Strategy.
- vi. SAMVO Director Management Services.
- vii. SAMVO Website Master.
- viii. SAMVO Director Peer Support.
- ix. SAMVO Director Museums.
- x. SAMVO Director Merchandising and Logistics.
- xi. SAMVO Director Medals and Awards.
- xii. SAMVO Director Welfare and South African Parliament Representative.

**E. SAMVO Essential Business Principles:**

1. The day to day running of each SAMVO Entity (Zone) is the task of the Zone Chairperson and his / her Team.
2. In terms of business conducted by the Zones, each SAMVO Entity Board is recognised as a standalone and autonomous organisation and, where possible, will operate as a "not-for-profit" business entity under a constitution, as required by their bank.
3. Where bank accounts operate and Directors are required, each will have a Board of Directors who will be responsible for the fiscal and corporate governance of that bank account in the country in which it operates
4. Each Board will elect its own Chairman.
5. Each Board will have legal responsibility for its name, business operation, and legal business obligations, including tax liabilities, assets and liabilities,
6. SAMVO will be responsible for the organisations operational Constitution, its website, social media, membership data, including the adhering to data privacy regulations.
7. Where Directors of these companies are required, they will be approached on their standing within their respective SAMVO Entity, including their standing in terms of their respective countries' Directors Act.
8. Depending on the Zone / Country requirement, each Director may be required to provide an interest free loan for the duration of their directorship of the Board.
9. In the event of a director resigning from the Board, he/she will need to do so in writing. The vacancy on the Board will, in the first instance, be offered to other domiciled members of the National Executive, failing which, the Board may direct that a non-executive member be appointed, or that the position remains vacant.

**Note:** - Each country has its own currency that is subject to exchange fluctuations, varying demographics and economies; each hold their own governance requirements in terms of how common-interest associations and business is conducted. Each SAMVO Entity is to adhere to the obligations set and decreed by the Country and/or Region with their defined Zone.

**A. SAMVO Trade Mark:**

3. The SAMVO trade mark is registered under Trade Mark Number, 1962979.
4. No infringement of our brand will be tolerated and any such activity will be pursued legally.
5. Please consult our SAMVO Brand Guidelines to be found on the SAMVO Website.
6. The SAMVO Director Management Services is directly responsible for the SAMVO Trade mark.
7. Any desired use of the brand must be referred back to Management Services.



*The South African Military Veterans Organisation Logo – incorporating the Southern Cross at the apex of the crest, to signify the strong association with Australia and New Zealand where SAMVO had its origins, and expanding to all corners of the globe.*

## 2. Membership Categories:

### A. **Ordinary Membership:**

3. To qualify for Ordinary Membership, prospective members need to produce their Force Number as issued by the UDF / SADF / SANDF / SAP / SAPS / SARP or Prison Services, and provide evidence that they completed at least the Basic Training element of their National Service. These Veterans will be entitled to vote and to hold office; their continued membership will be assured by their dedication to the ideals of their SAMVO Entity and SAMVO, as well as their good standing as a member of their respective Club.
4. Applicants with known extremist activity backgrounds prior to, or post 1994, will not be considered for membership.
5. The National Executive retains the right to refuse membership and no correspondence will be entered into.

### B. **Heritage Membership:**

3. In order to qualify for Heritage Membership, prospective members need to have had a direct ancestor who served South Africa in a statutory military capacity.
4. They will be required to prove this relationship, be 16 years or older.
5. Heritage Membership applications will be ratified by the Regional Executive. On acceptance, these Veterans will enjoy normal membership and will be entitled to vote and hold office. Their continued membership will be assured by their dedication to the ideals of SAMVO and their good standing as a member of their Club.

### C. **Selective Skills Membership:**

3. Selective Skills Membership may be conferred on individuals who do not qualify for Ordinary or Heritage membership, but who have special skills deemed to be important enough for the particular SAMVO Entity and SAMVO to acquire in order to improve the image and performance of the Organisation.
4. In this instance, membership will be promoted at Regional Executive level and ratified at National Executive level. On acceptance, these Veterans will enjoy normal membership and be entitled to vote and hold office. Their continued membership will be assured by their dedication to the ideals of the particular SAMVO Entity and SAMVO respectfully and their good standing as a member of their particular Club.

### D. **Associate Membership:**

3. In order to qualify for Associate Membership, prospective members need to have belonged to an allied force or regiment which served alongside South African Forces, as noted in South African military history.
4. They will need to prove this association and to produce their Force Number, as issued by their respective Defence Force and provide evidence that they completed at least the Basic Training element of their country's military service.
5. Associate Membership applications will be ratified by the Regional Executive and, on acceptance, these Veterans will enjoy normal membership, but they will not be entitled to vote or hold office. Their continued membership will be assured by their dedication to the ideals of the particular SAMVO Entity and SAMVO respectfully and their good standing as a member of their particular Club.

**Note (1):** - *Veterans who hold higher office will, in the execution of their duties, receive the full and undivided support of all other Veterans.*

**Note (2):** - *All veterans will strive to increase membership and to further the aims of their particular SAMVO Entity and SAMVO respectfully. They will honour the SAMVO spirit via the spirit of their particular SAMVO Entity and remain obedient to the law of the land.*

## 3. Privacy:

- A. All SAMVO members have their information held secure on the SAMVO database at the SAMVO Head Quarters in Australia and South Africa.

- B. Member Privacy, of all four Zone Entities, is maintained by a SAMVO Privacy Statement that protects the information of its members. A copy of this is available on the SAMVO Website.

4. **Drill, Dress and Discipline:**

SAMVO Veterans are a collective group of veterans worldwide, as members of, and supported by their various SAMVO Entities (Zones), all under one umbrella SAMVO. Therefore, a SAMVO Veteran will be recognised as a veteran member when he/she wears the SAMVO beret and badge. This is the sole identification element and will be worn with pride along with a suit and tie, jacket and tie, or blazer and tie, as determined by the dress code at the time. Veterans are encouraged to wear the SAMVO headdress, but may wear their own headdress. However, if directly representing SAMVO in an official capacity, the SAMVO headdress should be worn.

Should a Veteran have received recognition in the form of a medal or medals, these will be worn on the left chest/breast. Ordinary, Heritage and Associate Veterans/Members, whose deceased family members have earned a medal or medals, may wear these on the right chest/breast when this falls in line with their host countries guidelines.

Veterans will, at all times display good drill, dress and discipline. The dress code of SAMVO will be a developing one as proposed by the SAMVO Master-at-Arms and ratified by the International Executive. This code must be clearly communicated to all members who will be required to conform.

SAMVO encourages the development and growth of individual Corps or Regimental 'pride'. Corps or Regiments may be recognised by wearing the appropriate "balkie" or emblem below the SAMVO badge. Master-at-Arms at both Club and Regional levels will be responsible for ensuring compliance and they may, at their sole discretion, permit or deny an offending Veteran to continue in the parade.

Should there be an issue, a post-parade review will be held at Regional Executive level, which will acknowledge and address the views of the offender, and a binding decision made thereafter.

A. **Controlled Items:**

The purchase of the SAMVO beret and beret badge, SAMVO tie, SAMVO lapel badge and SAMVO blazer pocket badge will be controlled and sold via the official stores system or Regional and Zone stores. These items will not be available for public resale at any SAMVO store.

B. **Uncontrolled Items:**

Uncontrolled items will include the SAMVO plaque and other official SAMVO promotional items as released by the office of the SAMVO Director Communications or the Zone Communications Officer.

5. **Guidelines and Requirements for the Appointment of Members to Office:**

The complete guidelines are found within the procedure covering resignations, nominations, voting and final appointments and are contained within this document.

A. **In summary:**

It is the absolute responsibility of every leader under the umbrella of SAMVO, down to Club level, to identify possible successors/leaders as part of their succession planning and subsequently ensure that those potential leaders are trained accordingly and provided with every opportunity to demonstrate their leadership skills. Participation in this process is open to Ordinary, Special Skills and Heritage Members within the Region or Club that they belong to.

B. **Summary at Club level:**

Every Club Chairperson is accountable to the Regional Chairperson. The Club Executive should serve for a minimum period of three years after which they may offer themselves up for re-election.

The incumbent must:

- 3. Be a member of good standing within their Club.



4. He/she should be an effective member of their respective SAMVO Entity, (hence SAMVO) for a reasonable period of time, preferably 2 years.
5. He/she should be qualified in the respective discipline to effectively perform the role to which they have been elected.
6. He/she should be fully conversant with their respective SAMVO Entity, Constitution, SOPs and Guidelines; hence fully conversant with the SAMVO Constitution, SOPs and Guidelines.
7. For the Club Chairperson position, he/she should understand and accept their line function, responsibility and obligations to the Regional Chairperson.

**C. Summary at Regional level:**

Every Regional Chairperson is accountable to the Zone Chairperson. The Regional Executive should serve for a minimum period of three years, after which they may offer themselves up for re-election. The incumbent must:

3. Be a member of good standing within his/her Club and within the Region.
4. Should have been an effective member of their respective SAMVO Entity, hence SAMVO, for a reasonable period of time, preferably 3 years.
5. Be qualified in the respective discipline to effectively perform the role to which they have been elected.
6. He/she should be fully conversant with their respective SAMVO Entity and SAMVO Constitution, SOPs and Guidelines.
7. For the Regional Chairperson position, he/she should understand and accept their responsibility and obligations to the National Chairperson.

**D. Summary at Zone level:**

3. The Zone Chairperson will be responsible to all his/her SAMVO Entity's Veterans for the success of their Zone and SAMVO. He/she will have an ascending line function to the SAMVO Chairperson and a descending line function to the Regional Chairpersons within his/her Zone.
4. The primary focus of the nominated Zone Vice-Chairperson will be retaining and increasing membership. They are also to be prepared to step in at any time to ensure the ongoing and smooth running of the SAMVO Entity, should the situation arise.
5. The Zone Executive is primarily staffed by members who are specialists within their respective disciplines, who can only be replaced by a member trained/qualified in that same discipline. Other than the Zone Chairperson and Zone Vice-Chairperson, all executive members (*with specialist disciplines/skills*) will have staff-functions to the Regions within their respective disciplines and are not subject to election.
6. In the event of a vacancy, a nominee must be a member of good standing within his/her Club and within SAMVO.
7. The nominee should have been an effective member and proven leader within SAMVO for at least 5-years.
8. The nominee must be fully conversant with the SAMVO Constitution, SOPs and Guidelines.
9. The nominee for Zone Chairperson must understand and accept his/her responsibilities and accountabilities to the SAMVO Chairperson.
10. Voting is held at Zone Executive level, where the members are represented by their Regional Chairpersons.

**E. Summary at International level:**

3. The SAMVO Chairperson will be responsible to all four SAMVO Entity's Veterans for the success of SAMVO. He/she will have a descending line function to the Zone Chairpersons and his/her specialist staff members.
4. The primary focus of the nominated SAMVO Vice-Chairperson will be retaining and increasing membership. He/she should also be prepared to step in at any time to ensure the ongoing and smooth running of SAMVO, should the situation arise.
5. The balance of the SAMVO ~~INT~~-Executive is comprised of specialist discipline leaders and all the Regional Chairpersons.
6. In the event of a vacancy, a nominee must be a member of good standing within his/her Club and within SAMVO.

7. The nominee should have been an effective member and proven leader within SAMVO for at least 5-years.
8. The nominee must be fully conversant with the SAMVO Constitution, SOPs and Guidelines.
9. The nominee for International Chairperson must understand and accept his/her responsibilities and accountabilities to the membership.
10. Voting is held at International Executive level, which includes all members of the SAMVO Executive. The members will be represented by their Zone Chairpersons.

#### 6. **Resignation / Termination of Membership:**

All SAMVO members, no matter their position within SAMVO, belong to a Club. When a member comes into "disrepute", or becomes "not of good standing" within their Club, it is important that this is managed efficiently, fairly and in the correct manner. Members who may come into "disrepute" or become "not of good standing", would likely fall into the following categories:

1. Disregard for SAMVO/SAMVO Entity Drill, Dress and Discipline Code;
2. Misconduct or display of a belligerent attitude or actions;
3. Misrepresenting their service by wearing incorrect medals, providing incorrect information or exaggeration of their own self-importance;
4. Contravention of SAMVO/SAMVO Entity code of conduct; and
5. Other actions which detract from their service tenure, or which are unsubstantiated.

These situations would most likely arise at Club level, and as such, the following process will apply:

1. The Club Chairperson or Club Master-at-Arms will, in the first instance, discuss the issue directly with the member, informing the said member there is a perceived behavioural issue associated with the said member and that he/she is considered for review as being "potentially not suitable to represent the SAMVO Entity".
2. Should the member be subjected to review, they should be provided with as much information as possible, explaining why they are being reviewed.
3. The member should be given the opportunity to make an acceptable rebuttal, or to accept the validity of the complaint and to commit to rectify the situation.
  - In many cases, only an apology may be required, after which there would be no further action, and the event will remain confidential.
4. Should the member be unwilling to change or show remorse for his/her actions, the Club Chairperson or the Regional Chairperson will advise him/her that they are suspended with immediate effect, pending further investigation.

A conscientious effort will always be made to ensure that the SAMVO Entity Club or Region gains factual evidence to adequately support the complaint against the member in question.

1. Should the issue not be resolved at Club or Regional level, the matter should be referred to the Zone Master-at-Arms.
2. An intense investigation will be carried out that could include other veteran organisations, or higher formations, depending on the nature of the issue. Any external investigation must be handled by the Zone Master-at-Arms or the Zone Chairperson.
3. Should the evidence prove that the member is out of order, and the member still refuses to rectify the situation, his/her membership will be revoked as the last resort.
4. The final decision will rest with the next senior executive to the leader, who dealt with the issue.

#### 7. **Military Impersonators:**

In the event of a member's conduct being in the category of "Military Impersonator" and proven, the Zone Chairperson or Zone Master-at-Arms will communicate this information to the CMVO (Council of Military Veterans Organisations), for release of the offending member's details to all other veteran and/or police organisations, including permanent listing on the "Wall of Shame". Once a name is on the list, it can and will never be removed.

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