

Guidelines and requirements for managing the Resignation or Termination of Membership Process within SAMVO

SAMVO



**South African
Military Veterans Organisation**

Updated January, 2022

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SAMVOINT'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

Version	Prepared By	Version Release	Revision Effective Date
3	Veteran Tony Macquet MMM	Updated to SAMVO document as V1.220117	Jan 2022
2	Veterans Tony Macquet MMM and Richard Southey MMM	Released for distribution as a SAMVOINT document.	Aug 2017
1	Veteran Tony Macquet MMM	Original SAMVOINT draft	Jul 2017

	Regulation Amendment	Page	Para	Effective Date
1	Draft of original document. Circulated for comment and agreement. Adjustments made.	Complete document.	All.	Aug 2017
2	Document accepted for distribution as a SAMVOINT document.	Complete document.	All	Aug 2017
3	Document updated due to name change from SAMVOINT to SAMVO.	Complete document	All.	Jan 2022

The Objectives of this Guideline:

The objective of this guideline is to provide leaders at Club, Regional and National levels on SAMVO's requirements are, when managing a Resignation of a member, or the Termination of a member (membership revoked).

Preramble:

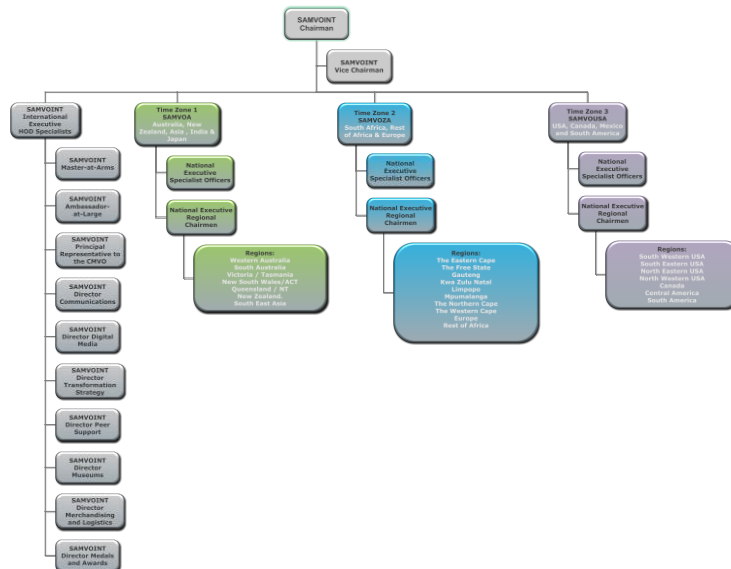
The broad structure of SAMVO is comprised of Club Veterans, Club Executives, Regional Executives, National Executives and an International Executive.

The National or Zone boundaries are as follows:

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

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 and meeting certain requirements. 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.

SAMVO has a pure organisation structure, which enables each member to be represented through his/her Club by the Club Chairperson, then through his/her Region by the Regional Chairperson, then through his/her National Entity, being the National Chairperson and the National Executive. In this way, the interests of each and every member are represented to the highest level.



At international level, SAMVO's role is to coordinate and set standards for all Zones to follow and to represent the organisation at the highest levels. It is the National Entity's responsibility to coordinate to ensure that the best interests of its members are served in line with the SAMVO Constitution, which has evolved from the SAMVOINT and SAMVOA Constitutions, being the birthplace of the SAMVO movement. Each National SAMVO Entity is autonomous as far as adjusting to fall in line with their host countries' traditional Memorial Day and Ceremonies, as well as local Veteran authorities.

Resignation / Termination of Membership:

All SAMVO members, no matter their position within SAMVOINT, 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 "not of good standing", would likely fall into the following categories:

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

As all SAMO members belong to a Club, these situations should arise at Club level, and as such, the following process will apply:

- 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/SAMVO Entity".
- Should the member be subjected to review, they should be provided with as much information as possible, explaining why they are being reviewed.
- 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.

- 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/SAMVO Entity Club or Region gains factual evidence to adequately support the complaint against the member in question.

- Should the issue not be resolved at Club or Regional level, the matter should be referred to the National Master-at-Arms.
- 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 National-Master-at-Arms or the National Chairperson.
- 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.
- The final decision will rest with the next senior executive to the leader, who dealt with the issue.

Military Impersonators:

In the event of a member's conduct being in the category of "Military Impersonator" and proven, the National Chairperson or National 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.

*** *End of document* ***