CHAPTER 38

CHAMPION SHOTS MEDAL

Overview

38.1 Until the introduction of the Champion Shots Medal within the Australian Honours System, members of the Australian forces competed for skill at arms awards under the Imperial system. These awards are described in Volume 2, Chapter 9.

Administration of the Champion Shots Medal

38.2 The Champion Shots Medal was introduced in 1988 to encourage skill in small arms shooting in the Australian Defence Force. It is described in Volume 2, Chapter 19.

38.3 Three medals are available annually, one medal to each of the Services to be awarded to the winner of competitions organised by each Service. Both Regular and Active Reserve personnel are eligible to compete for the medal.

38.4 The Army conducts an annual Australian Army Skill at Arms Meeting (AASAM) which aims to improve Army operational capability through the development of combat marksmanship training. As part of AASAM, the Champion Shot of the Army is contested, which results in the awarding of the Champion Shots Medal to the winning contestant.

38.5 The conduct and administration of the competition for the RAAF is detailed in Defence Instruction (Air Force) ADMIN 10–3—Champion Shots Medal (Royal Australian Air Force).

38.6 The final RAN and RAAF competitions are normally held in conjunction with the AASAM.

38.7 The names of the winners of each Service competition are forwarded to Directorate of Honours and Awards (DH&A) for on-forwarding to the Government House Honours Secretariat for approval. Following the Governor-General’s approval the names are published in the Commonwealth of Australia Gazette (CAG) and the medals and year clasps (clasps only for those members who have previously been awarded the medal) are provided by the Honours Secretariat to the DH&A who send them to the members’ units for presentation.

38.8 Winners of the award since inception in 1988 can be searched on the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet website www.itsanhonour.gov.au.