

ANNEX J TO
CHAPTER 3 TO
NOTES FOR BRANCH SECRETARIES
DATED 20 APRIL 2024

BRANCH BANNERS

GENERAL

1. Colours and Standards have always acted as a rallying point within the Army. That is why the Regiment holds in its charge the Queen's Colour and the Regimental Colour.
2. It is important there should be no confusion between Regimental Colours and Standards and those which a Branch may have, and which in the past have been called Standards. It must be clearly understood that they **must** be referred to as **Banners**.
3. It is also important to note that in giving permission for some Branches to have Banners the Executive Committee does not wish to give the impression that it is obligatory for all Branches to have them. This is far from the case; indeed due to the costs involved, they might prove to be too expensive for some Branches.
4. In issuing this Policy Instruction it must be understood that there is no intention to change the design of existing Branch Banners.

POLICY

5. **Application.** All requests for the introduction of a new Branch Banner must be submitted to Association Headquarters for approval by the Executive Committee. The application should state that the subject has been discussed and approved at the Branch Annual General Meeting.

SPECIFICATION

6. **Cloth.** Polyester, Regimental Colours: Blue Pantone No 282, Red Pantone 201.
7. **Trimmings.**
 - a. 2.5 inch (6cm) Gold single twist fringe.
 - b. Finished size: 50 inch (128cm) length x 36 inch (92cm) depth: 2 inch pole sleeve.
 - c. Badge (centre device) & lettering in Hand Embroidered Gold and Silver wires.

8. **Construction.**

- a. Blue, Red, Blue Polyester Banner.
- b. Double Sided with 2" (5cm) Pole Sleeve in Blue on one short edge.
- c. Brass eyelette five eighths of inch (1.5cm) in diameter fitted in Banner half inch (12mm) in from pole sleeve and half inch (12mm) down from the top to accommodate a double ended gold cord and tassels; fringed on three edges with 2.5 inch (6cm) gold fringe as specified.
- d. Royal Cypher measuring 19.5 inch (50cm) x 12.5 inch (32cm) hand embroidered in Gold/Silver wires in centre of banner.
- e. Hand Embroidered Gold letters measuring 2.25 inch (5.5cm) in height and width in a convex arch above the cypher reading GRENADIER GUARDS ASSOCIATION.
- f. Hand Embroidered Gold letters measuring 2.25cm (5.5cm) in height and width in a concave arch below the cypher reading the Association Branch e.g. READING & DISTRICT BRANCH.
- g. The only addition to this design permitted is to incorporate centrally below the Branch name in hand embroidered gold letters one inch (2.5cm) high and wide, the date the Branch was formed, e.g. Founded 1947.

9. **Accoutrements.**

- a. **Carry Pole.** An eight foot polished two piece wooden pole with brass fixings.
- b. A brass screw fixing arrowhead finial.
- c. An 80 inch (204cm) Gold cord, double ended affixed with 7 inch (18cm) gold tassels.
- d. **Cross Belt.** Left Shouldered brown leather Cross Belt with brass buckle. It is advisable to have the bucket fitted with brass to alleviate wear to the leather.

COST

10. The total cost of manufacture and subsequent upkeep is to be borne by the Branch.

PROVISION

11. The preferred supplier of Branch Banners is C & J Medals of Tilehurst, Reading. www.cjmedals.co.uk

USE

12. Banners may be used:
 - a. At the Branch annual Dinner or Lunch.
 - b. At any other Branch event, such as a Garden Party, where it is considered suitable.
 - c. Services of Remembrance, normally in conjunction with the Royal British Legion.
 - d. Funerals of Branch, past and serving members of the Regiment when a Funeral Bow may be fitted.

- (1) **Funeral Bow Specification.**

- (a) **Material.** Matt finish black Silica or Crepe cloth. A Bow 18 inch (45cm) long and 3.5 inch (9cm) wide with two (2) trailing Tails of the same material 16 inch (40cm) long. Fitted on the reverse with tape of same colour to use as fastening to the finial and pole of the Banner.

- (b) Bows are available from C & J Medals and are included with new Banners.

13. **Banner Bearer.** The Banner Bearer may wear suitable gloves/gauntlets and a beret when carrying the Banner.

14. **Dedication.** A Service of Dedication may be held within the Branch area, the format of which must be agreed with Association Headquarters. It is **not** appropriate for a new Banner to be consecrated.

15. **Elizabeth II/Charles III Banners.** In keeping with direction from the Royal Household there is no requirement for an Association Branch with an Elizabeth II Branch Banner to replace it with a Charles III banner until there is a need to do so through normal wear and tear.