



**RACT POLICY STATEMENT**

**Office of the Deputy Head of Corps  
Royal Australian Corps of Transport  
Headquarters Army School of Transport  
Tobruk Barracks  
PUCKAPUNYAL VIC 3662**

**April 2020**

**STATEMENT NO 12**

**THE REPRESENTATIVE COLONEL COMMANDANT AND THE COLONELS COMMANDANT**

**This Policy Statement to be reviewed by: April 2025**

**Issued by the Head of Corps Royal Australian Corps of Transport for application within the Royal Australian Corps of Transport.**

  
**JK WALK**

**Brigadier  
Head of Corps  
Royal Australian Corps of Transport**

**AMENDMENT**

**RACT Policy Statement No 12 dated**

**April 2020**

**DISTRIBUTION**

**RACT Policy Statements are available on the  
RACT website at [www.ract.org.au](http://www.ract.org.au) or by  
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[ract.hoccell@defence.gov.au](mailto:ract.hoccell@defence.gov.au)**

**RACT POLICY STATEMENT NO 12**  
**THE REPRESENTATIVE COLONEL COMMANDANT**  
**AND THE COLONELS COMMANDANT**  
**INTRODUCTION**

**Reference:**

A. Army Standing Instruction (Personnel), Part 12, Chapter 6 – Honorary Appointments

1. Historically, a senior retired officer in each geographic region fills the role of 'elder statesman' of the Corps. These officers are titled 'Colonel Commandant' regardless of the officer's retirement rank.
2. Colonels Commandant provide a link between serving and former members of the Corps. They have no role in the chain of command but are a valuable source of advice and counsel for all ranks.
3. One Colonel Commandant is appointed as the Representative Colonel Commandant by HOC to represent the Colonel-in-Chief in Australia. In addition, this officer may, if requested, put the collective views of all Colonels Commandant on appropriate Corps matters to the serving hierarchy of the Corps.

**AIM**

4. To specify the selection and appointment procedures and the duties of the Colonels Commandant and the Representative Colonel Commandant.

**CURRENT APPOINTMENTS**

5. The RACT HOC Cell is to maintain a list of current Colonels Commandant for use by the Corps Executive and the RACT Regional Representatives. A complete list is also to be promulgated on the RACT Sharepoint site.

**REPRESENTATIVE COLONEL COMMANDANT**

**Selection and Appointment**

6. The detailed procedures for the selection and appointment of the Representative Colonel Commandant are contained in reference A. In essence, the HOC recommends the appointment of the Representative Colonel Commandant to CA through DGAPC. The CA, if he agrees, then makes the formal appointment.
7. The Representative Colonel Commandant is appointed for an initial period of five (5) years, after which time requests for extensions will be considered based on the recommendations of the HOC/sponsor, nominees age, continued contribution and availability. Appointments or extensions will not be made where the person involved has attained the age of 70 years.

**Duties**

8. The Representative Colonel Commandant's duties, in addition to those detailed in reference A, are to:

- a. represent the Colonel-in-Chief in Australia, including the performance of national-level ceremonial and other duties as requested by the HOC;
- b. be a member of the RACT Committee at which they will, when requested, put the collective viewpoint of all Colonels Commandant; and
- c. perform Colonel Commandant duties within their Region.

## **COLONELS COMMANDANT**

### **Selection and Appointment**

9. Detailed procedures for selecting and appointing Colonels Commandant are in reference A. Colonels Commandant are to be presented with a Colonel Commandant parchment at the beginning of their tenure as Colonel Commandant.

10. Colonels Commandant are appointed for an initial period not exceeding five years after which time requests for extensions will be considered based on the recommendations of the HOC, nominees age, continued contribution and availability. The extension is for a period of three years.

11. In order to maximise effectiveness and minimise costs, a Colonel Commandant is normally appointed within each geographic region. For this purpose, geographic regions are as follows:

- a. **North Queensland Region**
- b. **South Queensland Region**
- c. **Eastern Region**      New South Wales and the Australian Capital Territory
- d. **Southern/Tasmania Region**      Victoria and Tasmania
- e. **Central Region**      South Australia and the Northern Territory
- f. **Western Region**      Western Australia

### **Duties**

12. The Colonel Commandant duties, in addition to those detailed in reference A, are:
- a. Participate in Corps activities as requested by unit and sub unit commanders.
  - b. Where applicable, foster the RACT Association(s) with emphasis on encouraging the participation of serving members and other retired members.
  - c. Actively support RACT Committee initiatives, decisions and directives.
  - d. Provide advice to the Representative Colonel Commandant, on matters within their purview, for consideration/discussion at a Corps Committee meeting.
  - e. Represent the HOC at official military duties in their appointed region when the HOC is unavailable.

- f. Should be prepared to submit an annual report to the Corps Committee at the Corps Conference on the activities and issues within their region of responsibility IAW annex A. When unable to attend a Corps Committee meeting, the Colonel Commandant should submit a report to the Representative Colonel Commandant.

**Clothing Assistance**

- 13. Assistance for clothing will be sought from a sponsor within the region IAW the block scale for the appointment.

**RELATIONSHIP WITH THE COLONEL-IN-CHIEF**

- 14. Neither the Representative Colonel Commandant nor Colonels Commandant are to communicate directly with the Colonel-in-Chief unless such communication has been cleared by the HOC. The HOC will ensure the necessary approvals are obtained prior to any communications with the Colonel-in-Chief.

Annex:

- A. Colonel Commandant Report Format

**ANNEX A TO  
RACT POLICY STATEMENT NO 12  
DATED APR 20**

**COLONEL COMMANDANT \_\_\_\_\_ REGION REPORT AS AT \_\_\_\_\_**

1. **Report Period.** This report is written to provide an update to the HOC on the activities during the period \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_.

2. **Activities.** The following activities with units, associations, or other approved organisations have been attended during the reporting period:

- a. Insert details;
- b. Insert details; and
- c. Insert details.

3. **Corps Issues.** The following issues or observations have been made of the Corps during the reporting period:

- a. Insert details;
- b. Insert details; and
- c. Insert details.

4. **Recommendations.** The following recommendations are made:

- a. Insert recommendation; and
- b. Insert recommendation.

**NAME**

**COL**

**COL COMDT \_\_\_\_\_ Region**

**Tel: \_\_\_\_\_**

**Date**