



**THE STATUTES OF THE REPUBLIC OF SINGAPORE**

**NATIONAL CADET CORPS ACT**

**(CHAPTER 194)**

**(Original Enactment: Act 35 of 1972)**

**REVISED EDITION 2014**

(28th February 2014)

*Prepared and Published by*

THE LAW REVISION COMMISSION  
UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF  
THE REVISED EDITION OF THE LAWS ACT (CHAPTER 275)

Informal Consolidation – version in force from 28/2/2014

# National Cadet Corps Act

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An Act to provide for the raising and maintenance of a National Cadet Corps and for matters connected therewith.

[1st April 1973]

### **Short title**

1. This Act may be cited as the National Cadet Corps Act.

### **Interpretation**

2. In this Act, unless the context otherwise requires —  
“cadet” means a person enrolled in the Corps under section 8;

- “Commandant” means the person for the time being appointed under section 6;
- “commanding officer” means an officer for the time being commanding a unit of the Corps;
- “Corps” means the National Cadet Corps established under this Act;
- “Council” means the National Cadet Corps Council established under section 5;
- “member” means any officer or cadet appointed or enrolled in the Corps, as the case may be, and includes a person undergoing an officer cadet course;
- “officer” means a person appointed as such by the Minister under section 9;
- “permanent resident” means any person who is not subject to any restriction as to his period of residence imposed under the provisions of any written law relating to immigration for the time being in force in Singapore;
- “school” has the same meaning as in the Education Act (Cap. 87);
- “Singapore Armed Forces” means the Singapore Armed Forces raised and maintained under the provisions of the Singapore Armed Forces Act (Cap. 295).

### **Raising and maintenance of National Cadet Corps**

3. There shall be raised and maintained in the manner provided in this Act a corps to be known as the National Cadet Corps.

### **Organisation**

4.—(1) The Corps shall consist of such headquarters, units, training institutions, services, departments or other like bodies as the Minister may from time to time establish.

(2) The Corps shall be a unified corps consisting of land, maritime and air divisions and shall consist of such numbers of cadets as the Minister may from time to time determine.

(3) The Corps shall be affiliated to the Singapore Armed Forces for the purposes of training but members of the Corps shall not be members of the Singapore Armed Forces.

(4) The Minister may disband any unit, training institution, service, department or other body established under subsection (1) in whole or in part or amalgamate any such unit, training institution, service, department or other body or alter the name or title thereof.

### **Establishment of National Cadet Corps Council**

**5.**—(1) For the purpose of the administration of matters relating to the Corps, there shall be established the National Cadet Corps Council consisting of a Chairman to be appointed by the Minister, a Deputy Chairman and 2 members to be nominated by the Permanent Secretary to the Ministry of Defence, and such other members as the Minister may, by notification in the *Gazette*, appoint.

(2) The Council shall be empowered to delegate any of its functions and powers to any officer of the Singapore Armed Forces or to any officer appointed under this Act.

(3) The Council may meet at such intervals as it thinks fit and may regulate its own procedure.

### **Appointment of Commandant**

**6.**—(1) The Minister shall, on the recommendation of the Permanent Secretary to the Ministry of Defence, appoint a Commandant who shall exercise executive command of the Corps and who shall be responsible to the Council in matters of administration affecting recruitment, promotion, training, conditions of service, finance and discipline of the Corps.

(2) The Commandant may, from time to time, make such general or routine orders, not inconsistent with the provisions of this Act or any regulations made thereunder, for the control, direction and information of the Corps as he thinks fit and it shall not be necessary to publish such general or routine orders in the *Gazette*.

(3) The Council may appoint a Deputy Commandant and so many other Assistant Commandants as the Council may think necessary to

assist the Commandant in the general administration of matters relating to the Corps.

### **Command and affiliation**

7. The Minister may, on the recommendation of the Council, place the Corps or any unit thereof under the command of any officer of the Singapore Armed Forces or affiliate any unit to a unit of the Singapore Armed Forces.

### **Eligibility**

8.—(1) Subject to the provisions of this Act and the regulations made under this Act, any person who is a citizen of Singapore or a permanent resident of Singapore shall be eligible to be enrolled as a cadet in the Corps.

(2) The Minister may in special cases approve the enrolment of persons who are neither citizens of Singapore nor permanent residents of Singapore in the Corps.

### **Appointment of officers, honorary officers and honorary instructors**

9.—(1) The Minister may appoint officers of the Corps from among the teaching staff of any school or from among members of the Corps.

(2) The Minister may appoint honorary officers to the Corps from among such persons as he thinks fit.

(3) The Minister may appoint persons who are not members of the Corps who wish to volunteer their services to the Corps as honorary instructors.

(4) An officer, honorary officer or honorary instructor of the Corps may, with the approval of the Minister, at any time resign his appointment.

(5) The Minister may, with or without assigning any reason, revoke the appointment of any officer, honorary officer or honorary instructor.

**Secondment of Singapore Armed Forces personnel**

**10.** The Permanent Secretary to the Ministry of Defence may second a member or members of the Singapore Armed Forces for service in the Corps on a full-time or part-time basis.

**Discharge and dismissal**

**11.—(1)** Subject to the regulations made under this Act, every cadet may be discharged from the Corps on the expiration of the period for which he was enrolled.

(2) The Commandant may, on the recommendation of the commanding officer, dismiss any cadet.

(3) In the case of a cadet who is a student of a school, the concurrence of the principal of the school to which the cadet belongs to the dismissal of the cadet shall be obtained by the Commandant.

**Disobedience of regulations, standing orders, etc.**

**12.** Any cadet who —

- (a) in such manner as to show wilful defiance of authority, disobeys any lawful command given to him or conveyed to him personally; or
- (b) contravenes any order or regulation made under this Act, being an order or a regulation known to him or which he might reasonably be expected to know,

shall be dealt with summarily by his commanding officer in the manner prescribed by regulations made under this Act.

**Punishment**

**13.** Where a commanding officer deals with a case summarily, he may if he records a finding of guilt award one or more of the following punishments:

- (a) suspension of membership in the Corps for a period not exceeding 3 months;
- (b) where the cadet holds a rank, reduction in rank;
- (c) reprimand.

### **Board of inquiry**

**14.**—(1) If the Commandant has reason to believe that an officer has committed a breach of any order or regulation made under this Act, he shall be empowered to convene a board of inquiry to investigate and report on the facts relating to such matter and the board of inquiry shall, if directed to do so, express its opinion on any question arising out of any matter referred to the board.

(2) A board of inquiry shall consist of a president who shall be an officer not below the rank of captain either belonging to the Singapore Armed Forces or appointed under this Act and not less than 2 other persons one of whom shall be a nominee of the Permanent Secretary to the Ministry of Education.

(3) If the board of inquiry is of the opinion that an officer of the Corps is guilty of a breach of any order or regulation made under this Act, it shall recommend to the Commandant one or more of the following punishments that should be imposed on the officer:

- (a) reprimand;
- (b) reduction in rank;
- (c) dismissal from the Corps.

### **Compensation for death or personal injury**

**15.** It shall be lawful for the Minister to compensate, in accordance with regulations made under this Act, any member of the Corps or his dependants for death or personal injury arising out of or in the execution of his duty and which is attributable solely to the discharge of his duty.

### **Liability**

**16.**—(1) For the purposes of this section, “member” includes an honorary officer and an honorary instructor appointed under section 9.

(2) Nothing done or omitted to be done by a member of the Corps while on duty as such shall subject either him or the Government to liability in tort for causing the death of another person, or for causing personal injury to another person, in so far as the death or personal

injury is due to anything suffered by that other person while he is a member of the Corps if —

- (a) at the time when the thing is suffered by that other person, he is —
  - (i) on duty as a member of the Corps: or
  - (ii) though not on duty as a member of the Corps, on any land, premises, ship, aircraft or vehicle for the time being used for the purposes of the Corps; and
- (b) the Minister certifies that his suffering that thing has been or will be treated as attributable to service for the purposes of entitlement to compensation under section 15,

except that this subsection shall not exempt a member of the Corps from liability in tort in any case in which the court is satisfied that the act or omission was not connected with the execution of his duties as a member of the Corps.

(3) No proceedings in tort shall lie against the Government for death or personal injury due to anything suffered by a member of the Corps if —

- (a) that thing is suffered by him in consequence of the nature or condition of any such land, premises, ship, aircraft or vehicle as is mentioned in subsection (2), or in consequence of the nature or condition of any equipment or supplies used for the purposes of the Corps; and
- (b) the Minister certifies that his suffering that thing has been or will be treated as attributable to service for the purposes of entitlement to compensation under section 15,

nor shall any act or omission of an officer of the Government subject him to liability in tort for death or personal injury, in so far as the death or personal injury is due to anything suffered by a member of the Corps if —

- (i) at the time when that thing is suffered by that other person, he is either on duty as a member of the Corps or is, though not on duty as such, on any land, premises, ship, aircraft or



vehicle for the time being used for the purposes of the Corps; and

- (ii) the Minister certifies that his suffering that thing has been or will be treated as attributable to service for the purposes of entitlement to compensation under section 15.
- (4) The Minister may, if satisfied that it is a fact —
- (a) that a person was or was not on any particular occasion on duty as a member of the Corps; or
  - (b) that at any particular time any land, premises, ship, aircraft, vehicle, equipment or supplies was or was not, or were or were not, used for the purposes of the Corps,

issue a certificate certifying that to be the fact; and any such certificate shall, for the purposes of this section, be conclusive as to the fact which it certifies.

### **Exemptions**

**17.** Nothing in the Arms Offences Act (Cap. 14) and the Corrosive and Explosive Substances and Offensive Weapons Act (Cap. 65) shall apply to members of the Corps whilst on parade or in the course of their duty.

### **Regulations**

**18.—(1)** The Council may, with the approval of the Minister, make such regulations as may be necessary or expedient to carry out the provisions of this Act.

(2) Without prejudice to the generality of subsection (1), the Council may make regulations relating to —

- (a) the organisation, control, administration and discipline of the Corps;
- (b) training;
- (c) the appointment, promotion, advancement or reduction in rank of officers and the termination of services of officers;

- (d) the age and other qualifications for cadet membership, promotion, advancement or reduction in rank of cadets and dispensation with the services of cadets;
- (e) the payment of allowances;
- (f) the award of decorations;
- (g) the award of compensation in respect of death or personal injury arising out of or in the execution of duty and which is solely due to and attributable to the discharge of such duty; and
- (h) dress.

### **Transfer of officers and cadets**

**19.** All persons who, immediately before 1st April 1973, were officers commissioned or persons enrolled in the Army Cadet Corps, the Singapore Sea Cadet Corps and the Singapore Air Training Corps shall be deemed to be officers appointed or persons enrolled under this Act, as the case may be; and such officers and persons so appointed and enrolled, respectively, shall have the rank and seniority not less favourable than those accorded to them immediately before 1st April 1973.

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY  
NATIONAL CADET CORPS ACT  
(CHAPTER 194)

This Legislative History is provided for the convenience of users of the National Cadet Corps Act. It is not part of the Act.

**1. Act 35 of 1972 — National Cadet Corps Act 1972**

Date of First Reading : 2 June 1972  
(Bill No. 24/72 published on  
7 June 1972)

Date of Second and Third Readings : 22 November 1972

Date of commencement : 1 April 1973

**2. 1985 Revised Edition — National Cadet Corps Act (Chapter 194)**

Date of operation : 30 March 1987

**3. 2014 Revised Edition — National Cadet Corps Act (Chapter 194)**

Date of operation : 28 February 2014