



Guide to the Medals and Awards of the Association.

This guide is intended to provide information on the different medals available, application process and wearing of medals.

From the beginning of the Professional Fire Brigades Association and the National Fire Brigades Association, which merged in 1949 to form the British Fire Services Association the awarding of long service medals has been at the heart of the association. That proud tradition continues today. The introduction of the Fire Brigades Long Service and Good Conduct medal in 1954 was restricted to Firefighters in local government and government fire services. The BFSA still continues to provide medals to the whole of the fire & rescue community.

Long Service Medals: There are two medals available for the recognition of long service and efficiency.

Bronze Long Service Medal: This medal is available to members having completed 10 years' service with an approved fire service and having normally held membership of the association for a minimum period of two years. Bars are available to mark an additional period of five years. *A Bronze Rosette is worn on a medal ribbon to indicate a bar.*



This medal is available on application from the General Secretary.

Silver Long Service Medal: This medal is available to members having completed 20 years' service with an approved fire service and having normally held membership of the association for a minimum period of two years. Bars are available to mark additional periods of five years a bronze oakleaf is worn to denote 35 years' and a silver oakleaf is worn on the medal to denote 40 years' service.

A Silver Rosette is worn on a medal ribbon to indicate each bar.

Holders of both the Silver & Bronze medals should only wear the Silver medal.



This medal is available on application from the General Secretary.

Meritorious Service Decoration: This medal is available to members who have undertaken a meritorious act at an operational incident or have given long and meritorious service to the Association.



Nominations for this award must be submitted on the Medal Application Form to the General Secretary and will be considered by the Governing Council or a committee appointed for that purpose.

Nominees for long and meritorious service to the Association would normally be expected to have been previously awarded the Meritorious Service Certificate.

Gallantry Medal: This medal is the premier award of the Association and is available to members for outstanding acts of personal Gallantry.
In exceptional circumstance, non-association members may be considered for the award.



Nominations for this award must be submitted on the Medal Application Form to the General Secretary and will be considered by the Governing Council or a committee appointed for that purpose.

Commendation Medal: This medal is available to members of the fire service who, upon recommendation can be awarded the medal for any Commendable Service. This medal is not restricted to Association members.



This medal is available on application from the General Secretary.

Guidance on the wearing of BFSA medals.

Medals of the Association should be worn on the right and in the following order of precedence;

Gallantry Medal; Meritorious Service Decoration; Commendation Medal; Long Service Medal.

Miniature medals are available for each of the medals and should be worn in the same order.

Other Awards.

- *Meritorious Service Certificate*; This Certificate is available to members of the Association who have undertaken outstanding acts at an operational incident or have given long and meritorious service to the Association either Nationally or at District level.
Nominations for this certificate must be submitted in writing to the General Secretary and will be considered by the Governing Council or committee appointed for that purpose.
- *Governing Council Commendation*; This Commendation is available to members of the Association where it is considered that they have undertaken commendable acts at an operational incident or given commendable service to the Association.
Nominations for this certificate must be submitted in writing to the General Secretary and will be considered by the Governing Council or committee appointed for that purpose.
- *Chairman's Letter of Congratulations*: This letter is available to members of the Association where it is considered that they have undertaken acts at an operational incident or given good service to the Association either Nationally or at District level.
Nominations for the Letter must be made in writing to the General Secretary and will be considered by the General Secretary and Chairman of the Governing Council.