

# THE AWARDING OF CULTURAL COLOURS AT RBHS

(Updated August 2023)

This policy is reviewed on a regular basis by the heads of activities to keep it in line with criteria and policies at similar schools and to ensure that fairness prevails. Criteria may therefore change from time to time.

## Introduction:

- Culture is one of four areas of excellence that are recognised at Rondebosch Boys' High School for the purpose of awarding school colours.
- These awards are made in recognition of excellence at a senior level and length of service in the fields of Debating, Music and Drama offered at Rondebosch Boys' High School
- A boy may be awarded Colours at any stage, but may only wear such colours after entering Grade Ten.
- A boy may receive colours awards in as many disciplines as he qualifies for, but may only wear four scrolls under his badge.
- A Prefect may wear the "Prefect" scroll under any badge in addition to the maximum scrolls as describes in the previous paragraph.

## Cultural Colours Committee composition:

The Cultural Committee shall consist of the Teacher-in-Charge of each of the three disciplines; Drama, Debating and Music, a Chairperson nominated by the Headmaster, and/or the Deputy Headmaster (only for the purpose of awarding colours). Each member shall have one vote, with the Chairperson having the casting vote if necessary. A member who represents more than one cultural activity, shall have one vote only. In exceptional cases, the respective Teachers-in-Charge may send a representative to speak on their behalf, but that representative shall not have voting rights. A quorum shall consist of three (3) of the four members, including the Chairperson and/or the Deputy Headmaster.

## Meeting Frequency:

The committee shall meet on two occasions:

1. At the end of the third term for awards to Matrics in time for Speech Night.
2. At the end of the fourth term for awards in time for Prize Giving.

## Procedures:

- The Teacher-in-Charge shall present their nominations to the Chairperson at least one week prior to the meeting together with a motivation for each nominee reflecting the standards reached of the nominee.
- The Chairperson shall circulate these nominations to the other members at the meeting.
- After discussion by the members, where standards of awards proposed are verified, the nominations are made by mutual consent (or vote, in the case of a borderline candidate)
- The Chairperson shall present the final list of nominations to the Deputy Headmaster, who will inform the Headmaster and staff.
- The awards are made in assembly as soon after the meeting as possible.

## Colours Display:

- **Colours:**
  - The wearing of the Colours badge
  - Normal scroll in Fletcher Blue with Gold writing



DEBATING

- **Honours:**

- The wearing of the Colours badge
- Normal scroll in Fletcher Blue with Marchand Blue edging and Gold writing



- **Distinctions:**

- The wearing of the Colours badge with Laurels
- Normal scroll in Marchand Blue with Gold writing



## DEBATING

- **Colours** should be awarded to a candidate who:
  - represented the school as member of a competitive debating team for at least two years, or less in *exceptional* circumstances.
  - achieved a high level of performance in the Rotary League (by at least making the knock-out rounds of the competition).
  - His manner must be supportive of the Debating Society and the coach, and his behaviour must be of a high standard.
- **Honours** should be awarded to a candidate who:
  - represented the school as member of a competitive debating team for at least three years, or less in *exceptional* circumstances.
  - achieved a high level of performance in more than one outside competition.
  - His manner must be supportive of the Debating Society and the coach, and his behaviour must be of a very high standard and he is an example for all to emulate.
  - A good level of leadership and clear evidence of skill development is necessary for this award.
  - Selection for an U18 or U19 Western Province A-team is an indication of the level of debating expected. However, if a debater was not selected for such a team, the committee may award Honours if they feel that the debater was of a comparable standard.
- **Distinctions** should be awarded to a candidate who:
  - represented the school as member of a competitive debating team for at least four years, or less in *exceptional* circumstances.
  - His manner must be supportive of the Debating Society and the coach, and his behaviour must be of a very high standard and he is an example for all to emulate.

- A good level of leadership as well as commitment to mentoring and developing the skills of younger debaters, to ensure the vitality of the society, is a prerequisite.
- Selection for an U18 or U19 South African team is an indication of the level of debating expected. However, if a debater was not selected for such a team, the committee may award Distinctions if they feel that the debater was of a comparable standard.

## DRAMA

- **Colours** should be awarded to an actor who:
  - has been actively involved in Drama for at least two years, or less in *exceptional* circumstances.
  - Drama consists of being involved in at least two the following for each of the two years:
    - Eisteddfod/External play festivals
    - One-Act Plays
    - The Main production
    - Stage Management
  - The candidate must be a good actor/director/manager.
  - His manner must be supportive of the cast, the crew and the director, and his behaviour must be of a high standard.
  
- **Honours** should be awarded to an actor who:
  - has been actively involved in Drama for at least three years, or less in *exceptional* circumstances.
  - Drama consists of being involved in at least two of the following each of the three years:
    - Eisteddfod/External play festivals
    - One-Act Plays
    - The Main production
    - Stage Management for at least:
      - one mainstream production
      - and at least two student productions
  - The candidate must be a very good actor/director/manager.
  - He must show great initiative and responsibility, and be one who supports when not participating.
  - His manner must be supportive of the cast, the crew and the director, and his behaviour must be of a very high standard and he is an example for all to emulate.
  
- **Distinctions** should be awarded to an actor who:
  - has been actively involved in Drama for at least four years, or less in *exceptional* circumstances.
  - Drama consists of being involved in at least two of the following for each of the four years:
    - Eisteddfod/External play festivals
    - One-Act Plays
    - The Main production
    - Stage Management.
  - In addition, over the period of four years, he must be involved in:
    - at least two productions as an actor
    - at least two productions as a director
    - at least two productions as a stage manager
  - The candidate must be an exceptionally good actor/director/manager.
  - He must show great initiative and responsibility, and be one who supports when not participating.
  - His manner must be supportive of the cast, the crew and the director, and his behaviour must be of a very high standard and he is an example for all to emulate.

## MUSIC

- **Colours** should be awarded to a musician who:
  - has for at least three years, or less in *exceptional* circumstances been a member of at least one of the following:
    - Chamber Choir
    - String Ensemble

- Concert Bands
    - Jazz Bands
    - Gig Band
  - achieved a high level of performance at Grade 5 level,
  - has been a committed musician who through initiative, dedication and practice and involvement in the musical activities of the school as a performer and supporter is clearly seen as an example for others to emulate.
- **Honours** should be awarded to a musician who:
    - has for at least four years, or less in *exceptional* circumstances been a member of at least one of the following:
      - Chamber Choir
      - String Ensemble
      - Concert Bands
      - Jazz Bands
      - Gig Band
    - achieved a high level of performance at Grade 7 level.
    - In the case of a solo instrument, the candidate must have been a regular performer at concerts over a period of at least three years.
    - expanded on his leadership and performance skills.
    - achieved excellence in Eisteddfod work, practical exmas, competitions, and concert performances
    - took on greater leadership responsibilities in the musical activities of the school and broader community
    - sets high musical and leadership standards for others to emulate
  - **Distinction** should be awarded to a musician who:
    - has for at least four years, or less in *exceptional* circumstances been a member of at least one of the following:
      - Chamber Choir
      - String Ensemble
      - Concert Bands
      - Jazz Bands
      - Gig Band
    - achieved a high level of performance at Grade 8 level
    - was a regular performer at concerts
    - achieved excellence in Eisteddfod work, practical exmas, competitions, and concert performances
    - The candidate must be seen as an exceptional musician and leader who truly inspires his peers to strive for all-round excellence.