



The Royal Army Veterinary Corps Association

Regimental Headquarters

Each constituent Corps of the Army Medical Services has its own Regimental Headquarters (RHQ). The principal officer of each RHQ is the Regimental Secretary who is a C2”(MSF). Each Regimental Secretary is accountable directly to their respective Corps’ Director for regimental affairs.

The Regimental Secretary RAMC is a C1 and has the additional responsibility of resource management and co-ordination within the four RHQs.

Regimental Headquarters Royal Army Veterinary Corps

The Regimental Headquarters is the focal point for all regimental affairs of the Corps including ceremonial, customs, major events, dress and insignia, in memoriam, RHQ RAVC Central Fund and RAVC property inventory. It provides the secretariat to the Colonel Commandant and the Corps Council.

A secretariat is provided for the RAVC Welfare & Benevolent Fund, the RAVC Association, RAVC Officers Club and the RAVC Division of the British Veterinary Association. Aftercare is also provided for recently discharged personnel and widows/ widowers of personnel who die in service. The RHQ also manages the regimental magazine of the RAVC ‘*Chiron Calling*’, which includes editorial responsibility.

The Colonel in Chief Royal Army Veterinary Corps

The appointment of a Colonel in Chief is the personal prerogative of the Sovereign. HM the Queen appointed HRH The Princess Royal KG KT GCVO QSO, Colonel in Chief of Royal Army Veterinary Corps on 1 July 2003.

Colonels’ Commandant Royal Army Veterinary Corps

General

The Royal Army Veterinary Corps has a Colonel Commandant who is supported by an Honorary Colonel Commandant. The Colonel Commandant provides guidance and support on matters of Corps interest and represents the needs of the Corps to higher authority when necessary. The Honorary Colonel Commandant provides a link in historic Corps management

Selection

The Colonel Commandant is normally a senior serving officer, although he may retire from active service during tenure, of at least Major General rank. The Colonel Commandant will be recommended by the Military Secretary for appointment by Her Majesty The Queen. The Military Secretary will make his recommendation based upon the advice of the incumbent Colonel Commandant. The Honorary Colonel Commandant is normally the immediate past Director Army Veterinary and Remounts Services (DAVRS).

Tenures of Appointment

The Colonel Commandant will have an initial tenure of 5 years subject to the normal age limit for Colonels Commandant of 65 years. The tenure may be extended to 10 years if the Corps wishes. The Honorary Colonel Commandant will have tenure of up to 4 years or for the period of tenure of the incumbent DAVRS, whichever is the lesser period.

Responsibilities

The main responsibilities of the Colonel Commandant and Honorary Colonel Commandant, are to guard Corps traditions, to foster esprit-de-corps, and to represent regimental/Corps interests. These responsibilities include:

- a. Advice to the Army Department on matters on which directly consulted.
- b. Advice to DGAMS on any matter raised by him or which the Corps Council feels should be brought to his attention.
- c. Advice to DAVRS and RAVC unit Commanders on regimental/Corps matters.
- e. Advice on regimental organisations, RAVC Welfare & Benevolent Fund, RHQ RAVC Central Fund and properties.
- f. Maintenance of good will and liaison between all parts of the RAVC including, in cooperation with the Senior TA Officer, the Territorial Army.

The Colonel Commandant additionally:

- a. Takes precedence within the Corps on specific Corps occasions and in accordance with Corps traditions.
- b. Acts as a "roving auditor" of RAVC management by visiting as many RAVC units worldwide as time and finances permit and reports to DAVRS.
- c. If for any reason he is unable to perform his duties, he may nominate the Honorary Colonel Commandant to deputise for him.

Channels of Communication

Communication to and from the Colonel Commandant is to be directed through the Regimental Secretary RAVC at Regimental Headquarters RAVC.

Ex-Officio Appointments

The Colonel Commandant is an ex-officio:

Chairman, RAVC Council

President, RAVC Association

Chairman RAVC Welfare & Benevolent Fund Committee of Management.

RAVC Officers Club committee member

Corps Council

Council Meetings

The Corps Council meets routinely twice a year. Extraordinary meetings may be held as necessary. Council meetings are to be chaired by the Colonel Commandant RAVC or, in his absence, the Honorary Colonel Commandant. The Regimental Secretary RAVC is a member of the Corps Council and also acts as Secretary to it.

ROYAL ARMY VETERINARY CORPS CENTRAL FUND

OBJECTS OF THE RAVC CENTRAL FUND

The income of the fund may be expended on:

- a. The Insurance of Corps property held to account in the RHQ RAVC Inventory.
- b. Maintenance of Corps property.
- c. The RAVC annual subscription to AMS Sports Fund.
- d. Support of Corps activities as may be determined by the Corps Council.
- e. Support to other non-charitable internal organisations (eg RAVC Association, RAVC Officers' Club, RAVC HQ Mess etc).
- f. Support of the other non-charitable Corps causes eg Prize Funds, Presentations, subscriptions to learned societies or institutions, etc.

INCOME

The income of the fund shall be derived from:

- a. Voluntary Subscriptions received from those officers of the Royal Army Veterinary Corps holding Regular or Short Service Commissions and from officers removed from the Corps on the active list. The rate of subscription to be decided by the Corps Council within the maximum permitted by the Queen's Regulations.

- b. A subscription of £25 p.a. levied upon all RAVC TA officers
- c. Sundry voluntary donations made by individuals and units.
- e. Interest or investments made with monies of the Fund.

SUBSCRIPTIONS WHEN AND HOW PAID

The annual subscription is deducted from pay monthly under the Governments "Payroll Giving" initiative, commencing on the first full month after completing the subscription authorisation. Subscriptions should be paid as follows:

- a. Serving officers by deduction monthly from pay by JPA in 12 equal installments
- b. TA Officers by demand on an account presented by the Regimental Secretary RAVC on or about 1 January annually.

COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT

1. The Corps Fund shall be controlled and administered by the Corps Council comprised as under -

Chairman: Colonel Commandant RAVC

Secretary: Regimental Secretary RAVC.

Members:

- a. Honorary Colonel Commandant RAVC
- b. Director Army Veterinary and Remount Services
- c. Commanding Officer Defence Animal Centre
- d. Senior TA officer RAVC.
- e. Chairman Committee of Management RAVC Association
- f. SO1 Vets, Army Medical Services or equivalent as nominated by DAVRS

In the event that any of these officers are not RAVC or late RAVC, the Chairman will nominate a relief.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

The Corps Council shall meet twice a year, usually in March and October.

NOTICE OF MEETINGS

Fourteen days notice of meetings will be sent to members together with the Agenda.

TRAVELLING EXPENSES

Members of the Committee of Management who are obliged to travel at their own expense can have their normal expenses paid from the Corps Central Fund. These will include meals during the journey, accommodation for night at the Headquarter Mess and the second class return railway journey fare between their place of residence and the location for the meeting.

APPLICATION FOR GRANT

An application for a grant shall be made in writing through a caseworker to the Regimental Secretary RAVC giving full details to substantiate the need including the level of individual participant contribution and assistance from other sources. Application for Adventurous Training Grant shall be made direct to the Regimental Secretary.

FINANCIAL CONTROL

The Corps RHQ Fund financial control is to be exercised by the Corps Council through the DAVRS. The Regimental Secretary RAVC and SO1 Vets, AMD are the authorized signatory for cheques drawn against the RHQ RAVC Central Fund.

ALTERATION TO RULES

Any proposals for alterations or additions to the rules of the RHQ RAVC Central Fund shall be sent to the Regimental Secretary for consideration at the next meeting of the Corps Council.

ROYAL ARMY VETERINARY CORPS ASSOCIATION

Governing Document - Constitution and Rules for the RAVC Association

Patron	None
President	Colonel Commandant RAVC
Executive Vice President	Honorary Colonel Commandant RAVC

Origin: Formed in 1921.

Management: Committee of Management consisting of the following members meets twice a year.

Chairman - Serving or retired officer of the RAVC.

Secretary - The Regimental Secretary RAVC

Members

Commanding Officer Defence Animal Centre

Regimental Sergeant Major RAVC

Senior serving LE officer RAVC,

Up to six members elected at the annual general meeting

Objectives

To foster esprit de Corps amongst all ranks, serving and retired, of the Royal Army Veterinary Corps.

To organise an Annual Reunion.

To circulate Corps information to the members.

To inform the Secretary of the Corps Welfare & Benevolent Fund of members or dependants in need.

To ensure, where possible, a decent funeral for any member of the Corps serving or retired.

Membership: There are two forms of membership.

Ordinary Membership – Serving and retired members of the RAVC, including those Officers and soldiers that have served in the TA, are entitled to Ordinary Membership.

Associate Membership – Persons not eligible ordinary membership, including former WRAC (Kennel Maid & Grooms etc) and HKMSC who have served in a RAVC unit, who have an interest in the Association, may be invited to apply for Associate Membership.

Branches:

Branches may be established in the UK where sufficient interest exists to form a branch. Presently there is only one Branch known as the Melton Branch.

Income:

The Association obtains its income from members' life subscription, interest and dividends from its investments and donations.

Administration:

The Office of the Association is located at

Regimental Headquarters RAVC
Headquarters Army Medical Services
The Former Army Staff College
Slim Road
CAMBERLEY
Surrey
GU15 4NP

ROYAL ARMY VETERINARY CORPS WELFARE & BENEVOLENT FUND

Governing Document Charity Commission for England and Wales Scheme adopted 1 April 1994 (as amended on 1 April and 1 November 2007)

Origin

The new scheme incorporates the two previous Charitable Funds amalgamated into one fund for ease of management and accounting.

The funds which were amalgamated were:

RAVC Officers' Benevolent Fund
RAVC Benevolent Fund

The Registered Number of the Charity is 1037208

Management

The Fund is managed by a Board of Trustees, which total eight when complete, namely:

Colonel Commandant RAVC
Honorary Colonel Commandant RAVC
Director Army Veterinary and Remount Services
Commanding Officer Defence Animal Centre
OC 101 Military Working Dog Support Unit
Senior serving RAVC LE officer
Regimental Sergeant Major RAVC
Regimental Secretary RAVC

The Regimental Secretary RAVC is Secretary and Treasurer to the Fund.

The Trustees meet twice annually to consider general matters of the fund.

A Grants Sub-Committee is authorised to manage the day to day consideration of applications for assistance and to administer welfare and benevolent grants as it considers appropriate. The Regimental Secretary is authorised to administer grants no greater than £500 without reference to the Grants Sub-Committee.

The Grants Sub-Committee shall comprise:

Commanding Officer Defence Animal Centre
Senior serving RAVC LE officer

Regimental Sergeant Major RAVC

Regimental Secretary RAVC

Responsibilities of Trustees and Procedures for the management of the Charity are laid down in the Charity Commissioners Scheme.

Objectives

The objects of the Fund are:

- (1) to promote the efficiency of the Royal Army Veterinary Corps by fostering esprit de corps, comradeship and the welfare of the Corps and preserving its traditions.
- (2) the relief of past and present members of the Royal Army Veterinary Corps, and their dependants, who are in need by virtue of financial hardship, sickness or the effects of old age by grants, loans, gifts pensions or otherwise

Note: Grants may also be made to organisations that support the needs of the ex-service community that may be of benefit to such present or former members of the Corps

Income

The RAVC Welfare & Benevolent Fund obtains its income from interest and dividends from its investments and from Officers and Soldiers of the RAVC by Voluntary Regimental Subscription at the recommended rate of 1.50% of one day's basic pay for officers and .50% for soldiers of one day's basic pay collected through JPA monthly.

Administration

The Office of the Fund is located at

Regimental Headquarters RAVC
Headquarters Army Medical Services
The Former Army Staff College
Slim Road
CAMBERLEY
Surrey
GU15 4NP

ROYAL ARMY VETERINARY CORPS OFFICERS' CLUB

Governing document: Rules and General Information for the RAVC Officers' Club.

Origin

The Club was founded in 1880 when the first annual dinner was held but it was not until 1920 that officers were required to make an annual subscription. The monies thus received became effectively the Corps Fund and for many years funded such expenses as insurance premiums for Corps property, supported the RAVC Museum

and met other sundry Corps expenses. The RHQ RAVC Central Fund now supports these expenses and officers are no longer required to subscribe to the Officer Club fund.

Objects

The objects of the officers' club are:

To provide a medium by which serving and retired officers may enjoy social intercourse by organising an annual dinner in June and any other social events that the Committee considers appropriate, and,

Through the RAVC Division of the British Veterinary Association, which is part of the RAVC Officers' Club:

- a. Cultivate and promote veterinary medicine and surgery and the branches of science connected therewith.
- b. Provide opportunities for serving and retired officers to meet and discuss problems of mutual interest.
- c. Establish a firm liaison between veterinary officers of the Army and their civilian confreres, and between veterinary officers of the Allied Forces.

Management

The management of the RAVC Officers Club is vested in a committee comprising:

Director, Army Veterinary & Remount Services

Colonel Commandant Royal Army Veterinary Corps

Honorary Colonel Commandant Royal Army Veterinary Corps

Commanding Officer Defence Animal Centre

OC 101 MWD Support Unit

Regimental; Secretary Royal Army Veterinary Corps

Three members elected annually – one serving, one TA and one a retired officer.

Administration

The Office of the Club is located at

Regimental Headquarters RAVC
Headquarters Army Medical Services
The Former Army Staff College
Slim Road
CAMBERLEY
Surrey
GU15 4NP