



Gold & Silversmiths Guild of Australia

RULES, BYLAWS & STANDARDS

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Page
Rules Relating to Guild and Date Marks	1
Rules Relating to Membership -	
Fellow Membership	3
Full Membership	7
Affiliate Membership	12
Life Membership	16
Honorary Membership	18
ByLaws	20
Composition and Marking of Precious Metals	
Standards	
1. Scope	21
2. Definitions	21
3. Composition	22
4. Designation	24
5. Marking	27
6. Filled Articles	27
7. Non-Precious Metal Components	28
Note from Gold and Silversmiths Guild of Australia	29

RULES RELATING TO GUILD & DATE MARKS

1. The Guild Mark must be used only in conjunction with a Member's Makers Mark currently registered on the Guild's Touch Plate.
2. The Guild Mark must always be accompanied by a metal purity mark.
3. The Guild Mark can only be applied to Gold, Silver, Platinum or Palladium and their alloys as set out in the Standards for the "Composition and Marking of Precious Metals". *(Res. 30.4.03.)*
4. The Guild Mark can be struck only on a Member's own work, or works produced under a Member's direct control in supervised workshop conditions. A Member's Punch is not transferable except after written application and only by direct authority of the National Council. *(Res. 30.4.03.)*
5. The Guild Mark must be struck directly onto a Member's work; it cannot be moulded, stamped or reproduced in any way on a piece of work.
6. The Guild Mark may be used on articles which are:
 - a) individually made, OR
 - b) reproduced by casting, stamping or other form of reproduction, provided that, in the case of reproduced work, the Member takes responsibility for the quality of the material and work not wrought by the Member.
7. A Member's recognised staff, subject to the conditions of Rule 4, may strike the Guild Mark.
8. The Guild Mark must **not** be applied to products which are an assemblage of commercially available components.

9. The Guild Mark may be applied to works in precious metals which satisfy the conditions of Rule 3 but which also incorporate non-metallic substances or non-precious metals, provided that it is clear to the observer that the article is predominantly precious metal, and what is not is obvious, as set out in the Standards for the “Composition and Marking of Precious Metals”.
10. The correct order of Marks on articles of gold and silver is:
Makers Mark – Metal Purity – Guild Mark – Date Mark.
(Res. 30.4.03.)

LEGEND:

- (Res.00.00.00.)* Resolution and Date passed by
National Council
- (Clause XX.XX)* Refers to Constitutional Clauses

RULES RELATING TO MEMBERSHIP

Under Clause 6.3, 6.4, 6.5, 6.6, 7.0 8.0 of the current Constitution

FELLOW

Fellow of the Gold and Silversmiths Guild of Australia.

Definition

An individual, professional craftsperson in the Precious Metals industry.

An individual, professional educator, teaching in the area of Gold and Silver smithing in either a full-time or part-time capacity.

A partnership of professional craftspersons in the Precious Metals industry engaged in construction in concert.

Admission

An applicant must satisfy the Guild Council of their eligibility for membership as required in Constitutional Clause 6.3.

An applicant must be an Australian citizen or permanent resident of at least two years.

An applicant will nominate two referees:

- Technical
- A person or institution involved in working with or training the applicant, or otherwise qualified to comment on the skill level of the applicant's work
- Business
- A person involved in a facet of the industry qualified to comment on the business reliability and efficiency of the applicant.

An applicant must provide a design image in bromide / black and white or laser quality of their current makers Mark/s.

An applicant must provide a recent photograph of himself / herself.

An applicant must pay the required joining fee and/or membership fee, as determined by the National Council from time to time. (*Clause 15*).

An applicant must give written undertaking to uphold the aims and standards of the Guild, the use of the Punch and registered symbols of the Guild as prescribed by the Constitution, Rules and ByLaws.

(Clause 6.5ii).

An applicant must be able to satisfy the Guild Council of their level of practical skill by reference to Training and/or Competency. (Unless exempted, the applicant must provide examples of their work, such being that of the actual applicant and reflect a good cross-section of everyday work)..

An applicant's normal work must meet the minimum standard as reviewed by the Council and their success determined by at least a five to two majority.

Two members of the Assessment Review Committee, or National Councillors, must review the actual work done by any potential member, seconded by the 'Invitational Method' of recruitment.

(28.07.1998.)

An applicant who is unsuccessful for reasons pertaining to the quality of the work submitted must be informed as to the reasons for refusal and may be invited to submit a further application at a later date.

Rights and Obligations

A Fellow will use the Guild Mark of a Kangaroo Head in profile inside a square outline set on its diagonal.

A Fellow must design and substantially make a work for it to be stamped with the Diamond border Guild Punch.

A Fellow will be given their first Guild Punch incurring no fee, and it and all subsequent Guild Punches shall remain the property of the Guild.

(Clause 4iv & 8.2)

A Fellow will have their Mark/s embossed on fine silver plates to be kept in perpetuity by the Guild, called "Touch Plates". *(Clause 4v)*

A Fellow will receive one certificate acknowledging their acceptance into the Guild but, where members have more than one business establishment, they may obtain a duplicate provided that said duplicate is clearly marked as such. (26.06.1999)

A Fellow must pay all fees and charges for any Guild services by the due dates as prescribed by the Constitution as determined from time to time by the National Council. (Clause 15)

A Fellow must uphold the Aims, Rules, ByLaws and Standards of the Guild, acting in a professional manner as befitting a member of the Guild.

A Fellow may stand for Council elections and has the right to vote at any Annual General Meeting or Extraordinary Meeting where members vote is appropriate.

A Fellow may attend any National Council Meeting as an observer.

A Fellow may serve on any sub-committee as determined from time to time by the National Council.

A Fellow has the right to all mutual benefits of membership of the Guild:

- Meetings
- Workshops
- Exhibitions
- Social Functions
- Punches
- All printed material
- Advertising material

Termination

The National Council reserves the right to repeal a Fellow membership should said member commit such an act outside the legislative laws of the land or allow the Guild by way of action or comment to be brought into disrepute.

The National Council, upon notification of the appointment of a receiver or a business going into voluntary liquidation, shall consider the member's position in relation to the aims and objectives of the Guild and, if determined to be contrary to those aims, will repeal said membership.

A Fellow member who falsely strikes any registered Marks of the Guild on any piece of work contravening the Constitution, Rules and ByLaws of the Guild is subject to termination of membership.

A Fellow member who fails to pay appropriate fees and charges within the specified time, provided that the Guild Council has made reasonable endeavour to inform the member and collect said fees, is subject to termination of membership.

A Fellow member may cease membership of the Guild voluntarily by informing the National Council in writing of their decision and stating the reason for resignation.

Expulsion

The National Council, upon complaint or infringement, shall investigate and make a decision and, should the National Council advise expulsion of a Fellow Member, such advice and a full disclosure of the reasons will be put to an Annual General Meeting or Extraordinary Meeting for ratification.

The National Council, upon complaint or infringement, will notify the member in writing at least seven days prior to a meeting being held and the member will have the right to address the meeting in person, or writing, by way of defence.

The National Council will hold a secret ballot at an Annual General Meeting or Extraordinary Meeting and, by majority, vote on the expulsion of said member.

A Fellow member expelled from the Guild has the right to reapply for admission to the Guild if, in their opinion, those factors causing the expulsion have ceased to be relevant.

An application will not be accepted within 24 months of the expulsion and such application will not necessarily be granted a renewed membership.

A Fellow Member of the Guild, whatever the reason or circumstance who ceases to be a member, shall forfeit the right to use the Guild Punch or any registered image of the Guild, and the Punch which remains the property of the Guild shall be returned within 14 days of cessation of membership. (*Clause 8.2*)

RULES RELATING TO MEMBERSHIP

Under Clause 6.3, 6.4, 6.5, 6.6, 7.0 8.0 of the current Constitution

FULL

Full Member of the Gold and Silversmiths Guild of Australia.

Definition

An individual who has a registered business engaged in Australian made precious metal, jewellery articles or object de art, owning and operating a supervised workshop employing or subcontracting manufacturing gold and silversmiths.

An applicant who is successful will be the registered user of the Guild symbols and Punches, and will be solely responsible for the appropriate display of the Guild symbols and application and use of the Guild Punch in their supervised workshop employing or subcontracting manufacturing gold and silversmiths.

Admission

An applicant must satisfy the Guild Council of their eligibility for membership as required in the Constitution. *(Clause 6.3b)*

An applicant will nominate two business referees – a person involved in a facet of the industry qualified to comment on the business reliability and efficiency of the applicant.

An applicant may or may not be a gold or silversmith; an applicant may or may not hold Fellow Membership of the Guild.

An applicant must provide a design image in bromide / black and white or laser quality of their current Makers Mark/s or workshop / store insignia.

An applicant must provide a recent photograph of himself / herself.

An applicant must pay the required joining fee and/or membership fee, as determined by the National Council from time to time.

(Clause 15)

An applicant must give written undertaking to uphold the aims and standards of the Guild, the use of the Punch, and registered symbols of the Guild as prescribed by the Constitution, Rules and ByLaws.

(Clause 6.5ii)

An applicant must be able to satisfy the Guild Council of their diligence and control in quality management and Australian manufactured content of work offered for sale in retail, wholesale or other method of distribution / sale.

Two members of the Assessment Review Committee, or National Councillors, must review the actual work done by any potential member, seconded by the 'Invitational Method' of recruitment.

(28.07.1998.)

An applicant who is unsuccessful for reasons pertaining to the quality of the work or other reason must be informed as to the reasons for refusal and may be invited to submit a further application at a later date.

Rights and Obligations

A Full Member will use the Guild Mark of a Kangaroo Head in profile inside a circular outline.

A Full Member may or may not use the current date stamp letter inside a circular outline.

(Clause 5i,iii)

A Full Member will only use the Kangaroo Head in profile inside a circular outline in advertising or promotion and at no time use the square on its diagonal - the distinctive symbol of a Fellow Member.

A Full Member will be given their first Guild Punch incurring no fee, and it and all subsequent Guild Punches shall remain the property of the Guild.

(Clause 4iv & 8.2)

A Full Member will have their Mark/s embossed on plates to be kept in perpetuity by the Guild, called "Membership Plates" and any worker for said member will be recorded by the Guild and they may or may not have their own Makers Mark.

A Full Member will receive one certificate acknowledging their acceptance into the Guild but, where members have more than one business establishment, they may obtain a duplicate provided that said duplicate is clearly marked as such.

(26.06.1999)

A Full Member must pay all fees and charges for any Guild Services by the due dates as prescribed by the Constitution as determined from time to time by the National Council.

(Clause 15)

A Full Member must uphold the Aims, Rules ByLaws and Standards of the Guild, acting in a professional manner as befitting a member of the Guild.

A Full Member may stand for Council elections and has the right to vote at any Annual General Meeting or Extraordinary Meeting where members vote is appropriate.

A Full Member may attend any National Council Meeting as an observer.

A Full Member may serve on any sub-committee as determined from time to time by the National Council.

A Full Member has the right to all mutual benefits of membership of the Guild:

- Meetings
- Workshops
- Exhibitions
- Social Functions
- Punches (circular border)
- All printed material
- Advertising material

A Full Membership will have two categories of fee structure based on number of employees - 1-4 full or part-time employees and 5 or more full or part-time employees.

Annual and Joining Fees will be determined by National Council and ratified by the Members at the Annual General Meeting.

(Clause 15ii)

Annual Fees for a Full Member who is also a Fellow Member shall be at a reduced rate.

Termination

The National Council reserves the right to repeal a Full Membership should said member commit such an act outside the legislative laws of the land or allow the Guild by way of action or comment to be bought into disrepute.

The National Council, upon notification of the appointment of a receiver or a business going into voluntary liquidation, shall consider the member's position in relation to the aims and objectives of the Guild and, if determined to be contrary to those aims, will repeal said membership.

A Full Member who falsely strikes any registered Marks of the Guild on any piece of work contravening the Constitution, Rules, ByLaws and Standards of the Guild, is subject to termination of membership.

A Full Member who fails to pay appropriate fees and chargers within the specified time, provided that the Guild Council has made reasonable endeavour to inform the member and collect said fees, is subject to termination of membership.

A Full Member may cease membership of the Guild voluntarily by informing the National Council in writing of their decision and stating the reason for resignation.

Expulsion

The National Council, upon complaint or infringement, shall investigate and make a decision and, should the National Council advise expulsion of a Full Member, such advice and a full disclosure of the reasons will be put to an Annual General Meeting or Extraordinary Meeting for ratification.

The National Council, upon complaint or infringement, will notify the member in writing at least seven days prior to a meeting being held and the member will have the right to address the meeting in person, or writing, by way of defence.

The National Council will hold a secret ballot at an Annual General Meeting or Extraordinary Meeting and, by majority, vote on the expulsion of said Member.

A Full Member expelled from the Guild has the right to reapply for admission to the Guild if, in their opinion, those factors causing the expulsion have ceased to be relevant.

An application will not be accepted within 24 months of the expulsion and such application will not necessarily be granted a renewed membership.

A Full Member of the Guild, whatever the reason or circumstance who ceases to be a member, shall forfeit the right to use the Guild Punch or any registered image of the Guild, and the Punch which remains the property of the Guild shall be returned within 14 days of cessation of membership.

(Clause 8.2)

RULES RELATING TO MEMBERSHIP

Under Clause 6.3, 6.4, 6.5, 6.6, 7.0 8.0 of the current Constitution

AFFILIATE

Affiliate Member of the Gold and Silversmiths Guild of Australia.

Definition

An individual enrolled in a recognised educational institution - ie. Student - Trainee.

A business or individual engaged in retail display and sale of handcrafted articles - ie. gallery or exhibition.

An individual or business engaged in the supply of raw or semi finished articles to the handcrafts person working in precious metals.

Admission

An applicant must submit evidence of enrolment in an apprenticeship, traineeship or design course in gold and silversmithing, jewellery making and repair, or arts related subjects.

An applicant must be able to satisfy the Guild Council of their level of practical skill by reference to Training and/or Competency.

An applicant must, if requested, be able to provide evidence of Australian designed and/or manufactured articles.

An applicant's normal work must meet the minimum standard as reviewed by the National Council and their success determined by at least a five to two majority.

And/or

An applicant must provide evidence of experience within the industry and give references that will support such experience and historical involvement of at least two years.

And/or

An applicant must be a recognised Industry Body or Association.

An applicant must provide a recent photograph of himself / herself.

An applicant must pay the required joining fee and/or membership fee, as determined by the National Council from time to time.

An applicant must give written undertaking to uphold the Aims and Standards of the Guild, and all registered symbols of the Guild as prescribed by the Constitution, Rules and ByLaws. *(Clause 6.5ii)*

An applicant who is unsuccessful for reasons pertaining to the quality of the work submitted must be informed as to the reasons for refusal and may be invited to submit a further application at a later date.

The National Council will notify an applicant in writing of the success or otherwise within 30 days of acceptance of all relevant paperwork.

Rights and Obligations

Affiliate Members will not be granted use of Guild Punches.

Affiliate Members have the rights to the following benefits of membership of the Guild:

- Meetings – as an observer
- Workshops
- Exhibitions – where affiliate work is included
- Social Functions
- Newsletters and Bulletins

Affiliate Members who advertise through the Guild may be given monetary concessions.

Affiliate Members may serve on subcommittees, as determined from time to time by the National Council, provided their numbers do not exceed two (2).

Affiliate Members will not have voting rights on any Guild matters.

Affiliate Members who use a Makers Mark shall have that mark registered with the Guild on such devise other than the Fine Silver Touch Plates.

Affiliate Members will be eligible for Fellow or Full Membership upon written application to the National Council and provided all admission requirements are completed.

Affiliate Membership shall have two categories of fee structure - Student / Other.

Annual and Joining Fees will be determined by National Council and ratified by the Members at the Annual General Meeting.

(Clause 15ii)

Termination

The National Council reserves the right to repeal an Affiliate Membership should said member commit such an act outside the legislative laws of the land or allow the Guild by way of action or comment to be brought into disrepute.

The National Council, upon notification of the appointment of a receiver or a business going into voluntary liquidation shall consider the member's position in relation to the aims and objectives of the Guild and, if determined to be contrary to those aims, will repeal said membership.

An Affiliate Member who falsely strikes any registered Marks of the Guild on any piece of work contravening the Constitution, Rules and ByLaws of the Guild.

An Affiliate Member who fails to pay appropriate fees and charges within the specified time, provided that the Guild Council has made reasonable endeavour to inform the member and collect said fees.

An Affiliate Member may cease membership of the Guild voluntarily by informing the National Council in writing of their decision and stating the reason for resignation.

Expulsion

The National Council, upon complaint or infringement, shall investigate and make a decision and, should the National Council advise expulsion of an Affiliate Member, such advice and a full disclosure of the reasons will be put to an Annual General Meeting or Extraordinary Meeting for ratification.

The National Council, upon complaint or infringement, will notify the member in writing at least seven days prior to a meeting being held and the member will have the right to address the meeting in person, or writing, by way of defence.

The National Council will hold a secret ballot at an Annual General Meeting or Extraordinary Meeting and, by majority, vote on the expulsion of said member.

An Affiliate Member expelled from the Guild has the right to reapply for admission to the Guild if, in their opinion, those factors causing the expulsion have ceased to be relevant.

An application will not be accepted within 24 months of the expulsion and such application will not necessarily be granted a renewed membership.

RULES RELATING TO MEMBERSHIP

Under Clause 6.3, 6.4, 6.5, 6.6, 7.0 8.0 of the current Constitution

LIFE

Life Member of the Gold and Silversmiths Guild of Australia.

Definition

Previously a Fellow of the Guild who, in the opinion of the National Council or members, has contributed significantly to the promotion and/or administration of the Guild.

Admission

Life Membership consideration will be by way of written submission to the National Council.

Life Membership may be awarded to those individuals who, in the assessment of the National Council, have made a substantial and recognisable contribution in services to the Guild.

Life Members will be awarded a badge of recognition at the next Annual General Meeting.

Rights and Obligations

Life Members will receive all benefits and obligations of a Fellow Member. *(Clause 6.3a)*

Life members will not be subject to the annual subscription.

Life Members will pay all other fees and charges associated with the Guild.

Life Membership is generally for life - it is expected that such member would uphold the Rules, ByLaws and Standards of the Guild.

Termination

The National Council will apply all Constitution, Rules and ByLaws pertaining to a Fellow Member Termination to a member who qualifies for Life Membership. (*Clause 6.3a, 7.0*)

Expulsion

The National Council will apply all Constitution, Rules and ByLaws pertaining to a Fellow Member Expulsion to a member who qualifies for Life Membership. (*Clause 6.39a, 8.0*)

RULES RELATING TO MEMBERSHIP

Under Clause 6.3, 6.4, 6.5, 6.6, 7.0 8.0 of the current Constitution

HONORARY

Honorary Member of the Gold and Silversmiths Guild of Australia.

Definition

An award presented to those who, in the assessment of the Guild at an Annual General Meeting, have made a recognisable contribution to the promotion of the Guild and/or wider industry.

Admission

Honorary Membership will be by way of nomination at an Annual General Meeting.

Honorary Membership will be subject to a majority vote, by show of hands of eligible members at an Annual General Meeting.

Rights and Obligations

Honorary Members have the rights to the following benefits of membership of the Guild:

- Meetings
- Workshops
- Social Functions
- Newsletters and Bulletins

Honorary Members may serve on subcommittees as determined from time to time by the National Council.

Honorary Members will not have voting rights on any Guild matter.

Honorary Members will not be granted use of the Guild Pitches.

Honorary Members will not pay fees to the Guild. (*Clause 15vi*)

Honorary Membership is generally for life - it is expected that such member would uphold the Rules, ByLaws and Standards of the Guild.

Termination

The National Council reserves the right to repeal an Honorary Membership should said member commit such an act outside the legislative laws of the land or allow the Guild by way of action or comment to be bought into disrepute.

The National Council, upon notification of the appointment of a receiver or a business going into voluntary liquidation, shall consider the member's position in relation to the aims and objectives of the Guild and, if determined to be contrary to those aims, will repeal said Honorary Membership.

An Honorary Member may cease membership of the Guild voluntarily by informing the National Council in writing of their decision and stating the reason for resignation.

Expulsion

The National Council, upon complaint or infringement, shall investigate and make a decision and, should the National Council advise expulsion of an Honorary Member, shall advise and a full disclosure of the reasons will be put to an Annual General Meeting or Extraordinary Meeting for ratification.

The National Council, upon complaint or infringement, will notify the member in writing at least seven days prior to a meeting being held and the member will have the right to address the meeting in person, or writing, by way of defence.

The National Council will hold a secret ballot at an Annual General Meeting or Extraordinary Meeting and, by majority, vote on the expulsion of said member.

BYLAWS

- Upon entry to the Guild, a Member must have embossed on the Guild's Touch Plates all of those Marks which he/she may use in conjunction with the Guild Marks.
- The Guild Licensing Agreement must be signed prior to the issuing of the Guild and Date Punches – refer 6.5(ii).
- Guild and Date Punches will not be issued to members unless prepaid. *(Res. 9.7.92.)*
- Order Forms will be despatched by the Keeper of the Punches in June and August for the following year; forms and payment returned by 30th September will ensure delivery of Date Punches by the December prior to the commencement of the new year, in accordance with Clause 5(ii). *(Res. 30.4.03.)*
- All subsequent marks that a Member may employ to identify his/her work must also be embossed on the Touch Plates if it is to be used in conjunction with the Guild Marks.
- A Member's Mark will remain on the Touch Plates in perpetuity and will not be removed, even if the Member ceases to be a member by resignation or expulsion.
- Abide by the Standards set by National Council for the "Composition and Marking of Precious Metal" – refer 6.5(ii). *(Res. 30.4.03.)*
- In the event that two Makers Marks from individual members or applicants are indistinguishable from one another, the National Council reserves the right to request the latter applicant make appropriate changes.
- The use of the Guild Mark on any particular piece of work by a Member is optional; not all work which a Member makes in precious metal is required to be marked. For personal and various reasons, a Member may choose not to mark certain pieces of work. However, when the Guild Mark is used, it must be used according to the Rules.

(Page 1)

“COMPOSITION AND MARKING OF PRECIOUS METALS” STANDARDS

1. SCOPE

This specification sets out the composition and marking requirements of precious metal articles, primarily jewellery and object d’art.

The specifications of PGM-metals, gold, silver, solders, filled articles non-precious metal and non-metallic substances are also covered.

2. DEFINITIONS

For the purpose of this specification, the following definitions apply:

- **Precious Metal** - Platinum, Palladium, Rhodium, Gold, Silver
- **PGM** - Platinum Group Metals. An alloy that is homogeneous throughout and contains not less than the amount of pure metal specified in Clause 3a1, alloyed with one or more other metals.
- **Gold Alloy** - an alloy that is homogenous throughout and contains not less than the amount of pure gold specified in Clause 3a2, alloyed with one or more other metals.
- **Silver Alloy** - An alloy that is homogenous throughout and contains not less than the amount of pure silver specified in Clause 3a4, alloyed with one or more other metals.
- **Sterling Silver** - an alloy that is homogenous throughout and contains not less than the amount of pure silver specified in Clause 3a5, alloyed with one or more other metals.
- **Rolled Gold** - A laminated material comprising pure gold or gold alloy bonded to another metal and subsequently rolled or drawn and contains not less than the amount of pure gold specified in Clause 3a7.
- **Gold Plated** - A layer of gold applied to the surface of an article by electrolytic or chemical processes.

- **Silver Plated** – A layer of silver applied to the surface of an article by electrolytic or chemical processes.
- **Filled Article** – An article of precious metal or precious metal alloy with a hollow centre that has been filled by the manufacturer with some other substance to impart strength and stability of form.
- **Non-Precious Metal** – any pure metal or its alloy not containing PGM, Gold or Silver.
- **Non Metallic** – in chemistry, any element which does not possess the properties of metal.

3. COMPOSITION

a. PRECIOUS METALS

1. PGM Alloy – Platinum

In every 1000 parts by mass of platinum alloy, there shall be not less than 950 parts by mass of pure platinum.

PGM Alloy – Palladium

In every 1000 parts by mass of palladium alloy, there shall be not less than 900 parts by mass of pure palladium.

2. **Gold Alloy** – In every 1000 parts by mass of gold alloy, there shall be not less than 375 parts by mass of pure gold.
3. **Gold Articles** – Gold articles shall be made from pure gold or gold alloy except as provided for in Clause 7.
4. **Silver Alloy** – In every 1000 parts by mass of silver alloy, there shall be not less than 800 parts by mass of pure silver.
5. **Sterling Silver** – In every 1000 parts by mass of sterling silver, there shall be not less than 925 parts by mass of pure silver.

6. **Silver Articles** – Silver articles shall be made from pure silver or silver alloy, except as provided for in Clause 4.
7. **Rolled Gold** – The pure gold or gold alloy layer shall contain not less than 375 parts per thousand by mass of pure gold and have a minimum thickness of 3 micron.
8. **Rhodium Plated** – The pure rhodium or rhodium alloy layer shall contain not less than 900 parts per thousand by mass of pure rhodium and have a minimum thickness of 0.3 micron.
9. **Gold Plated** – The gold plated layer shall contain not less than 600 parts per thousand by mass of pure gold and have a minimum thickness of 0.5 micron.
10. **Silver Plated** – The silver plated layer shall contain not less than 950 parts per thousand by mass of pure silver and have a minimum thickness of 2 micron.

3. COMPOSITION

b. SOLDER

1. Solders used in the manufacture of PGM group alloys shall not contain less pure metal than the article itself, except as follows:
 - a) medium and easy flow solders used in the manufacture of constructed articles shall contain not less than 800 parts per thousand by mass of pure metal and shall not comprise more than 5% of the total mass of the finished article.
2. Solders used in the manufacture of gold articles shall not contain less pure gold than the article itself, except as follows:
 - a) in the manufacture of articles of filigree work or watch cases containing at least 750 parts per thousand by mass of pure gold, the solder used shall contain not less than 740 parts per thousand by mass of pure gold and shall not comprise more than 5% of the total mass of the finished article

- b) in the manufacture of white gold articles containing at least 750 parts per thousand by mass of pure gold, the solder used shall contain not less than 585 parts per thousand by mass of pure gold and shall not comprise more than 5% of the total mass of the finished article
 - c) in the manufacture of machine made chains, the solder used may be of unspecified composition, provided that any individual soldered link in the chain, or any length of chain, contains not less than the stated mass of pure gold.
3. Solders used in the manufacture of silver articles shall not contain less pure silver than the article itself, except as follows:
- a) solder that has a pure silver content of less than the article being soldered shall only be used in the amount necessary for making joints, and shall contain not less than 350 parts by mass of pure silver in every thousand parts by mass of solder, and shall not comprise more than 5% of the total mass of the finished article except as specified in b)
 - b) solder used in the manufacture of machine made chains may be of unspecified composition, provided that any individual unsoldered link in the chain, or any length of chain, contains not less than the stated mass of pure silver.

4. DESIGNATION

a. METHOD

1. Platinum alloy shall be designated with the letters "Pt" contained within the boundaries of the symbol specified in Clause 4b1(a).
2. Palladium alloy shall be designated with the letters "Pd" contained within the boundaries of the symbol specified in Clause 4b1(b).
3. The pure gold content shall be designated by:
 - a) three numerals indicating the number of thousandth parts by mass of pure gold present in every 1000 parts by mass of gold alloy; or

- b) for gold articles having a purity of greater than 999 parts by mass of pure gold in every 1000 parts by mass of gold alloy, the pure gold content may be designated by four numbers, with a decimal point between the last two numbers, indicating the number of ten-thousandth parts by mass of gold alloy - eg. 999.6.

The appropriate numerals or letters for Gold Alloys shall be contained within the boundaries of the symbol specified in Clause 4b1c).

- 4. The pure silver content shall be designated by:
 - a. Three numerals indicating the number of thousandth parts by mass of pure silver present in every 1000 parts by mass of silver alloy
 - b. For silver articles having a purity of greater than 995 parts by mass of pure silver in every 1000 parts by mass of silver alloy, the pure silver content may be designated by four numbers, with a decimal point between the last two numbers, indicating the number of ten-thousandth parts by mass of silver alloy - eg. 995.9.

The appropriate numerals or letters for Silver Alloys shall be contained within the boundaries of the symbol specified in Clause 4b1(d).

4. DESIGNATION

b. SYMBOLS

1. General

Symbols shall be an exact reproduction, except with regard to size.

(a) The appropriate numerals or letters for Platinum Alloys shall be contained within the boundaries of the symbol below:

(b) The appropriate numerals or letters for Palladium Alloys shall be contained within the boundaries of the symbol below:

(c) The appropriate numerals or letters for Gold Alloys shall be contained within the boundaries of the symbol below:

(d) The appropriate numerals or letters for Silver Alloys shall be contained within the boundaries of the symbol below:

5. MARKING

a. LOCATION

1. GENERAL

The Marking required by this specification shall be located in any desirable position on the manufactured article, except as provided for in 5a1(a).

The Marking required by this specification shall be isolated from any other symbols or code numbers that may be used, except as provided for in 5a1(a).

(a) Members of the Gold and Silversmiths Guild of Australia are required to place Precious Metal Purity Marks between their registered Makers Mark and the registered Guild Mark.

(b) Non-precious metals shall be clearly identified and this shall be so positioned as to avoid confusion with the precious metal purity stamp.

b. SMALL ARTICLES

1. GENERAL

Articles that cannot be struck may be engraved or laser-inscribed or, where an article or part is so small or fragile that the marking required by the above specification cannot be clearly done, then the specified marking shall appear on a suitable card or tag that is securely attached to the article or packaging containing the article.

6. FILLED ARTICLES

1. GENERAL

An article of precious metal alloy with a hollow centre that has been filled by the manufacturer with some other substance shall be clearly and indelibly engraved or stamped with the symbol of Precious Metal purity along with the word "FILLED" which shall be in letters of the same size and style as the metal purity symbol, except as provided for in Clause 5.2.

7. NON-PRECIOUS METAL COMPONENTS

a. COMPOSITION

1. Non-Precious Metal or Non-Metallic substances may be incorporated provided that it is clearly identified and that the article is predominantly precious metal.
2. Base metal components may be used only for the parts specified below and shall not be soldered or welded to Precious Metal alloys except as provided for in (b) and (c) below:
 - (a) Movements of propelling pencils, clocks and watches, the internal mechanism of lights and similar mechanisms that are not suitable for functional reasons when made of precious metal
 - (b) Blades of knives and such parts of bottle openers, corkscrews or other articles that are not suitable for functional reasons when made of precious metal
 - (c) Wire for joints, hinges, catches and pins, springs and screw fastenings that are not suitable for functional reasons when made of precious metal.

b. DESIGNATION

Non-Precious Metal and Non-Metallic substances shall be clearly and indelibly stamped or engraved with a specific designation describing the material as specified in Clauses 5a1(b), 5b1.

Base metal parts shall be clearly and indelibly stamped or engraved with the word "metal" or with a specific designation describing the material as specified in clause 5a1(b), 5b1.



GOLD AND SILVERSMITHS GUILD OF AUSTRALIA

Rules formulated by National Councils that have not been incorporated into either the Constitution or the Rules, ByLaws and Standards over the years are:

- ❖ Two members of the Assessment Review Committee must review the actual work done by any potential member targeted by the “Invitational Method” of Recruitment.
(28.7.98)
- ❖ Three current Guild Members acting together would have the authority to review prospective member’s work and, based on the results, accept or reject the application. State Representatives have already been selected.
(20.3.01)
- ❖ Members are entitled to **one** Guild Certificate but, where members have more than one business establishment, they may obtain a duplicate provided that such duplicate is clearly marked as such.
(26.6.99)
- ❖ Guild councillors’ badges become their own property upon cessation of their Council terms and they are encouraged to have their service dates engraved on the reverse.
(18.5.99)

The Standards contain sections of text copied from Standards Australia lapsed documents

2140-1978, 2335-1980 and 2141-1978

and are reproduced with thanks to Standards Australia.