

# FIREARMS REGISTRY



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## SPORT / TARGET SHOOTING GENUINE REASON

All persons wishing to obtain a firearms licence in NSW must have a genuine reason to obtain the licence.

This fact sheet provides information on the requirements for obtaining a firearms licence for the genuine reason of Sport/Target Shooting.

### What requirements must be met for this Genuine Reason?

To satisfy the genuine reason of sport/target shooting you must be a member of an approved shooting club which conducts target shooting competitions and activities.

Once your licence is issued you must meet yearly participation requirements as prescribed by Part 10 of the *Firearms Regulation 2017* (the Regulation). See the [Participation Requirements for Club Members fact sheet](#).

### What categories of licence are available for this Genuine Reason?

Categories of licence available for this genuine reason are:

- \* **Category A, B & H** - sport/target shooting
- \* **Special Category C Licence** - clay target shooting only
- \* **Special Pistol Licence** - this licence is obtained under a category H target shooting licence and authorises a person to possess and use a specialised target pistol, of a distinctive size or shape, in International Shooting Sport Federation competition events. Specialised target pistols are a self-loading pistol with a barrel length of less than 120mm or a revolver with a barrel length of less than 100mm

Note: A category H licence does not authorise the possession or use of a prohibited pistol, being a pistol with a calibre of more than 38 inch or a self-loading pistol with a barrel less than 120mm or a revolver with a barrel less than 100mm, but does not include any such kind of pistol that is a black powder pistol.

### Category A, B and H only

Certification of current membership of an approved shooting club by a club official must be provided. The online firearms licence application has provision for entry of your shooting club membership details and you must attach proof of your club membership within the online application.

### Special Category C Licence 'Clay Target'

If applying for a special category C clay target shooting firearms licence you must supply:

- \* A letter from your clay target shooting club affiliated with the Australian Clay Target Association or such other approved body, confirming your membership and advising that due to physical reasons you require the use of a pump action or self-loading shotgun to participate in clay target shooting competitions
- \* A certificate from a medical practitioner advising of the physical reasons that necessitate the use of a category C firearm in clay target shooting competitions

#### Where can I find more information?

The information provided in the FACT Sheet is for general guidance only. Applicants and licensees should familiarise themselves with the Firearms Act 1996 and the associated Regulation, which are available on the NSW Legislation website - [www.legislation.nsw.gov.au](http://www.legislation.nsw.gov.au).

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## What if I have never held a category H sport/target shooting firearms licence before?

If you have never held a category H sport/target shooting firearms licence, you will be issued a PPL for one year prior to being issued with your category H licence.

There are restrictions on the acquisition of handguns for PPL holders.

For the first six months of the PPL you may only possess and use a pistol under the supervision of the holder of a category H sport/target shooting licence and only on the premises of an approved pistol shooting club - refer section 16A(2)(a)(i) of the Act and clause 156 of the Regulation.

For the second six months of the PPL, you can only be issued with two Permits to Acquire. You may acquire no more than two pistols, any one of which is: a centrefire pistol; a rimfire pistol with a calibre of no more than .22 inch; an air pistol with a calibre of no more than .177 inch; a black powder pistol. However, you may not possess a centrefire and rimfire pistol at the same time - section 31(3C) of the Act.

These permits will only be issued if you have successfully completed the Pistol Safety Training Course, conducted by the pistol club for which you are a member, during the initial six months of the PPL.

This course is in addition to the initial Safe Handling Course completed as part of the application process.

Further information about each [genuine reasons](#) can be found on the relevant fact sheets on the Firearms Registry website.

## Further information / related information

**Firearms Registry website:** [www.police.nsw.gov.au/firearms](http://www.police.nsw.gov.au/firearms)

**NSW Police Force Community Portal:** [portal.police.nsw.gov.au/s/online-firearm-applications](http://portal.police.nsw.gov.au/s/online-firearm-applications)

See fact sheets:

- ['Information on obtaining a Firearms Licence in NSW'](#)
- ['Fee Schedule'](#)
- ['Probationary Pistol Licence'](#)
- ['Safe Storage Level 1 - Category A and B Requirements'](#)
- ['Safe Storage Level 2 - Category C, D and H Requirements'](#)
- ['Participation Requirements for Club Members'](#)
- ['Transportation of Firearms'](#)
- ['Ammunition Safe Storage, Acquisition and Possession'](#)