

FIREARMS REGISTRY



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RECREATIONAL HUNTING/VERMIN CONTROL 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 Recreational Hunting/Vermin Control.

What requirements must be met for this Genuine Reason?

This genuine reason applies to a person who wishes to participate in recreational hunting and vermin control (RHVC) activities as:

- * A member of an approved hunting club, OR
- * The owner/occupier of rural land, OR
- * A person who has permission to shoot from an owner/occupier of rural land, OR
- * A person who has permission to shoot from a government agency, including National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS), NSW Land Registry Services, the Forestry Corporation of NSW or the Department of Primary Industries

What categories of licence are available for this Genuine Reason?

Category A and B. Any person wishing to make application for a licence over and above a Category A licence must also produce evidence of a special need.

The online firearms licence application has provision for completion of a special need. Select a reason from the options provided which most closely describes your special need to possess or use the selected firearm category.

What do I need to provide to support this Genuine Reason?

The online firearm licence application has provision for entry of details to support this genuine reason and you must also upload a copy of any required documents with your online application. Please refer to the details below:

Hunting club membership - enter your principal hunting club membership details in the fields provided, including the hunting club name, approval number and your club membership details. Upload a copy of your current principal hunting club membership card or a signed letter from your hunting club as an attachment to your online application.

Owner or occupier of rural land - enter details of the land in the fields provided, including the address, description of land use (grazing and/or farming) and land area (acres). Upload a copy of your certification of ownership or occupancy of rural land as an attachment to your online application.

Permission to shoot from owner/occupier - enter details of the person giving permission in the field provided including name, address, contact number, email address, firearms licence (if applicable) and the address and size (in acres) of the rural land where shooting is permitted. Upload a copy of the certification or permission to shoot from the land owner/occupier as an attachment to your online application. The [Letter of Authority / Permission to Shoot](#) form can be completed by the land owner/occupier for this purpose.

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.

Locked Bag 5102, Parramatta NSW 2124

Tel: 1300 362 562

Interstate: 02 6670 8590

Email: firearms@police.nsw.gov.au

Website: www.police.nsw.gov.au/firearms

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Permission to shoot from a government agency - Upload certification of permission to shoot from the government agency on official letterhead as an attachment to your online application. This letter must include your full name, date of birth, location of the rural land where shooting is permitted, the type of vermin/animals to be destroyed, the type of firearm/s to be used (category A and/or category B), the term or period for which permission has been granted and the name, contact details and position of the officer granting the permission.

NSW Restricted Game Hunting Licence - enter your NSW Restricted Game Hunting licence number and expiry date in the fields provided. Upload a copy of your NSW Restricted Game Hunting licence as an attachment to your online application. For further information about game hunting licences issued by the Department of Primary Industries, contact the Game Licensing Unit on 03 6391.3750.

Are there any requirements once I have obtained my licence?

Club members must comply with the requirements of clause 108 of the *Firearms Regulation 2017* in relation to completing the required number of shoots each compliance period. Refer to the [Participation Requirements for Club Members fact sheet](#).

If you are a member of an approved hunting club you must participate in no less than two hunting club events involving hunting, shooting or firearms safety training during each club compliance period.

If you have club membership AND you also have permission to shoot on property for RHVC, clause 108 participation requirements do not apply.

Permission to shoot - You must have prior written permission to shoot on any land and you must be able to produce that written permission on request by a police officer. If the written permission is not in immediate possession it must be produced as soon as practicable (but not more than 48 hours).

There are various other legislative requirements to be met by licence and permit holders. You are advised to familiarise yourself with these which are available on the [Firearms Registry website](#).

Further information / related information

Firearms Registry website: www.police.nsw.gov.au/firearms

NSW Police Force Community Portal: portal.police.nsw.gov.au/s/online-firearm-applications

See fact sheets:

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