



NSW Police Force  
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# FIREARMS REGISTRY

## Application for a Mobile Shooting Range

P512

Mobile shooting ranges must be approved by the Commissioner of Police to operate in NSW. This FACT sheet provides information on making application for approval to operate a mobile shooting range in NSW and the requirements where the application is made by an interstate resident.

### **What is a mobile shooting range?**

A mobile shooting range is a business which operates at carnivals, amusement fairs or agricultural shows and allows persons to shoot at targets, under supervision, using a firearm which is tethered in a manner to prevent the muzzle of the firearm being turned to the rear and fixed to prevent removal except by the person responsible for the range.

### **What requirements must be met to operate a mobile shooting range in NSW?**

A mobile shooting range must be approved by the Commissioner of Police to operate in NSW. The applicant and any other person supervising on the range must be authorised by a NSW category A firearms licence or permit or the equivalent licence or permit issued in another State or Territory.

### **How is an approval for the range obtained?**

Application for a mobile range approval can be made by a resident of NSW or an interstate resident. The person nominated on the range approval must be the holder of a category A firearms licence issued in NSW, or the holder of the equivalent firearms licence issued interstate. In addition, any persons supervising on the range other than the nominated person must also be authorised by a category A firearms licence or permit issued in NSW or the equivalent licence in another State or Territory.

An application for approval is made to the NSW Firearms Registry on the P512 'Application for Approval of a Shooting Range or Mobile Gallery' form. This form can be obtained upon request from the Range Inspector Firearms Registry by email - firearmsenq@police.nsw.gov.au or by telephone on 1300 362 562.

Where the application is made by an interstate resident, in addition to the P512 application for approval of the mobile range, application must be made for a firearms permit to authorise the use of interstate registered firearms on the range in NSW. An application for the firearms permit is made on a P634 'Application for a Firearms Permit' and the accompanying legitimate reason form 'Mobile Shooting Range Legitimate Reason Form'.

### **What firearms are used on the mobile range?**

All firearms used on the mobile range must be registered either in NSW or Interstate. There is no mutual recognition for interstate registered firearms to be used on a mobile range in NSW. Therefore, where firearms used on the range are registered interstate, application must be made for a Firearms Permit to authorise possession and use of the firearms in NSW.

The only firearms which are authorised for use on the range are air rifles. Sometimes firearms adapted to propel balls or corks are authorised for use on the mobile range. Under no circumstances are automatic firearms approved for use on a mobile range and under no circumstances are unregistered firearms approved for use on a mobile range.

The Range Approval will specify the type and number of firearms which are approved for use on the mobile range. The firearms permit issued to an Interstate person will list the details of the firearms authorised for use on the range.

### **What about the construction of the mobile range?**

The mobile range should be fully enclosed on all sides except for the front where the firing takes place. The range must be constructed with materials that prevent penetration on the top, sides and back. The impact of projectiles must only occur on an inner skin or target and should not occur on any outer skin. Areas of impact must be designed to eliminate rebound or ricochet.

### **What about police inspections of the mobile range?**

NSW Police or the Firearms Registry Range Inspectors will inspect the mobile shooting range in the locations where it operates in NSW. It is a condition on the mobile range approval that police or the range inspectors may inspect the range and its operations at any time in the locations it operates in NSW.

### **Can the range approval be revoked?**

Clause 95 of the *Firearms Regulation 2017* (the Regulation) provides the following grounds for revocation of a range approval:

- \* If the shooting range is not being conducted with proper regard to the preservation of public safety,
- \* For not complying with any of the conditions on the range approval,
- \* Where the nominated person on the range approval is convicted of an offence under the *Firearms Act 1996* (the Act) and associated Regulation or the *Weapons Prohibition Act 1998* and associated Regulation, whether the offence is committed in NSW or elsewhere,
- \* If the Commissioner becomes aware that the nominated person on the range approval has been convicted of an offence under the Act or the Regulation (in NSW or elsewhere) in the 10 years prior to the issue of the range approval, and
- \* For any reason the Commissioner thinks fit.

The Commission may, as an alternative to revoking the approval of a shooting range, suspend the approval for such period as the Commissioner thinks appropriate.

When a Range Approval is issued, there will be conditions on the approval which must be complied with at all times. A breach of these conditions will result in suspension or revocation of the approval. If a decision is made to suspend or revoke the range approval, a Suspension Notice or Revocation Notice will be served on the person nominated on the Range Approval.

# Application for a Mobile Shooting Gallery P512 form

## **What conditions apply to the mobile range?**

The conditions on the approval relate to the conduct of the range, supervision of patrons using the range, the type and number of firearms authorised to be used on the range, the use of the range by all persons, including those persons under 18 years of age, and the notification requirements of the person nominated on the approval (where a change occurs to the range, the personal details of the nominated person or the firearms used on the range).

The conditions also state that the range must be supervised at all times by a person who holds a NSW issued category A firearms licence or the equivalent interstate issued licence.

The Range Approval must be displayed at all times during operation of the mobile range.

## **What age does a person need to be to use the firearms?**

Patrons using firearms on the mobile range must be 18 years of age or over and remain under the general supervision of the licensed person who has control of the range. If a person under the age of 18 years wishes to use firearms on the range, the following applies:

- \* The person must not be under 12 years of age, and
- \* The parent or legal guardian of the person aged 12 up to 18 years (the minor) must be present at the range, or
- \* The parent or legal guardian, if they do not remain at the range while firearms are being used by the minor, must supply written consent for the minor to use the range, and
- \* The minor must remain under the 'close supervision' of the person in control of the range.

## **What does 'general supervision' and what does 'close supervision' mean?**

'General supervision' is applicable to all persons who are 18 years of age or over using firearms on the mobile range. General supervision means the person in control of the range must remain present at all times while the range is operating, persons using firearms on the mobile range must be in direct line of sight of the person in control at all times and the person in control must be in a position to assist any person using the range or intervene if required.

'Close supervision' restricts supervision by the person in control of the range to one supervisor for each minor using the range (one-on-one supervision).

## **How do I make application for a Firearms Permit?**

Where the application for the range approval is made by an interstate resident, application for a firearms permit must be made to authorise use of the firearms on the range in NSW, in addition to the application for approval of the range. Complete the hard copy application forms provided in your range application package.

## **How much will the approval and permit cost?**

The range approval is issued for 5 years and costs \$100.

The firearms permit is issued for the term of the approval (the same expiry date) and costs \$75.

## **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).

## Firearms Registry

### Address

Locked Bag 5102  
Parramatta NSW 2124

### Telephone

1300 362 562

### Interstate

02 66708590

### Fax

02 66709811

### Email

[firearmsenq@police.nsw.gov.au](mailto:firearmsenq@police.nsw.gov.au)

### Website

[www.police.nsw.gov.au/firearms](http://www.police.nsw.gov.au/firearms)



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