

One of the 'genuine reasons' to possess or use a firearm under the Firearms Act 1996, is conducting a paintball business. Paintball is a game in which paintball firearms are used to discharge paintball pellets at people or things. This information sheet explains how to apply for registration as a paintball operator.

Note: a firearms licence is not required to play paintball on an approved paintball range.

Do you need a firearms licence before you can apply for registration as a paintball operator?

- Yes, a Category A licence

What do I need to do to become a registered paintball operator?

- Complete the Application Form;
- Supply the documents referred to below; and
- Pay the required fee.

What are the restrictions on becoming a registered paintball operator?

You will need to satisfy the Commissioner of the following matters:

- You are a fit and proper person;
- The premises where paintball will be played ("paintball range") are suitable for the operation of a paintball business; and
- That you will be able to store any paintball firearms and paintball pellets in accordance with the Firearms Act when they are not in use.

What documents are required to be provided to Firearms Services?

An application for registration as a registered paintball operator, which contains the following information:

- Your current firearms licence number (you must have Category A to apply);
- The registered business name and ACN / ABN;
- The name of the paintball business (if different from the registered business name);
- The address of the paintball range;
- Your business plan;
- The names and contact details of any persons who may act as an agent for the paintball business;





- The names and contact details of any persons who will be participating in the management of the business;
- An Application for registration will not be approved unless the paintball range is suitable for the operation of a paintball business. The following information/evidence is required to be submitted in support of the application for registration: plans of the range:
 - TasMap (25,000:1 scale) which includes the property's boundaries, staging areas, buffer areas, spectator areas, building plans (as appropriate), and
 - For an outdoor range: a large scale plan drawing of the intended construction and specifications of materials designed to keep the pellets within the range (e.g. fences, dividers, enclosures, protective screens)
- high quality aerial photograph with the location of the range marked;
- evidence of occupancy: leasing arrangements, property titles etc;
- public liability insurance: copy of current policy;
- council approval: advising the area zoning, activities approved for the proposed area, any objections received, and any proposed future activities or zoning of the area (e.g. other sporting venues, housing or industrial development);
- copy of the final / endorsed Range Rules;
- details of the storage arrangements for the paintball firearms and paintball pellets - including photographs;
- information on whether the range is to be used for any other purposes (e.g. training or testing paintball firearms); and
- a list of the paintball firearms intended to be used at the range, including the make(s) and model(s).

The Commissioner has the power to approve an application for registration with conditions. Examples of the types of conditions which may be imposed are:

The proposed paintball operator (applicant) has:

- A First Aid (Level 2 Workplace) Certificate (which is not more than 2 years old);
- A workplace first aid kit for use on the premises which are approved for playing paintball; and
- A ballistics chronograph.

As a registered paintball operator, can I employ someone to assist or enable people to participate in the activity of paintball?

- Yes, provided they hold a Category A firearms licence

Note: There are restrictions which apply to employing "proscribed persons" – see Section 99F of the Firearms Act 1996.

Frequently asked questions (FAQ):

- How long is a paintball registration in force?
 - 12 months, then the registration needs to be renewed.
- A renewal application form is required and payment of the required fee. During the renewal process, the Commissioner's delegate will need to inspect the paintball range. If the range is not satisfactory, the registration will not be renewed.
- How should paintball firearms be stored?
 - Paintball firearms are Category A firearms, so all the storage rules for Category A firearms apply.
 - If there are 10 or more paintball firearms, an electronic security device is required. For more information see *Information Sheet 25 Storage – Quick Guide A & B* and *Information Sheet 28 Storage - Electronic Security Device*.
- What does an employee of a paintball operator require?
 - Category A firearms licence



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