

Dealer Advice – Prohibited Firearms and Pistols

Note: This information sheet does not constitute legal advice and is for general information purposes only. Applicants and licensees are required to understand and comply with the *Firearms Regulations 2016* (“the Act”) and associated Regulations, which are available on the Tasmanian legislation website – legislation.tas.gov.au. This document was prepared in October 2024 based on the relevant legislation at that time.

Schedule 1 of the Act – Prohibited Firearms

The following firearms are prohibited firearms

1. Any machine gun, submachine gun or other firearm capable of propelling projectiles in rapid succession during one pressure of the trigger
2. Any self-loading rim-fire rifle
3. Any self-loading centre-fire rifle
4. Any self-loading shotgun
5. Any pump action shotgun
6. Any firearm that substantially duplicates in appearance a firearm referred to in item 1
7. Any firearm to which there is attached any article or device capable of muffling, reducing, or stopping the noise created by firing the firearm
8. A pistol that is of a reduced or an abridged size
9. Any firearm or part of a firearm which has a dimension less than the prescribed minimum dimension
10. A prohibited pistol
11. Any ex-military firearm that is a firearm in relation to which a firearm licence may not be issued
12. Any ordinance

An ordinance is defined by the Act to mean

- a. a bazooka, rocket launcher or prescribed weapon that, although not a firearm within the meaning of this Act, is designed to be capable of –
 - i. being carried and used manually; and
 - ii. firing a projectile by non-explosive means such as a propellant; and
- b. a shell, rocket or other projectile that –
 - i. is designed to be fired by a weapon referred to in paragraph (a); and
 - ii. (ii) has not been permanently rendered inert; and
- c. a tank, cannon or other similar military vehicle capable of discharging a missile or other projectile



Prescribed prohibited pistols

For the definition of prohibited pistol in section 3 of the Act, each of the following is a prohibited pistol pursuant to section 7 of the Regulations

1. A pistol that has a calibre exceeding .38 inches
2. A semi-automatic pistol that has a barrel length of less than 120 millimetres
3. A revolver that has a barrel length of less than 100 millimetres
4. A single-shot pistol that has a barrel length of less than 100 millimetres
5. A pistol that has a magazine with a capacity of more than 10 rounds

See Information Sheet 3 – 'Licence Categories' in relation to firearms that can be lawfully acquired by persons with an appropriate licence., including some prohibited firearms listed at Schedule 1 of the Act.

The firearms listed in Schedule 1(1) and 1(6) are examples of firearms for which a licence may not be issued under the Act. They are:

- 1(1) Any machine gun, submachine gun or other firearm capable of propelling projectiles in rapid succession during one pressure of the trigger; and
- 1(6) Any firearm that substantially duplicates in appearance a firearm referred to in item 1

Further details of the firearm categorisation guidelines and a list of previous firearm appearance assessment determination are available on the Firearms Services **webpage** (under the heading **Information Sheets and other resources**).

Exemptions that can be applied for by licence holders:

Pursuant to section 58A of the Act, the holder of a Category H firearms licence for sport or target shooting may apply to the Commissioner (of Police) for a permit to acquire a prohibited pistol for the purpose of training for, and participating in, a prescribed event.

Pursuant to section 155 of the Act, the Commissioner (of Police), subject to any specified condition, may exempt a person or class of persons from a provision of this Act relating to the possession or use of any or any combination of the following (the Commissioner may also cancel an exemption at any time for any reason):

- any ammunition
- a firearm
- a firearms magazine
- a firearm sound suppressor

Pursuant to section 18(4) of the Act a Category H firearms licence for sport or target shooting authorises the holder, **with the approval of the Commissioner** (of Police), to possess or use a prohibited pistol for the purpose of training for, and participating in, a prescribed event where pistols that have a calibre not exceeding .46 inch may be used.

Approval in relation to the above discussed exemptions is appropriately sought through Firearms Services.



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