



SOUTH AUSTRALIA POLICE
KEEPING SA SAFE

Your Ref
Our Ref AH
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Facsimile Firearms Branch

Dear Firearms Club Secretaries,

REFERENCE: Requirement for club shoots and effect of COVID-19 (coronavirus)

I refer to the COVID-19 pandemic and the impact it may have on category 1 (shooting club) licences.

The *Firearms Act 2015* ('the Act') and *Firearms Regulations 2017* ('the Regulations') provides that the Commissioner of Police is the Registrar of Firearms ('Registrar'). Pursuant to section 49 of the Act, the Commissioner has delegated to me the powers and functions of the Registrar under the Act.

Regulation 14 of the Regulations sets out the specific requirements for Category 1 (shooting club) licences, pertinently;

- *3(e)(i) the licensee must be an active member of a shooting club for each licence year of the licence;*
- *3(e)(v) the licensee must use at least 1 handgun of each of the following kinds in the licensee's possession on at least 4 occasions in each licence year of the licence at shooting club organised shoots:*
 - *Air or gas operated handguns;*
 - *.22 calibre rim fire handguns;*
 - *centre fire handguns of not more than .38 calibre;*
 - *handguns of more than .38 calibre*
- *10(b) in the case of a member whose firearms licence authorises the use of category H firearms – a member of the club who has participated in shooting club organised competitive shooting matches for category H firearms on at least 6 occasions during the 12 months*

Due to the ongoing concern surrounding the spread of the COVID-19 virus and the Australian Governments advice regarding social distancing, Firearms Branch is aware that members may not be able to fulfil their obligations in relation to category 1 (shooting club) licences for category H firearms.

To assist licensees at this time, I have decided to issue an exemption to all category 1 (shooting club) licensees in regards to the specific requirements for category H firearms under regulation 14(3)(e)(v) for the next 6 months. As such, licensees should supply information relating to the number of shoots they have completed to Firearms Adjudication Section as per current procedure, however, no action will be taken if the licensee has not completed their required number.

Please note the exemption is only valid for anniversaries falling between 1 March 2020 and 30 September 2020.

Firearms Branch will continue to monitor the situation and I will reconsider the time period as necessary.

Should you wish to discuss this or other club related issues, please contact Range Officer Alex Haines on 7322 3438.

Yours sincerely,



DELEGATE OF THE REGISTRAR OF FIREARMS