



QUEENSLAND POLICE SERVICE

ABN: 29 409 225 509
Weapons Licensing
16 Mary Street Brisbane QLD 4000



25 March 2020

CATEGORY H PARTICIPATION SHOOTS – COVID-19

Weapons Licensing acknowledges and appreciates the impacts that the emergent novel coronavirus disease (COVID-19) is having on the both the target shooting and wider weapons licence holder community.

As you are aware, under the *Weapons Act 1990*, Concealable Weapons Licence Holders are subject to participation requirements if they are the registered owner of one or more Category H firearm/s for the genuine reason of Sports or Target Shooting.

These participation requirements, for each financial year, are usually:

- If they are the registered owner of one or more Category H weapons in a single class - not less than six (6) handgun shooting competitions; or
- If they are the registered owner of at least one (1) Category H weapon in each of two (2) or more classes, four (4) club organised shoots for each class.

For reference, the classes are:

- **Class A** – Air Pistols;
- **Class B** – Centrefire Pistols with a calibre of not more than .38 inch (9mm) or black powder;
- **Class C** – Centrefire Pistols with a calibre of more than .38 inch (9mm) but not more than .45 inch; and
- **Class D** – Rimfire Pistols.

Holders of Concealable Weapons Licences for Sports or Target Shooting who do not have any firearms registered to their licence are not subject to participation requirements, however, they must still maintain current club membership in order to satisfy the genuine reason for their licence.

Please be advised:

In accordance with subsection 133(7) of the *Weapons Act 1990*, due to closures, recommendations to avoid non-essential gatherings and travel and other impacts arising from the COVID-19 pandemic, Weapons Licensing is satisfied that Category H concealable firearms licence holders are duly considered “unable to comply with a relevant participation condition for the year for reasons outside the licensee’s control” from the period commencing 1 March 2020 until 30 June 2020.

Please note, in accordance with subsection 133(8) of the *Weapons Act 1990*, this decision is made on a basis of “whole calendar months, having regard to the period that the authorised officer is satisfied the licensee is, or was, unable to comply with a relevant participation condition for reasons outside the licensee’s control.”

In practice, this means that licensees will still be required to either have completed a prorated number of shooting competitions (detailed below) for the July 2019 to February 2020 period, or make a submission as to why they were not able to do so.

Therefore, the expected minimum number of participation shoots for the 2019-20 financial year is:

Number of Classes of Number of Shoots Required Handgun	
One	Four (4)
Two	Five (5)
Three	Eight (8)
Four	Ten (10)

While a submission (upon application for licence renewal) is required if a licence holder has not met these revised participation shoots, Queensland Concealable Firearms Licence Holders who act in good faith will not have adverse action taken against their licences for failing to complete their required participation shoots due to disruptions arising from the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Weapons Licensing appreciates that licence holders complete their shoots at different times during the year, and that some licensees may now not be able to meet their required shoots.

Should further arrangements be required for the 2020-21 financial year, advice will be provided closer to that date.

Yours sincerely,



**D W BUST
INSPECTOR
QUEENSLAND POLICE SERVICE**