

New Zealand Police

Obligations of a Pistol Target Shooting Endorsement Holder

Guide for new pistol club members



Introduction

Our mission at Te Tari Pūreke — Firearms Safety Authority is to make firearms possession and use in New Zealand the safest in the world. We do this by effectively regulating firearms use and possession to help keep our communities safe.

We're committed to working with the firearms community to support the safe and responsible use of firearms in New Zealand. This includes ensuring everyone applying for their pistol target shooting endorsement understands the purpose of the endorsement, their obligations and the application process.

The workbook explains the obligations you must comply with to possess and use the pistol(s) as a pistol target shooting endorsement holder. Your understanding of your obligations is tested as part of the examination you must sit at the completion of your club's pistol training course. Passing the examination in the safe possession and use of pistols, and the obligations of an endorsement holder is a prerequisite to making an application for the endorsement.



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Learning objectives

By the end of this workbook, you will be able to:

- » understand why a pistol target shooting endorsement is required
- » understand your legal obligations for an endorsement to possess pistols as a member of a pistol target shooting club
- » identify your legal responsibilities for safe pistol storage and transport
- » recognise the importance of safe pistol possession
- » demonstrate knowledge of the legal requirements for purchasing and selling pistols
- » apply legal principles to real-life scenarios involving the possession and use of a pistol.



What's in this workbook

This workbook contains two sections to help you understand your legal obligations and ensure you possess and use your pistol(s) responsibly and safely. It also outlines the process of applying for your endorsement.

Throughout the workbook, you can test your knowledge with scenario-based questions to help you apply what you know. The answers to these questions are on page 59.

There are spaces in each section for you to write down notes and reflections.

At the back of the book, there is a list of relevant legislation for you to look at if you want to read more. There are also some additional resources, including descriptions of terms used in this workbook, and important contact information.

You can refer to this workbook at any time to prepare for your exam or to remind yourself of your obligations. If you have any questions, please contact Te Tari Pūreke (see page 60 for contact details).

Why do I need this endorsement?

By applying for and obtaining this endorsement, you demonstrate that:

- » you are fit and proper to possess and use pistols
- » you have the appropriate level of security for your pistols and have the mindset to always apply good security practices
- » you understand that pistols can be dangerous when misused and must be properly managed at all times
- » you are committed to pistol target shooting as a club sport and will not use pistols for any other purpose
- » you understand that having possession of a pistol is a commitment that comes with legal obligations, not a spur-of-the-moment decision
- » you are committed to training in and practising pistol use correctly and safely.

Why are there pistol target shooting obligations?

In New Zealand, possession and use of firearms is limited to activities such as hunting to gather kai, for commercial and other pest control, bona fide firearms collections and target shooting sports. This is controlled by the Arms Act 1983 and the Arms Regulations 1992.

The Act established a regulatory framework with two principles. To put it simply:

1. If you own or use a firearm, it is a privilege.
2. If you are authorised to own or use firearms, you have a responsibility to ensure you look after both personal and public safety.

The general principles and obligations of the Act were addressed in the initial firearms training course that you completed when applying for your New Zealand Firearms Licence.

Firearms licence holders are only permitted to possess pistols for the purpose of target shooting sports after being granted a pistol target shooting endorsement.

Firearms licence holders with a pistol target shooting endorsement have legal obligations that they must be aware of. To receive your pistol target shooting endorsement, you must be able to prove your understanding of your legal obligations in an examination.

You must also be able to demonstrate:

- » that you are trained in the practical aspects of possession and use of pistols
- » your active involvement in target shooting
- » your ongoing club participation.

References to legislation

The questions you will answer in your endorsement obligations examination relate to two key pieces of legislation.

» Arms Act 1983

The Act, including amendments, provides the framework for the management and regulation of the safe possession and use of firearms in New Zealand.

» Arms Regulations 1992

The Regulations detail how the Arms Act 1983 is to be regulated and administered.

You can find the relevant parts of these documents listed on page 57 of this workbook, and they will be referenced throughout.

Note

When we reference the Arms Act 1983, we use the letter 's' followed by a number to tell you what section we are referring to, for example, s35. When we reference the Arms Regulations 1992, we use the letter 'r' followed by a number to tell you which regulation we are referring to, for example, r22.



Your obligations as a pistol target shooting endorsement holder





Time to read: 30 minutes

In this section, we will explore:

- » obligations and conditions for a pistol target shooting endorsement
- » how to possess and use pistols safely
- » acquiring pistols
- » club and range safety
- » changing address
- » storage and transport
- » security inspections.

The examination will test your understanding of these obligations.



Before you get your pistol target shooting endorsement

Arms Act 1983 s29(2)(a) | Arms Regulations 1992 r28GK, r28GJ

You can enjoy some pistol target shooting activities before you have been granted your pistol target shooting endorsement. However, there are some important requirements you must be aware of to help you meet your legal obligations and ensure safe and responsible firearms use.

Let’s have a look at these requirements in more detail.

Timeline	Requirements
<p>Initial trial period (6 months)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » A person without a pistol endorsement can participate in up to three shooting activities within six months (the initial period). You cannot repeat this at another club. » You can only take part in pistol target shooting sports at an approved (certified by the Commissioner) pistol shooting club on a certified pistol target shooting range. » You must be either: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » 16 years or older before taking part in pistol target shooting; OR » enrolled in or joining a club as a club junior member. » You must always be under the immediate supervision of a club member who holds a firearms licence with a pistol target shooting endorsement (this is usually your assigned club trainer).
<p>Club junior members</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Where a club’s rules allow, a person under 16 years of age may be allowed to join a pistol club as a junior member (or similar). A junior must always shoot under supervision. When a junior member turns 17 (Reg 28GJ) they must: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » have been granted a pistol target shooting endorsement; OR » pass the examination in possession and use and obligations AND » remain a member of their club AND » apply for a pistol target shooting endorsement

Timeline	Requirements
<p>Continuing to participate (12 months)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » To continue pistol target shooting after the initial six-month period, you must apply to become a member of the club. The club will follow its internal processes to receive your application and grant membership. » Once you become a club member, you can continue your training and participate in pistol shooting activities for a further period of 12 months. » Any pistol shooting activities must still be under the immediate supervision of a pistol target shooting endorsement holder.
<p>Long-term participation</p>	<p>If you haven't been granted a pistol target shooting endorsement during the initial 6-month and the further 12-month periods, you must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » remain a financial member of a pistol club » only participate in pistol target shooting activities under immediate supervision by an endorsement holder » have passed the initial training and obligations examination at your local club » have an active application for either: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » a pistol target shooting endorsement on your existing firearms licence; OR » a new firearms licence with a pistol target shooting endorsement included.

Note on immediate supervision

The Regulations emphasise the importance of immediate supervision by licensed shooters to ensure safe and responsible firearm use. Immediate supervision means that your instructor or a pistol target shooting endorsed person must be present with you on the range. This person must be able to take control of the pistol immediately if necessary and must not be using another firearm while providing supervision.

Scenario



Alex is 17 years old and her dad is a pistol target shooting endorsement holder. She wants to start shooting as well and is keen to participate in the International Practical Shooting Confederation (IPSC) discipline. Alex has participated in three pistol target shooting events within the past three months and wants to keep taking part. She hasn't started the initial training course yet.

1. Which of the following are regulatory requirements that she needs to meet to continue participating for another 12 months?

Tick the two correct boxes below, then check your answer at the back of the book.

- a.** Become a member of the pistol club.
- b.** Do a first aid course.
- c.** Only shoot under immediate supervision.
- d.** Watch some YouTube practical shooting videos.

Notes

Use the space below to describe the reasoning behind your answer.

Once you have your pistol target shooting endorsement

Arms Act 1983 s32(2), s33(1)(a) | Arms Regulations 1992 r28D

Once you have obtained your firearms licence with a pistol target shooting endorsement, you have more obligations, such as engaging in pistol target shooting activities safely and responsibly.

Let's take a look at these conditions.

Shooting your pistol

Arms Act 1983 s2 | Arms Regulations 1992 r22

Target shooting

- » You can only use your pistol for target shooting at a certified pistol range.
- » You must be a member of a certified pistol club.
- » You must not shoot any pistol in your possession at any other location.

Suitable pistols

- » You must only shoot pistols suitable for use in approved pistol target shooting activities being conducted on shooting ranges that are certified for pistol target shooting activities.
- » Pistols must meet the requirements set out in the Arms Act 1983 and Arms Regulations 1992, and comply with the range rules stated in the Range Standing Orders for the range being used.
- » Semi-automatic pistols for use in target shooting are specifically defined in Arms Act 1983 s2 under 'Small semi-automatic pistols'.

Other pistols

- » Any other pistols that you legally possess must be held under other endorsements (for example, as a collector's item or heirloom or for theatrical purposes). You cannot fire these pistols using live ammunition, even on a certified pistol range. If required, a licensed dealer gunsmith with an appropriate endorsement condition may fire them in order to prove that the weapon is in good working order.

Continuing to hold an endorsement

Arms Act 1983 s29(2)(a), s32(2) | Arms Regulations r22, r28D, r28GE

Here are your obligations for continuing to hold a pistol target shooting endorsement.

Club member

- » You must be a member of a pistol target shooting club.

Participate in club activities

- » You must compete in scheduled shooting activities organised by your pistol club on at least 12 days each year (beginning July 1 and ending June 30).
- » A club activity is on a recognised range that has been advertised by an approved pistol target shooting club.
- » Only one activity at one club can be counted on any given date. This means that, regardless of how many club activities you might participate in on one day, you can only count one activity towards your participation obligations.
- » You can count an activity at another club as a club activity if your club has included the activity in its calendar.

Note

If there is a reason you cannot meet your obligation to attend at least 12 club activities in the year from 1 July to the following 30 June (for example, illness, being overseas, etc.), you should contact your club secretary to discuss your options. If the issue can't be resolved, contact Te Tari Pūreke (see page 60) to explain the situation.

We will work with you to determine the appropriate action regarding your endorsement.

Changes in club membership

You must inform Te Tari Pūreke within 28 days if you:

- » join another club
- » change clubs
- » are denied membership of a club
- » are no longer a member of a club, such as:
 - » you resigned from the club
 - » your membership was terminated
 - » you failed to renew your membership after it expired.

In the case that you are no longer a member of any pistol shooting club, your target pistol shooting endorsement will no longer be valid, and you will be required to lawfully dispose of your pistols held on that endorsement.

Additional conditions

You may have additional conditions applied to your endorsement. These will be specified in the documentation sent to you when your endorsement is issued.

You must follow all the conditions for pistol shooting endorsements described in the legislation, and any additional conditions specifically stated in your endorsement documentation.



Scenario



Tom has passed his examination and Te Tari Pūreke has granted him a pistol target shooting endorsement on his firearms licence.

2. What does this endorsement allow him to do?

Tick the correct box below, then check your answer at the back of the book.

- a. Shoot his pistol at any rifle club.
- b. Shoot his pistol in his backyard.
- c. Possess a pistol and shoot at a certified pistol range.
- d. Shoot any firearm, as long as he is at a certified club.

Notes

Use the space below to describe the reasoning behind your answer.



Acquiring a pistol

Arms Act 1983 s35, s50, s95 | Arms Regulations 1992 r23A, r24(1), r26, Schedule 1B, r37, r40, r41, r42

Once you have been granted your pistol target shooting endorsement, you can purchase or possess a pistol by applying for a permit to possess or a permit to import one.

Here are the steps you need to follow for a permit to possess application.

Steps for acquiring a pistol



Step 1: Find your pistol

Once you have found a pistol of a type appropriate for pistol target shooting that you want to buy, you need to get some details including the firearm type, make, model, action, calibre, magazine capacity and identification marking (serial number). You'll need this information for the permit to possess application, and for registering the pistol.



Step 2: Apply for your permit

Now, you need to apply for your permit to possess. The application form can be found on the Te Tari Pūreke website on the 'Permit to possess forms' page: firearmssafetyauthority.govt.nz/tools-and-application-forms/permit-possess-forms





Step 3: Take possession of your pistol and complete the permit

When you have received the approved permit to possess, you can take possession of the pistol. Make sure you take your permit with you and that the supplier (or current owner) completes the details on the permit, including make, model and identification marking (if not already in the permit), date of delivery and their licence number. They must then sign the permit and give it back to you.



Step 4: Return the permit

You must return the permit to the Te Tari Pūreke by emailing it or delivering it in person to a regional firearms office.

You must also produce the pistol to Te Tari Pūreke for inspection. The regional arms office will tell you the process they require you to follow.

Please don't take your firearm to a regional firearms office or Police station without first making an appointment.

Contact details for regional firearms offices are available on the Te Tari Pūreke website (see page 60).



Step 5: Complete the arms item transfer record

Once you take possession of the pistol, you must complete the firearm transfer in the Registry. The transfer needs to be completed as soon as practical, within 30 days after taking possession of the pistol.

Taking possession of a pistol is an activating event. This means you are required to register all arms items in your possession within 30 days of taking possession of the new pistol (if you have not previously registered your firearms).

Scenario



Roger is a new pistol target shooting endorsement holder who has been a member of his local pistol club for the last 20 months. He is now an avid pistol target shooter and wants to acquire a new pistol of his own. He has found a 9mm Sig Sauer P320 pistol he likes and confirmed with his club armourer it is suitable for use in his favourite Speed Shooting discipline. He submitted an application for his permit to possess 10 days ago, but he is still waiting for it to be granted.

3. What should Roger do now?

Tick the correct box below, then check your answer at the back of the book.

- a. Collect his pistol from the seller.
- b. Wait for his approved permit to possess to be sent to him.
- c. Register his pistol with Te Tari Pūreke.
- d. Take the pistol to a regional firearms office for inspection.

Notes

Use the space below to describe the reasoning behind your answer.

Club and range safety

Arms Act 1983 s38P, s38Q | Arms Regulations 1992 r28GL, r28GZC, r28GN, r28GZF, r28GZB

You play a vital role in maintaining safety at your club. Understanding the club's obligations means everyone can enjoy their pistol target shooting activities safely and responsibly.

Here's what you need to know.

Duty Officers

- » A Duty Officer (or Range Safety Officer) must be present when you use the range. Only club members who have passed their Range Safety Officer Course can act as a Duty Officer.

Attendance records

Arms Regulations 1992 r28GL

- » Record your attendance at club shooting activities so that your participation will be correct in the club's annual return.
- » This will also record your personal participation obligations in club activities.

Range standing orders

Arms Regulations 1992 28GZC

- » Follow range standing orders for the ranges you use.
- » The pistol club must display the range standing orders in a prominent place at the range. Referring to them each time you use that range will help you to always remain up to date.
- » Doing this ensures you use the range safely.

Reporting incidents or accidents

Arms Act 1983 s58 | Arms Regulations 1992 28GN, r28GZF

- » If you cause a firearm-related injury to another person when shooting, you must report this to Police as soon as you can.
- » Ensure any accident, incident or safety breach is reported to a committee member (for example, the President, Secretary or club training officer) responsible for administering the range.

Scenario



Ani is a member of the Whangamōmona Pistol Club. He has a provincial speed shooting discipline competition coming up and wants to practise with some of his friends, who are also endorsement holders. When they arrive at the club, the Range Officer (Duty Officer) of the day hasn't turned up yet. Ani and two of his three friends have all completed their Range Officer course and passed the test.

4. What should they do?

Tick the correct box below, then check your answer at the back of the book.

- a.** Those qualified can supervise the other until the Duty Officer arrives.
- b.** Wait for the Duty Officer to arrive before they begin practising.
- c.** Note the Duty Officer's absence in the club record.
- d.** Report the Duty Officer to Pistol NZ.

5. Why must there be a Duty Officer on the range when shooting is taking place?

Tick the correct box below, then check your answer at the back of the book.

- a.** To ensure the range stays tidy.
- b.** To check everyone has a licence.
- c.** To ensure safe use of the range and compliance with the club's Range Standing Orders, the Arms Act 1983 and Arms Regulations 1992.
- d.** To supervise those who don't have a pistol target shooting endorsement.

Changing address

Arms Act 1983 s34

There are additional obligations as a pistol target shooting endorsement holder when you move house.

» **Notify Te Tari Pūreke**

You must let Te Tari Pūreke know that you are moving and tell them what arrangements you have made for safe custody of your pistol(s) during the move.

» **Provide security at your new address**

You need to provide the appropriate security at your new address and have it inspected before you store your pistols there.

» **Arrange temporary secure storage**

You must arrange secure storage (possibly with another pistol target shooting endorsement holder or a licensed firearm dealer with a suitable endorsement) who will store your pistol(s) until your secure storage at your new address is approved.

Legislation doesn't allow the temporary transfer of a pistol to another person. The person providing secure storage must obtain a Permit to Possess for the item(s). You will need a Permit to Possess to regain legal possession of your pistol(s). Both transfers must be advised to the Registry (call 0800 844 431) immediately by the person giving possession and completed as soon as possible (within 30 days) by the person receiving possession.

You must notify Te Tari Pūreke in writing within 30 days once your address has changed. You can do this online through [MyFirearms](#), calling 0800 844 431, or by filling in the [Change of Address form](#) and [emailing](#) it to us (firearmscompliance@police.govt.nz). For more information refer to the 'Change of circumstance' page on the Te Tari Pūreke website: firearmssafetyauthority.govt.nz/manage-and-apply/change-circumstance

Note

A change of address is an event for the Registry that requires you to update your registry details, which may include registering your firearms.

The transfer of a pistol (purchase/receive or sale/deliver) is an event that requires you to update the details of your arms items in the Registry, including contacting Te Tari Pūreke by phone to complete the Transfer transaction.

For more information go to the 'Firearms Registry' page:
firearmssafetyauthority.govt.nz/firearms-registry

If you have to transfer your pistol(s) to another firearms licence holder for secure storage they will also need to register all their arms items in the Registry, if they haven't previously done so.



Scenario



Sarah, a pistol target shooting endorsement holder, possesses a CZ SP01 Shadow pistol. She has already had an activating event and registered her firearms, including her pistol, in the Registry. Sarah is about to move house from Levin to Wellington.

6. What is the **first** thing that she needs to do?

Tick the correct box below, then check your answer at the back of the book.

- a.** She must inform Te Tari Pūreke of her new address within seven days.
- b.** She must inform Te Tari Pūreke that she is about to move and what arrangements she has made for the safe custody of the pistol during the move.
- c.** She must provide a detailed inventory of all firearms in her possession.
- d.** She must obtain a new firearms licence for her new address.

Notes

Use the space below to describe the reasoning behind your answer.

Storage and transport

Arms Act 1983 s32

You have a key role in keeping your whanau/family and communities safe. If you are in possession of a firearm, such as a pistol, you have a responsibility to ensure its security at all times to prevent unauthorised access and misuse.

For more detailed information, look at the Te Tari Pūreke 'Secure storage and transportation guide': firearmssafetyauthority.govt.nz/sites/default/files/2022-11/firearms-secure-storage-guidance.pdf

Storage

Arms Regulations 1992 r28, r19

You must always store your pistols securely:



At your approved storage address (unloaded and locked away).



When travelling with pistols to or from the range or another location, such as a licensed dealer or gunsmith.



When staying overnight away from home to participate in a competition that is not in your local area.

There are three approved storage options for pistols:

1. a steel safe, steel box or steel cabinet, which must be securely fixed to a permanent structure, such as the room where you keep it
2. a steel and concrete strongroom
3. a room of stout and secure construction.

Ammunition must be stored and locked away separately so that if someone unauthorised gets hold of the firearm, they can't access the ammunition along with it.

Approval is required for your installed secure storage to ensure it meets the required security standards. You can find more information on approval of firearm storage in the 'Secure storage and transportation guide' (see page 27).

Note

Your endorsement might include other conditions specific to you, such as requirements for additional security precautions or permission to carry pistols away from your property for different reasons.

Transport

[Arms Act 1983 s36](#) | [Arms Regulations 1992 r19B](#)

Conditions in your endorsement will permit you to take your pistol(s) from your premises to an approved pistol club certified range. While you are in transit you need to ensure your firearms and ammunition are properly secured, and out of view.

You also may be able to, under your endorsement conditions, take your pistol(s) to:

- » a Police station
- » a licensed firearms dealer
- » a licensed dealer or gunsmith for the purposes of repair.

We recommend letting them know in advance so they can make the necessary arrangements. For example, firearm dealers, including gunsmiths, may need to arrange for the issue of the necessary permit to possess if you need to leave the pistol with them.

Travelling within New Zealand for a competition

Arms Regulations 1992 r19B

Your pistol target shooting activities may require you to travel away from home to participate in a competition. Let's have a look at what you need to be aware of.

You need to consider secure storage at every stage of your trip, including:

- » while travelling
- » while stopping for a meal or to refuel
- » while staying at your overnight accommodation.

When you are at your overnight accommodation you must determine what is the best approach to securely storing your pistol(s) and ammunition, and then take the necessary measures. These must include containing your pistol(s) in a locked case and separately and securely storing your ammunition.

If you are staying with a local endorsement holder you can store your pistol(s) and ammunition in their secure storage.

You can find detailed information on security while travelling in the Te Tari Pūreke 'Secure storage and transportation guide' (see page 27).

If you need to take the pistol from your premises for any reason not covered by your endorsement, you must get written permission from a Te Tari Pūreke Arms Officer.



Scenario



Ethan is a probationary member at the Whangamōmona Pistol Club. He has completed his initial training course and passed the examinations. He has submitted his application for endorsement as a pistol target shooter and his club has submitted the ‘Supporting club and national association form’. Ethan needs to arrange and install suitable pistol secure storage.

7. Which of the following options is **not** an approved storage option for a pistol?

Tick the correct box below, then check your answer at the back of the book.

- a.** A steel and concrete strongroom approved by a member of the Police.
- b.** A securely locked gun cabinet made of wood and mounted to the wall.
- c.** A stout and secure room capable of being secured against unlawful entry with locks and fastenings on all doors and windows, all of which is approved by a member of the Police.
- d.** A steel safe bolted to the floor and a wall of a building with both the safe and fastenings approved by a member of the Police.

Notes

Use the space below to describe the reasoning behind your answer.

Producing pistols and allowing security inspections

Arms Act 1983 s31A

The following outlines the obligations of pistol shooting endorsement holders and members of the Police.

The rules around a member of the Police visiting your property and inspecting your pistol(s) are different from the rules for firearms licence holders who only have non-prohibited firearms.

The difference is that members of the Police are not required to give seven days’ notice before they visit for the purpose of viewing pistols and inspecting the place where they are stored. A member of the Police can visit at any reasonable time to inspect pistols and security.

Your obligations	Police obligations
<p>As the endorsement holder, you must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » show your pistol(s) on demand to any member of the Police who requests to see it » allow the member of the Police to inspect the firearm and the place where it is stored. 	<p>The member of the Police must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » identify themselves and clearly state that they are a member of the Police » explain that they want to inspect your pistols and security under the authority of Arms Act 1983 section 31A(1) » provide their Police identification if they are not in uniform (on initial entry and at any other time if requested).

Scenario



Arms Officer Tipene arrives at Jack’s residence to inspect Jack’s 9mm Glock 34 pistol, which he possesses under his pistol target shooting endorsement. Arms Officer Tipene arrives at 3:00pm on a Tuesday afternoon. She is not in uniform.

8. What does Arms Officer Tipene have to do before she can request the pistol be produced and begin her inspection?

Tick the three correct boxes below, then check your answer at the back of the book.

- a. Inform Jack that the inspection is being conducted under the authority of section 31A(1) of the Arms Act 1983.
- b. Present Jack with a search warrant before entering the premises.
- c. Identify herself as a member of the Police.
- d. Produce her police identification.

Notes

Use the space below to describe the reasoning behind your answer.

Your obligations as a pistol target shooting endorsement holder summary

This section has covered what you need to do before getting your endorsement and after you have received it. You should know how to acquire a pistol and how to use it safely on a range. As a pistol owner you need to know where to store your firearm and how to transport it securely.

Check your understanding

Below is a checklist of what you should confidently summarise after finishing this section. Check off the circles once you are familiar with the topics.

- Understand the requirements to get a pistol target shooting endorsement
- Know what you can do once you get your pistol target shooting endorsement
- Be aware of what to do if you want to change clubs
- Know how to acquire a pistol
- Understand how to be safe at your club and on a range
- What to do when you change address
- Be aware of how to safely transport your firearm

Notes

What key obligations have you learned in this section? Also, you can use this area to record any questions you wish to discuss with your club trainer.

What are the steps of the process you must follow to acquire a firearm?

Safe and responsible pistol use and ownership





Time to read: 20 minutes

This section covers obligations that apply in specific circumstances, such as:

- » disposing of a pistol
- » travelling with your pistol(s) outside New Zealand
- » courier delivery of a pistol
- » showing someone your pistol(s)
- » keeping your pistols in good working order
- » what to do if you want to stop pistol target shooting
- » health and wellbeing

This section also provides information about what you should set up in case of your incapacitation or sudden death.

The material in this section addresses obligations that occur less frequently. It is important that you make yourself aware of them so that you know all your obligations. However, these obligations are not included in the obligations examination.

Disposing of or supplying a pistol

If you want to sell or dispose of a pistol, you must be aware of who you can sell it to and your obligations.

The person who wants to own the pistol must hold a current New Zealand Firearms Licence with the appropriate endorsement.

You will need to see their licence and check that it is current, using the Firearms Licence Checker. You can find a link to this on the Te Tari Pūreke website or on page 60.

Handing over the pistol

You can only hand over (deliver) the pistol when the purchaser (receiver) gives you the permit to possess issued by Te Tari Pūreke. Here are the steps you must follow to make sure you fulfil your legal obligations.



Step 1: Check the expiry

Ensure the permit's date of issue is less than one month before the handover/delivery date. If it has expired, transferring the pistol to the purchaser could be an offence under the [Arms Act 1983 s44](#).



Step 2: Complete and sign the permit

Complete or amend the details of the pistol in the permit document, such as firearm type, make, model, action type, magazine type and capacity, calibre and the identification marking (serial number). Date and sign the permit to possess as the supplier and return it to the purchaser.



Step 3: Complete the Arms Item Transfer

Complete the firearm transfer in the Registry. For more information, go to firearmssafetyauthority.govt.nz/firearms-registry/when-register-or-update-your-information

The transfer must be advised to Te Tari Pūreke at the time of the sale or supply, or immediately afterwards.



Step 4: Register other firearms

The supplying of the pistol is an activating event. If you haven't already registered your firearms then you must register all arms items in your possession within 30 days of supplying the pistol.

Scenario



Jacob is a pistol target shooting endorsement holder and has been actively involved in competitions for many years. He now wishes to sell one of his firearms. Another member of the club, Eddie, saw his firearm for sale. They have agreed on a price. Eddie has obtained a permit to possess the pistol and now wants to take possession.

9. What does Jacob need to do before Eddie can take possession of the pistol?

Tick the three correct boxes below, then check your answer at the back of the book.

- a. Check that Eddie’s permit to possess hasn’t expired.
- b. Check that Eddie’s New Zealand firearms licence and pistol target shooting endorsement are current.
- c. Call Te Tari Pūreke to confirm Eddie is a member of an approved pistol club.
- d. Confirm or complete the pistol details in Eddie’s permit to possess and sign it as the supplier.

Notes

Use the space below to describe the reasoning behind your answer.

Travelling overseas for a competition

Arms Act 1983 s38, s16 | Arms Regulations 1992 r10, r13, r18A

If you are taking part in an overseas competition and you are taking your competition pistol(s), accessories such as scopes and magazines, and preferred ammunition you have legal obligations when leaving and re-entering New Zealand.

Note

Pistol NZ has extensive information available for its members to help them understand what they need to consider when travelling overseas with pistol(s), including complying with laws and regulations in other countries and some of the key 'dos and don'ts'.

What are your legal obligations when leaving and returning to the country with a pistol?

Leaving New Zealand:

- » You must tell Te Tari Pūreke that you plan to take a pistol(s) overseas at least four days before you leave the country. Applying for your permit to import the pistol back into New Zealand satisfies this requirement. This permit is valid for 12 months and can only be used once.
- » You should submit your permit to import application as soon as your entry into an overseas competition is confirmed, preferably at least six weeks before you leave New Zealand. You can find the application form on the 'Permit to import' page on the Te Tari Pūreke website: firearmssafetyauthority.govt.nz/manage-and-apply/permits/permits-import/apply-permit-import
- » You must also comply with legislation administered by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade concerning the export of firearms from New Zealand. This includes the export requirements of the Custom and Excise Act 2018 and the United Nations Arms Trade Treaty.
- » You can export up to five firearms, accessories and associated ammunition without a formal permit from MFAT. However, you still need to advise MFAT by filling in and submitting a 'Notification of exempted sporting firearms export' form available on their website under 'What exemptions exist': mfat.govt.nz/en/trade/export-controls/which-exports-are-controlled/exemptions

Returning to New Zealand:

- » You must have a Permit to Import to bring your pistol(s) back into New Zealand. This permit is valid for 12 months from the date of issue and can only be used once. You need to show the permit to New Zealand Customs Service at the airport.
- » Inform Te Tari Pūreke you are back in the country. They will update the permit system and the Registry to show that firearms have been brought back into New Zealand.

Note

The MFAT exemption does not apply to certain countries, and in some cases, a permit to export will be required. You should always check the latest regulations and requirements before exporting any firearms from New Zealand. You can visit the MFAT website or contact them directly for more information.

Email: exportcontrols@mfat.govt.nz

Phone: +64 4 439 8227

How do you comply with your obligations in other countries?

- » Make sure you understand and comply with all the firearms licensing and import controls of the country or countries you will visit.
- » Obtain the required licences and permits before you leave New Zealand to minimise any issues when arriving in your destination country.
- » The best source of information about this is the shooting organisation or club organising the competition. Otherwise, locate the contact details of the licensing authority for the country you are travelling to, and contact them directly.
- » You could also talk to your club secretary or (if you are a member of Pistol NZ) contact the Executive Officer for details of the licence or permit and import process you need to follow to enter the country in which the competition is being held.

Scenario



Amiria is travelling to the United States of America to take part in a pistol target shooting competition at Frostproof, Florida. She needs to take two pistols with her, along with their specified ammunition. She received confirmation of entry three weeks ago and will be leaving New Zealand in 11 weeks' time to travel to the competition.

10. When should she apply for her permit to import?

Tick the correct box below, then check your answer at the back of the book.

- a. Four days before arriving back in New Zealand.
- b. As soon as she lands back in the country.
- c. She doesn't need a permit as she is only taking two pistols.
- d. As soon as her entry into the competition is confirmed.

Notes

Use the space below to describe the reasoning behind your answer.

Courier delivery of a pistol

Arms Regulations 1992 r29(c)

You might purchase or be supplied a pistol that is being delivered by courier to a licensed firearms dealer for you to collect.

If you do not receive the firearm within a reasonable time, and if enquiries with the seller/supplier and the courier company do not locate the package containing the firearm, you must inform Te Tari Pūreke.

Reporting failed delivery of a firearm helps Te Tari Pūreke and Police know what firearms to be on the lookout for. Failing to report the non-arrival of a firearm package is an offence and could result in a fine.



Showing someone your pistol(s)

Arms Act 1983 s50 | Arms Regulations 1992 r28, r28GK

At times, you might want to show your pistol(s) to someone or let them hold it.

If the other person is also endorsed to possess pistols, ensure that you follow rules 2 and 7 of the Firearms Safety Rules: firearmssafetyauthority.govt.nz/firearms-safety/7-rules-firearm-safety

If the other person doesn't have a pistol target shooting endorsement, it's important to follow the obligations in the Arms Act 1983 and Regulations, as well as applying the rules of firearms safety.

Here are some suggestions for showing firearms safely and legally.

- ✓ Firstly, always show the other person that the firearm is unloaded and safe.
- ✓ Always keep the firearm pointed in a safe direction.
- ✓ If you allow another person to handle your pistol, they can only have possession of it, or use it at a pistol range, under your direct supervision. You must always be able to take control of the pistol immediately.
- ✗ Never show a firearm to another person or allow them to handle it when either or both of you have recently consumed alcohol and/or drugs.

Remember, it is important to keep your firearms securely stored at all times.

For more information on firearm safety, please see the 'Firearms Safety Rules' page on the Te Tari Pūreke website: firearmssafetyauthority.govt.nz/firearms-safety/7-rules-firearm-safety

Keeping your pistol(s) in good working order

Arms Act 1983 s59

Every firearms licence holder needs to keep their firearms in good working order.

If a firearm is not well maintained and serviced as necessary, it can deteriorate. Eventually, the firearm might fail during use. Firearm failures can severely injure or kill the user or a bystander.

If a commissioned officer of Police deems your firearm to be unsafe, they can issue you a written notice requiring you to repair the item to a safe working standard. If the item is not repaired they may issue you a written notice requiring you to surrender the firearm immediately.



Scenario



Sienna is a firearms licence holder with a pistol target shooting endorsement. Her friend Bill is interested in joining a club to try out target shooting. Bill visits Sienna at home to discuss target shooting. While there, he asks Sienna if she will let him have a look at the pistol she uses.

11. What are some safe ways for Sienna to demonstrate her pistol?

Tick the two correct boxes below, then check your answer at the back of the book.

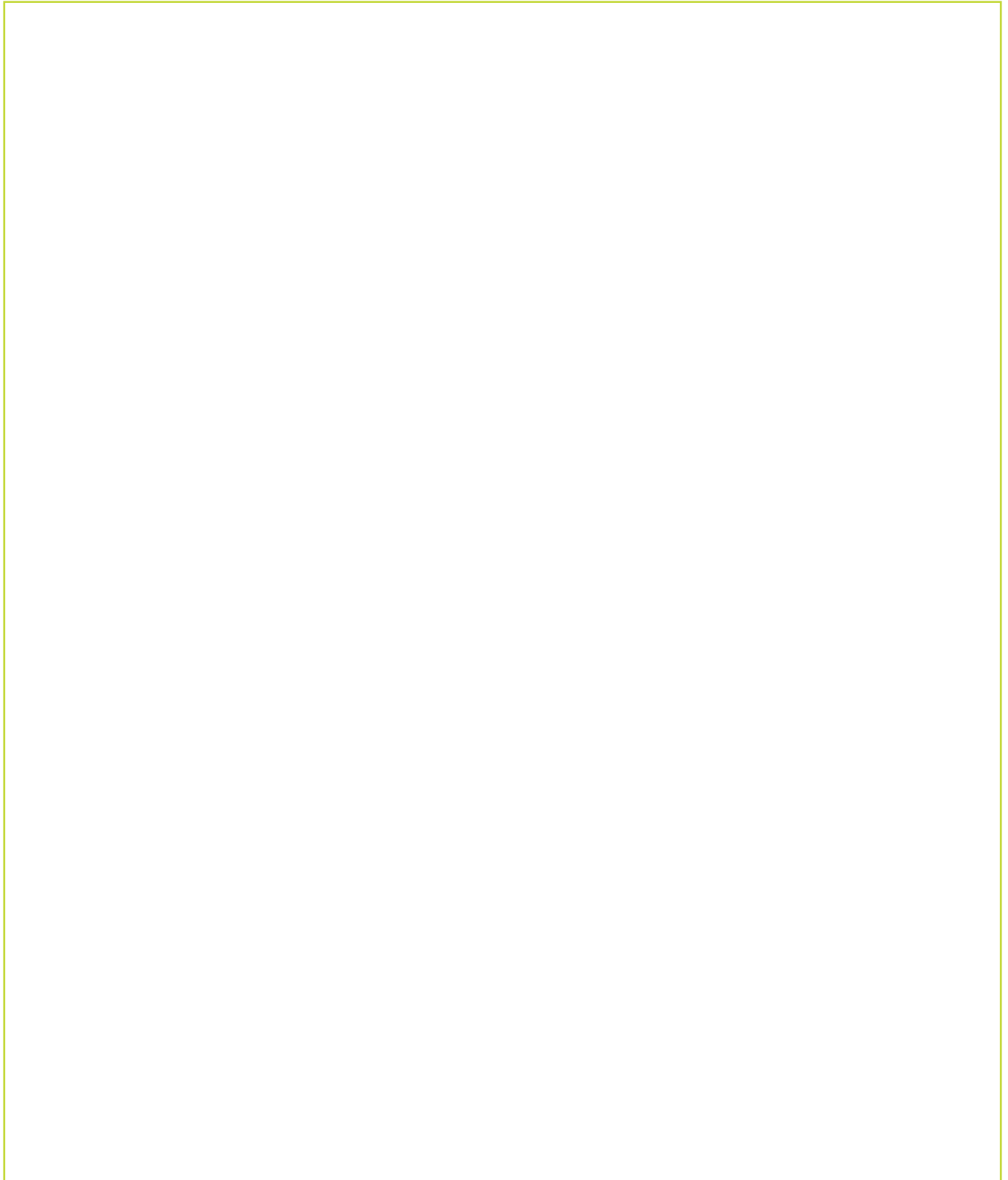
- a. Have the pistol and ammunition already on the table when Bill arrives.
- b. Have a few drinks before getting the pistol from the safe she keeps it in.
- c. Demonstrate that the firearm is unloaded and point it in a safe direction.
- d. Allow Bill to hold the pistol under her direct supervision.

Notes

Use the space below to describe the reasoning behind your answer.

Notes

What have you learned about keeping your pistols safe and secure? Also, you can use this area to record any questions you wish to discuss with your club trainer.



Retiring from or ceasing to participate in pistol target shooting

Arms Act 1983 s24B | Arms Regulations 1992 r22(1)

If you want or need to give up pistol target shooting, this is what you should do:

- » Tell Te Tari Pūreke and discuss your plans for your pistol(s).
- » Tell your club that you will resign your membership once you have disposed of your pistol(s).
- » Find a suitable person to receive your pistols (see the information on disposing of pistols earlier in the workbook on page 36):
firearmssafetyauthority.govt.nz/manage-and-apply/disposal-illegally-held-or-unwanted-firearms
- » Notify the Registry that you have disposed of the firearm.
- » When you have disposed of all of your pistols, surrender your endorsement.

Your health and wellbeing

Arms Act 1983 s24A, s24B, s27

If you experience a physical or mental health condition that may impact your ability to possess firearms safely, you must inform your health practitioner and Te Tari Pūreke.

Treatment and management of health conditions is always preferable to suspension or loss of your licence. We encourage you to contact your doctor and access support and treatment as soon as possible. We also encourage you to consider surrendering your firearms licence while you recover. You can apply for your licence again once your health condition has improved.

While your licence is surrendered, you cannot possess firearms, parts or ammunition. You need to ensure your pistols are either in safe keeping with another licence and endorsement holder or disposed of appropriately.

Remember to update the Registry if your pistols change hands (even temporarily) while you focus on getting well.

You can learn more on the 'Health and wellbeing' page of the Te Tari Pūreke website: firearmssafetyauthority.govt.nz/manage-and-apply/health-and-wellbeing/health-and-wellbeing-firearms-licence-holders

Contingency plans in the event of incapacitation or sudden death

Arms Act 1983 s59B | Arms Regulations 1992 r18, r43

In the event of your death, your firearms, other arms items and ammunition become the responsibility of the person(s) responsible for your estate. This includes your executors, administrators or next of kin.

This person or persons should work with members of your whānau/family to make sure your arms items and ammunition are transferred to a suitably licensed person.

Having a plan in place for your firearms prevents them from falling into the wrong hands and ensures they are dealt with safely and legally, minimising the risks to whānau or public safety.

Here's what you should do:

- » Decide who should take care of your firearms if you cannot. You'll need to obtain their agreement to act for you.
- » Consider setting up an Enduring Power of Attorney with instructions for how you would like your firearms to be managed in the event that you can not do so.
- » Ensure your will and any Enduring Power of Attorney contain instructions regarding your firearms. For example, you could indicate that they should be:
 - » gifted to a whānau/family member or friend(s)
 - OR
 - » sold to a licensed firearms dealer or to another firearms licence holder.
- » Alternatively, instruct your Executor or Enduring Power of Attorney to surrender the firearms to Police for destruction.
- » When your executor or Power of Attorney takes control of your affairs, they must provide details of their appointment and the firearm's details to the Registry.

You can learn more on the 'When a firearms licence holder dies' page of the Te Tari Pūreke website: firearmssafetyauthority.govt.nz/manage-and-apply/health-and-wellbeing/when-firearms-licence-holder-dies

Notes

What plans will you put in place for your firearms if something were to happen to you?

What are the key ways you will keep safe in the future?

Safe and responsible pistol use and ownership summary

This section has covered some extra information on how to be a safe pistol owner. These aren't obligations as such but are best practice and will help you and your whānau to stay safe.

Check your understanding

Below is a checklist of what you should confidently summarise after finishing this section. Check off the circles once you are familiar with the topics.

- Understand how to dispose of or supply a pistol to someone else
- What your legal obligations are when leaving the country with a pistol
- How to get a courier to deliver your pistol
- Maintaining your pistol
- What to do if you retire from pistol target shooting
- What happens to your pistol if something happens to you

Appendix

The pistol target shooting endorsement process

To fulfil your obligations under the Arms Act 1983 and receive your pistol target shooting endorsement, you must follow the process outlined below.



You must be a firearms licence holder (or be applying for a first time firearms licence concurrently with your endorsement application).



You must join a pistol club and commence your initial training.



Download legal obligations training from the Te Tari Pūreke website.



Complete and pass the examination at your pistol club on safe handling, club rules and your legal obligations.



Apply for your endorsement. Your pistol club will also fill out and submit their forms.



Set up secure, special storage appropriate for your pistols and ammunition.



Participate in an interview with a Te Tari Pūreke arms officer or vetting officer.



Decision made. If your endorsement is approved you will receive an approval and conditions letter. Subsequently an updated licence card will be sent. When you receive your new licence card, destroy your old licence card.

The fastest way to apply for your pistol target shooting endorsement is online through MyFirearms on the Te Tari Pūreke website. If you need to do a paper based application you must print out the 'Pistol target shooting - FRM29TS' form from the Te Tari Pūreke website.

More information is available on the Te Tari Pūreke website on the 'Pistol target shooting endorsement' page: firearmssafetyauthority.govt.nz/manage-and-apply/endorsements/pistol-target-shooting-endorsement/pistol-target-shooting-apply



The application process

You can check off your progress through the process by ticking each check box as you complete the steps.



Step 1: Complete the application form

- » Answer all questions, including those you may have answered in previous licence or endorsement applications. This is to make sure we have the latest information when we review your application.
- » Include:
 - » the address where you will store your pistol(s), the place where you live
 - » the security precautions you have or intend to make for your pistol(s) and ammunition.



Step 2: Attach supporting documents to your application

- » Attach photocopies of your pistol club membership and confirmation of successful completion of your safety and obligations training at your pistol club.



Step 3: Provide a referee

- » Provide the name and contact details of a pistol club referee.
 - » They must hold a senior role at your club.
 - » They must have seen you shoot at least four times.



Step 4: Support from your club

- » Your endorsement application must be supported by your club. If your club is affiliated with Pistol NZ, it must also be supported by the national body.



Step 5: Organise storage for your pistol(s)

- » Arrange and install any required upgrade to your secure storage so that it is suitable for securing pistols as required in Arms Regulations 1992 r28.
 - » Your security will be inspected and assessed when your application is reviewed.
 - » Security guidance is available in the Secure storage and transportation guide for firearms and ammunition guide on the Te Tari Pūreke website.



Step 6: Be interviewed

- » Be interviewed by a Te Tari Pūreke Arms Officer or Vetter about your application and participation in the sport.

What happens if I don't obtain an endorsement?

If you do not apply for and obtain a pistol target shooting endorsement, your ability to continue pistol target shooting is extremely limited. A member of a club can only participate in club activities under immediate supervision for a maximum of 18 months after joining the club or turning 17.

If you fail the examination, your club trainer can help you with anything you misunderstood so you can prepare to re-sit the examination. Based on your results, your club may consider whether you can continue to be a member and may not provide the club support form for your endorsement application. Endorsement applications without club support will be declined.



Key terms

Some of the words in this workbook may be unfamiliar to you or may have a specific meaning in the context of your obligations as a pistol target shooting endorsement holder. Here is a list of explanations for you to refer to as you learn.

Key terms	Definitions
Acquire	This term is used to cover buying or otherwise obtaining a firearm. For example, you might acquire an arms item by purchasing it from a store or online retailer or without money changing hands, such as a gift, by borrowing it or through an inheritance.
Arms Officer	A member of the staff of Te Tari Pūreke who assesses licence and endorsements, issues permits to possess and conducts applicant interviews.
Arms Vetter	A member of the staff of Te Tari Pūreke who conducts interviews and secure storage inspections.
Commissioner	The Commissioner of Police.
Deliver	Transferring firearms, arms item, or ammunition from one person to another, either temporarily or permanently. It could be for different reasons like lending or selling or even safe storage with another endorsement holder while away from home for a long holiday.
Disciplines	The different types of pistol target shooting competitions recognised and administered by Pistol NZ.
Dispose	Permanently getting rid of a firearm, arms item or ammunition. This can include selling, destroying, transferring to another person, or surrender to a licensed dealer or New Zealand Police.
Member of the Police	A person employed by New Zealand Police, including the staff of Te Tari Pūreke.
Obligations	Something that you must do. In pistol target shooting, these are requirements you must follow to continue being allowed to possess and use your pistol(s) for target shooting.
Purchaser / Receiver	A person who acquires a firearm through a sale or transfer by hire, loan or other method of supply.

Pistol	<p>A firearm (other than a prohibited firearm or restricted weapon) that is designed or adapted to be held and fired with one hand and includes any firearm (other than a prohibited firearm or restricted weapon) that is less than 762 millimetres in length.</p> <p>'Pistol' includes both semi-automatic pistols (that are approved for target pistol shooting) and revolvers.</p> <p>Pistols allowed for pistol target shooting so that a permit will be issued need to be approved by Te Tari Pūreke as suitable for the pistol discipline and for the ballistic capacity of the shooting range.</p>
Possession	<p>The Arms Act 1983 does not recognise ownership of a firearm. The focus is on who has the physical item in their hand or control (e.g. in a safe they have the key for). This is referred to as 'possession' or 'possessing'.</p>
Receive	<p>Physically taking delivery of a firearm from another person.</p>
Registry	<p>The New Zealand Firearms Registry. You can access this via the link in the Resources section at the end of this workbook.</p>
Small semi-automatic pistol	<p>A semi-automatic pistol that—</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) has an overall length of 400 millimetres or less, excluding any silencer, pistol carbine conversion kit, or other muzzle-fitting attachment; AND (b) has a barrel length of 101 millimetres or more; AND (c) is capable of firing specified ammunition only at a muzzle velocity of 1,600 feet per second or less; AND (d) is suitable for shooting on a certified pistol range.
Specified ammunition	<p>Ammunition of a type specified in the rules of the pistol target shooting disciplines that are administered by the national pistol target shooting controlling body known as Pistol New Zealand Incorporated and that are conducted on ranges approved by the Commissioner.</p>
Supply	<p>To provide firearms, arms items or ammunition to someone else, by selling, giving, hiring, or lending.</p>
Te Tari Pūreke	<p>Te Tari Pūreke is the Firearms Safety Authority within New Zealand Police. The Authority is charged with being the regulator of the Arms Act 1983 and associated Regulations and Orders in Council. All staff of Te Tari Pūreke are employed by NZ Police. Staff are 'members of Police' for the purposes of the Act and Regulations where that term is used.</p>

Act and Regulations references

Here are the key parts of the Arms Act 1983 and Arms Regulations 1992 (see page 60 for links) that are relevant to you as a pistol target shooting endorsement holder. We've covered everything you need to know in this workbook, so reading the legislation is optional.

Arms Act 1983	
s2	Interpretation (Definitions of Pistol and Small semi-automatic pistol)
s16	Offence to import firearms, etc, without permit
s29	Application for endorsements in respect of pistol or restricted weapon
s32	Further conditions of endorsements in respect of pistols and restricted weapons (observe security precautions required by regulation)
s34	Notification of change of address
s35	Issue of permit to possess pistol or restricted weapon
s36	Offence to carry pistol, prohibited firearm, prohibited magazine, or restricted weapon without authority
s38	Removal of pistol, prohibited firearm, prohibited magazine, or restricted weapon out of New Zealand
s50	Unlawful possession of pistol or restricted weapon
s59	Voluntary delivery to Police of firearms, etc
s95	Obligation to provide information to registry

Arms Regulations 1992

r22	Conditions of endorsements in respect of pistols and restricted weapons
r28	Security precautions in relation to pistols, prohibited firearms, prohibited magazines, and restricted weapons
r28D	Commissioner may prescribe conditions on licences, etc
r28GJ	Conditions relating to participation of young club members in shooting activities of pistol shooting club
r28GK	Conditions relating to participation in shooting activities of pistol shooting club by persons aged 16 years or over who do not hold firearms licence with pistol endorsement
r28GL	Conditions relating to records of participation in activities of pistol shooting club
r28GZB	Conditions relating to duty officers
r28GZC	Conditions relating to range standing orders
r28GZF	Conditions relating to incidents and safety breaches that occur on shooting range
r29C	Purchaser must notify Police if item not delivered
r37	How to provide information for purposes of registry
r40	Arms items to be recorded in registry
r41	Initial obligation to provide information for registry if activating circumstance occurs
r42	Obligation to update licence holder information and record events relating to arms items and ammunition in the registry
Schedule 1B	Relevant details for registry

Scenario answers

Page 13

1. a, c

Page 17

2. c

Page 21

3. b

Page 23

4. a

5. c

Page 26

6. b

Page 30

7. b

Page 32

8. a, c, d

Page 38

9. a, b, d

Page 41

10. d

Page 45

11. c, d

Resources



Te Tari Pūreke

- » Phone number – 0800 844 431
- » General enquiries – firearmssafetyauthority.govt.nz/contact-us
- » Application forms – firearmssafetyauthority.govt.nz/tools-and-application-forms
- » Firearms Licence Checker – webforms.police.govt.nz/fal-no-back
- » Firearms Registry – firearmssafetyauthority.govt.nz/firearms-registry
- » Firearms Safety Rules – firearmssafetyauthority.govt.nz/firearms-safety/7-rules-firearm-safety
- » Health and wellbeing – firearmssafetyauthority.govt.nz/manage-and-apply/health-and-wellbeing



Legislation

- » Arms Act 1983 – legislation.govt.nz/act/public/1983/0044/latest/DLM72622.html
- » Arms Regulations 1992 – legislation.govt.nz/regulation/public/1992/0346/latest/DLM168889.html
- » Section 2 of the Arms Act 1983 provides specific definitions of different firearms.



Pistol NZ

- » Website – pistolnz.org.nz
- » Contact – E-mail: exec@pistolnz.org.nz or pnzexec@pistolnz.org.nz



Te Tari Pūreke
Firearms Safety Authority