

## Derbyshire Constabulary



Firearms Administration  
Police Headquarters  
Butterley Hall  
RIPLEY  
Derbyshire  
DE5 3RS

Telephone: 0330 122 8657  
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Dear Applicant

I refer to your enquiry for the grant/renewal of an exemption certificate under the provisions of Section 11(6) Firearms Act 1968.

In order to assist you with the application I have set out below the law in relation to this matter and enclose general guidance to operators of clay pigeon shooting events. If you are able to comply with these general requirements I would request that you sign the attached pro-forma and return it to me in the envelope provided.

Section 11(6) of the Firearms Act 1968 states:-

**'A person may, without holding a shotgun certificate, use a shotgun at a time and place approved for shooting at artificial targets by the Chief Officer of Police for the area in which that place is situated.'**

- The organiser of a clay pigeon shoot at which persons who do not hold a shotgun certificate wish to shoot must apply to the Chief Officer for the area in which the event is to take place for an exemption under Section 11(6) Firearms Act 1968.
- This allows non-certificate holders to use shotguns at a time and place approved by the Chief Officer of Police for shooting at artificial targets, including clay pigeons.
- This exemption from certification applies **ONLY** to shotguns falling under Section 2 Firearms Act 1968 (as amended).
- Any persons under the age of 15 using a shotgun must be supervised by a person over the age of 21.
- Prohibited persons as defined by Section 21 of the Firearms Act 1968 (if known) must not be permitted to be in possession of guns or ammunition.
- The owner of any shotguns used on the approved site should bear in mind that the security of those guns remains **solely** their responsibility.

Nick Jones  
Firearm and Explosives Licensing Manager

Criminal Justice Department  
CJ178

## GUIDANCE

- THERE SHOULD BE A ZONE EXTENDING TO 275 METRES FROM THE SHOOTING POINT IN THE DIRECTION OF FIRE, WHICH SHOULD BE CLEARLY DEFINED.
- SHOT, BROKEN OR WHOLE CLAY TARGETS SHOULD NOT LAND ON ANY AREAS WHERE THE PUBLIC HAS ACCESS, OR WHERE PERMISSION FROM THE OWNER OF THE LAND HAS NOT BEEN GRANTED.
- NO PERSON WHO APPEARS TO BE UNDER THE INFLUENCE OF ALCOHOL OR DRUGS SHOULD BE ALLOWED TO SHOOT.
- GUNS SHOULD ONLY BE LOADED WHEN ON THE FIRING POINT.
- HEALTH AND SAFETY REGULATIONS REQUIRE THAT APPROPRIATE SAFETY EQUIPMENT MUST BE MADE AVAILABLE TO ANYONE WHO REQUIRES IT.
- THE PERIOD OF VALIDITY FOR THE EXEMPTION MAY VARY DEPENDANT ON INDIVIDUAL/CLUB CIRCUMSTANCES AND YOU SHOULD DISCUSS YOUR REQUIREMENTS IN DETAIL WITH YOUR LOCAL POLICE FIREARMS LICENSING DEPARTMENT.
- INITIAL APPLICATION FOR A SITE SHOULD BE MADE A REASONABLE TIME BEFORE FIRST SUCH EVENT IS TO TAKE PLACE, PREFERABLY AT LEAST 4 WEEKS.
- THE ORGANISER MUST BE IN A POSITION TO ACCEPT RESPONSIBILITY FOR SAFETY AT THE EVENT AND SHOULD DO SO.
- THE ORGANISER OF SUCH AN EVENT HAS A LIABILITY IN LAW AND IS ADVISED TO HAVE THE APPROPRIATE FORM OF INSURANCE TO COVER ANY ACCIDENTS, THIRD PARTY LIABILITY, EMPLOYERS LIABILITY, ETC, DEPENDING ON THE CIRCUMSTANCES.
- YOU SHOULD BE AWARE OF THE POTENTIAL FOR NOISE POLLUTION.
- YOU MAY WISH TO CONDUCT A RISK ASSESSMENT OF THE ACTIVITY.

**Application for exemption under  
Section 11(6) Firearms Act 1968**

**Full name of applicant:**

**Address:**

**Date of birth:**

**Name (if any) of event or organisation:**

**Date(s) of event(s):**

**Time(s) of event(s):**

**Location (or name of land) where  
shoot will take place:**

(Please note – if more than 28 shoots per year are to be held then planning permission will be required and you are advised to contact your local authority).

**Declaration**

**I accept responsibility for the safe conduct of the event and will comply with the guidelines.**

**Signed:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Print name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_