

**SPORTING SHOOTERS ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA
FRASER COAST BRANCH INC**

Checklist for gaining a Category A / B Licence

Joining a rifle section of an approved association is a fairly painless business. It will be a relatively short time before you have a licence and are allowed to own your first rifle or shotgun.

If you follow the steps below you will achieve your goal in the shortest time with the least aggravation.

The minimum age for all shooting is 11 years.

- If you have a clear criminal history, you can join the SSAA Fraser Coast Branch Inc (the Branch) rifle or shotgun section immediately.
- To do this first join the SSAA (Sporting Shooters Association of Australia). Fees for various types of membership are specified on the application form, which is available on the web page.
Your plastic card can take a few months to arrive but be patient.
- As a member of SSAA, shooters are entitled automatically to a recreational hunting endorsement without the need for specific property owner letters and the associated maps and additional paperwork.
- To make full use of Branch facilities you will need to pay the Branch amenities fee and complete the amenities fee form, which is also available on the web page. The SSAA application form and the Branch amenities fee form can be submitted together to the Branch. The address is on the web page or you can lodge them on the range with the range officer.
- You are not expected (at this point in time) to attend compulsory rifle or shotgun shoots but it is a wise idea to do so in order to become familiar with firearms and to talk with members of the Branch who will assist you with queries and making choices of firearms, accessories and suitable ammunition for your purposes.
- Each time you come to shoot before obtaining a licence, you will need to bring photographic I.D (Drivers' Licence, Passport, Aust. Post Keypass or Digital ID, another Weapons Licence, Student Card etc.) and fill in a **Form 33 - Declaration by Unauthorised Person for Use of a Weapon at an Approved Range** provided at the range.
- There is no probationary period before you can apply for a category A/B licence, but to apply for the licence, you will first have to complete a **11029NAT Course in Firearms and Weapons Safety (Approved for Firearms Licensing in Queensland) Category A & B** and obtain a statement of attainment. This statement has a life of 12 months. You can do this course at any time before applying for a licence.

- Once you receive your Statement of Attainment, after completing the course, you will be ready to apply for your category A / B licence. The application forms are available from a police station or the Queensland Weapons Licencing Branch web site. We recommend you get them before doing the safety course so you can ask the trainer any questions you may have.

O.K. - I have a licence - now what?

- Once you have your licence you can think about buying your first firearm. Consider carefully and seek wide advice!
- There is a 28 day minimum “Cooling off period” before you can expect to purchase your first firearm so again, patience is required!
- You will need to pay your SSAA membership each year to maintain your licence, unless you choose to swap to using the limitations of a property owner’s letter of permission. Remember your licence is linked to your SSAA membership or the property from where your permission is based.
- **More Training** – The Branch always needs help. Once you feel you are comfortable, ask about becoming a trainee range officer - this is the first step in becoming a range officer and will make you a valuable member of the Branch.