



ANSWERS TO SOME FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

1) *Once you are a member and have selected the licence type you want what's the next step?*

- 1A)** The applicant then applies for the licence they want in accordance with the conditions that apply in Firearms Act. The application form is Victoria Police form VP Form 0321B which is available from the Victoria Police website under <https://www.police.vic.gov.au/firearms-forms-and-reference-information>. It is titled "Ammunition, Antique Handgun, Category 1 and category 2 Collectors Licences". It covers four different licence applications so be sure you mark the particular boxes for the type you want.
- 1B)** After you have completed the form it must be endorsed by the club before it is submitted to Licensing & Registration Division. The endorsement can be obtained by sending the form and supporting documentation to the Antique & Historical Arms Collectors Guild of Victoria, PO Box 2976, Cheltenham, 3192 with an enclosed stamped addressed envelope either for onforwarding to Licensing & Registration Division (L&RD), or back to yourself if preferred.
- 1C)** Following the submission of the endorsed application form to L&RD you will be contacted by L&RD in due course and, if your application is approved, then it is a matter of completing the steps they may require like fingerprinting, criminal background check and the prescribed police firearm safety course. An applicant who already has a current firearms licence of another type will probably not need to do any of that.

2) *Working reproduction antique pistols*

- 2A)** Whatever their type of ignition (flintlock, percussion etc.), require a Category 2 Collectors Licence if they are manufactured after December 31, 1946, which the vast majority are. Non-working replicas fall under the Control of Weapons Act.

3) *Multiple Licences*

- 3A)** There is nothing to stop you maintaining separate licences if you wish. But, if you wish, the extra expense of maintaining separate licences can be avoided. The Firearms Act allows for collections to be rolled up to a higher category licence, so a collector does not need to pay for multiple licences. But the process can only be instigated once the lesser category of licence comes up for renewal, so, for example, that means if you have a Category 1 and you wish to acquire a Category 2, you can then apply for a Category 2 upon the expiration of the Category 1 (Note: you must request L&RD to transfer the guns to the higher licence – it is not an automatic process).

4) *Deactivated Firearms*

- 4A)** If a collector is seeking to acquire a permanently deactivated pistol of a type that requires licensing and registration this must be registered to the appropriate collectors licence. In the case of semi-automatic longarms these may only be possessed by a collector if they are permanently deactivated and covered by a Category 1 Collectors Licence.



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5) **Ammunition**

5A) Licensed Collectors not permitted to discharge their firearms nor are they allowed to possess ammunition for firearms held on a collectors licence. Any collector who is also interested in the development of ammunition types and wants to have a collection of ammunition needs to apply for an Ammunition Collectors Licence.

6) **Police Inspection of Storage Conditions**

6A) The police are required to make inspections of a firearms licence holder's storage facilities to check that these meet the requirements of the legislation. Make sure that you meet the requirements. Generally the inspections are random, and the police will normally ring first to ascertain if the licence holder is present as a non-licence holder living at the same premises is forbidden to have access to the firearms of the licence holder. If such a person was to give the police access, then both they and the licence holder would be in breach of the Firearms Act.

7) **Verification of Firearms Held**

7A) If the police inspect your storage, they will also verify that the licence holder is in possession of the firearms they have registered to their licence. If the licence holder cannot produce a firearm that is registered to them without a legitimate reason (e.g. undergoing repairs by a licensed dealer/gunsmith etc.) then the police are required to act. So make sure that the list of firearms registered to you which you receive with your licence renewal is correct. If not advise L&RD of the corrections needed.

Note

You can at any time ask L&RD to send you a current list of the firearms registered to you.