



# New Zealand Pistol Association Inc

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## **THE BASICS OF BECOMING A MEMBER OF A PISTOL CLUB**

From the start, when a person visits a pistol club, that person comes under laws and regulations expressly covering the use of firearms and, particularly, the use of pistols. On a second or third visit a decision must be made as to whether that person intends to join a club or not. This is where the club officials must take action and offer membership, or advise the person concerned that the number of visits is limited.

Given that membership is sought, the Club committee will normally decide whether that person is suitable and, if so, an application form (FM1) will be completed and fees paid. The new member, in applying, undertakes to abide by the rules of both the Club and the NZPA. At this stage a member is entitled to a copy of the club's constitution, an explanation of the purpose of the Club and the organisation of the sport in general. The practical side, such as instruction in pistol shooting technique, safety factors, conduct on the range etc, is a matter for the Club to institute and carry out.

### **PROBATIONARY PERIOD:**

A probationary period of six months is mandatory for all new members and this may be extended if the Club committee so decides. During this probationary period the new member **MUST** obtain a Firearms Licence (category "A") and must attend the Club a minimum of 12 times. All probationary members must attain a satisfactory standard of range behaviour and be able to demonstrate basic knowledge of range rules and safety standards. Probationary members may **NOT** purchase a pistol(s).

### **ATTENDANCE**

Attending the Club means:- being at the range, signing the attendance book, paying the range fee if one is required and participating in the Club activity of the day whatever activity has been decided by the Club committee.

### **LICENCE ENDORSEMENT:**

To obtain the "B" Endorsement, an applicant must have satisfactorily completed the probationary period. Upon attaining this stage, and assuming you have gained your "A" licence and completed the PISTOL NZ basic safety examination, application for the "B" endorsement must be made in the first instance to the member's NEAREST Police Station. The committee and PISTOL NZ (N.Z.P.A.) may recommend you to the Police for your "B" Endorsement.

An application form POL 67 F must be completed and signed in the presence of the issuing Police Arms Officer who also must sign and witness the issue of the form. The form POL 67 F is then submitted to the Club Committee and then to the NZPA for validation, before being returned to the Police Department for consideration.

This form includes a recommendation from the club, and a certification that the member is competent and safe with a pistol, has attended the requisite number of meetings and is familiar with all requirements pertaining to belonging to the NZPA and the Club. At this stage the Police for their part will once again confirm your suitability, and your security arrangements for storing

your own pistol(s) - i.e. an approved safe. After a “B” Endorsement has been granted by the Police on the member’s Firearms Licence, the member may arrange through the Club secretary for the purchase of a pistol.

### **SECURITY:**

As stated, before granting a “B” endorsement, the Police will inspect the member's home to ensure that security is adequate for the retention of pistols by the member. Security normally takes the form of a steel safe or lockable steel container installed in an inconspicuous place and bolted to the floor. Specifications can be obtained from your local Police Arms Officer or the Pistol NZ Administration Officer, on request.

### **SOME OF THE QUESTIONS YOU MAY HAVE**

- a) WHAT TYPE OF PISTOL WILL I TRAIN WITH?...  
*Initially, you will probably shoot with a .22 pistol that is available from the club Armourer, or use an airpistol as part of your training, and then progress to a centre fire pistol.*
- b) WILL I NEED ANY SPECIAL EQUIPMENT?...  
*You will obviously need ear protection (plugs or muffs); and eye protection is mandatory.. A cheap plastic tray is ideal for carrying gear. The camouflage clothing look is not desired.*
- c) WHAT SORT OF PISTOLS AND EVENTS CAN I EXPECT TO SHOOT LATER ON?...  
*You may be able to shoot all 5 categories of pistol shooting (depending on the particular club) as follows:*



*ISSF This is the slow fire, one hand precision type shooting you saw NZers win medals at the Commonwealth Games with.  
PISTOLS: range from air pistols, .22, .32 to 38 - s/shot, revolvers and semi-Autos.*



*HANDGUN METALLIC SILHOUETTE:  
This is long range type shooting (up to 200m) with the steel plate ‘Chickens’ ‘Turkeys’, ‘Ram’ and ‘Pigs’ as the targets.  
Pistols used here are from .22 to heavy calibre single shot, revolvers and bolt action pistols.*



*ACTION:  
This type of shooting requires you to shoot at steel and paper targets, often at speed but still requiring accuracy.  
PISTOLS: 38 revolvers through to 9mm, .40 and .45 acp semi-Autos*



*BLACK POWDER:  
This form of competition caters for those interested in the muzzle loading revolvers of yester year; flint lock and percussion.*



### **COWBOY ACTION SHOOTING:**

*Action shooting with a western theme using pistols, revolvers, rifles and shotguns. Great family fun and sport. Dress for the event and go back in time for a while.*



### **PRACTICAL SHOOTING:**

*Action shooting using paper targets, steel reactionary targets and moving targets in set stages which have to be shot at speed and using the quickest means of solving the scenario. Pistols range from 'Standard' (out of the box) semi-auto pistols, to the scope mounted, semi-auto 'race guns' that are popular with a number of the shooters. This can also be shot with revolvers.*

#### **d) DO I NEED A LICENCE?.....**

*Initial training is carried out on a one on one basis, where you will be fully supervised by a 'B' Endorsed club member. You are required to hold or obtain an "A" licence as soon as possible.*

*Before being permitted to own your own pistols, you will have to obtain an "A" category firearms license, sit and pass the Basic Safety Examination and satisfy the time / attendance requirements to obtain a "B" Endorsement to your license.*

#### **e) WHAT IS INVOLVED IN OBTAINING THESE LICENCES?....**

*The "A" licence is obtained by going to your Police Arms officer who gets a computer check approval of your suitability to hold an arms licence and you will attend an arms safety course followed by a written exam which you must pass. You will be vetted and your security inspected.*

#### **f) DO I HAVE TO BECOME A COMPETITIVE SHOOTER?...**

*No, this is entirely up to the individual. However, eventually we feel you will reap more enjoyment from competition, even if only at club level.*

#### **g) WHAT SORT OF TRAINING WILL I GET?...**

*Upon joining the club you will receive introductory instruction followed by initial shoots where you will be supervised on a "one to one" basis and be taught all safety and shooting basics that will prepare you for future shooting disciplines.*

***TARGET PISTOL SHOOTING  
DEDICATED TO THE PURSUIT OF SAFETY IN THE  
USE OF FIREARMS***