

From: Redacted
Sent: Friday, 17 July 2026 3:29 PM
To: Submissions.Strategy.Support
Subject: Re: Submission by SSAA Waratah Shooting Complex Inc. (WSC T16)

You don't often get email from Redacted [Learn why this is important](#)
Good afternoon

Further to the submission recently provided by SSAA Waratah Shooting Complex Inc. (WSC T16), please accept the following supplementary comment and read it together with our original submission.

Replacement of “pistol” with “handgun”

The Club notes the proposed replacement of the term “pistol” with “handgun”. We understand that this is intended to improve consistency with terminology used in other jurisdictions and that the proposed definition of “handgun” reflects the existing definition of “pistol”.

The Club requests confirmation that this change is intended to be legally neutral and will not alter the present scope of Category H firearms, calibre, barrel-length or magazine limits, participation requirements, club approvals, licences or existing registrations.

We also request that any consequential amendments to the Firearms Regulations 2016 be released and clearly identified. Any substantive change extending beyond terminology should be separately explained and subject to consultation.

Please confirm that this supplementary comment will be associated with the Club’s original submission.

Regards

Redacted

On Fri, 17 Jul 2026 at 14:51, Redacted wrote:

Firearms Amendment (Miscellaneous) Bill 2026

SSAA Waratah Shooting Complex Inc. makes this submission on behalf of its members.

The Club supports practical and proportionate measures that improve public and police safety. We also recognise the need for law enforcement agencies to have access to accurate firearms licensing and registration information.

As an approved shooting club, WSC T16 already has obligations to maintain member records and provide specified member information to the Commissioner of Police. Our Club Approval requires the annual provision of members' names, dates of birth and firearms licence numbers for members licensed for sport and target shooting.

The Club therefore understands the legitimate regulatory purpose of collecting and maintaining this information. However, the creation of the National Firearms Register will significantly increase the amount, concentration and accessibility of sensitive information relating to lawful firearm owners.

That information may include:

- names and residential addresses;
- firearms licence and permit details;
- particulars of registered firearms;
- club and participation information; and
- firearm storage locations.

Taken together, this information presents a serious security risk if it is accessed, misused or disclosed without proper authority.

For criminals seeking firearms, a poorly protected register could become a source of information about potential targets. A breach could endanger firearm owners and their families, increase the risk of theft and place police and the wider community at greater risk.

WSC T16's Constitution requires member records to be maintained in accordance with privacy legislation. It also includes, among the Club's objectives, advocacy for the rights and interests of lawful firearm owners. The Club expects government agencies handling far more detailed firearms information to be subject to security and privacy requirements at least as strong as those imposed on clubs.

The Club requests that the legislation expressly provide for the following safeguards:

1. Restricted access

Access should be limited to properly authorised personnel who have a genuine operational need to obtain the information.

2. Complete access records

Every search, viewing, amendment, download or disclosure should be individually logged and capable of independent audit.

3. Independent oversight

The register should be subject to regular independent privacy, cybersecurity and compliance audits, with findings reported to an appropriate oversight body.

4. Penalties for misuse

Serious penalties should apply to unauthorised access, use, copying or disclosure by police personnel, public servants, contractors or any other authorised user.

5. Mandatory breach notification

Affected firearm owners should be promptly advised where their personal, firearm or storage information may have been accessed or compromised.

6. Protection from publication

The legislation should prohibit the publication of personal information and also prevent the release of maps, statistics or aggregated data where that information could reasonably identify individual owners, clubs, small communities or likely firearm storage locations.

7. Limited licence verification

Any verification service available outside law enforcement should provide only the minimum information required, such as confirmation that a licence or permit is valid. It should not disclose addresses, firearm holdings, storage locations or other personal information.

8. Controlled information sharing

Information sharing between jurisdictions and agencies should be limited to defined lawful purposes, with equivalent security, privacy and audit requirements applying wherever the information is accessed.

9. Data minimisation and retention controls

Only information genuinely required for the operation of the register should be collected, and it should not be retained or reproduced more broadly than necessary.

Lawful firearm owners should not be required to surrender their reasonable expectations of privacy, personal security or procedural fairness simply because they comply with firearms legislation.

The Club's members accept substantial responsibilities relating to licensing, registration, storage, club participation and the safe use of firearms. In return, they are entitled to expect that information supplied under compulsion of law will be protected to the highest practical standard.

WSC T16 therefore asks that clear, enforceable and independently audited privacy and security protections be included in the legislation before Tasmania's information

is incorporated into the National Firearms Register.

Confidentiality request

The Club requests that the personal contact details of individual office bearers, members and representatives be withheld from publication.

No information identifying individual members, firearm holdings, residential addresses or storage arrangements should be published as part of this consultation process.

--

Regards
Waratah shooting Complex (T16)

--

Regards
Waratah shooting Complex (T16)