



SSAA Tasmania Inc.

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18 November 2024

SSAA

Tasmania Police Strategy & Support Unit

Re: Consultation on proposed amendments to the Firearms Act 1996 relating to Antique Firearms

Following release of the Consultation Paper relating to Antique Firearms, SSAA Tasmania offer the following specific comments:

Point 1 –

- What is the intent of the requirement for an applicant to be able to “exercise reasonable and responsible control of a firearm” where a firearm is solely part of a firearms collection? – noting that we understand that this is not the only reason to possess a pre-1900 firearm.

Point 2 –

- The proposed tags would need to be made of a material that will not mark, mar or depreciate the firearm.
- What will be the process of obtaining these tags?
- As you have stated that this process will be free, will you be providing some recompense to dealers if they are required to fit these to firearms?
- Tags on these firearms will need to have some possibility of removal for approved purposes – such as filming, historical reenactment etc.
- Given that some of the firearms this will apply to are in original fitted cases, the application of a tag may affect the ability for the firearm to remain in the original fitted case without damage to either the firearm or case. Will the tag be small enough to prevent these sorts of issues and subsequent devaluation of the firearm and/or case?

Point 3 –

- How will this affect the statement that “the process will be entirely free”, the statement that “there will be no licencing requirements” and that there will be “no requirement to do a firearms safety course”?
- Will there be an expectation that if the firearm is to be “licensed appropriately under the Firearms Act 1996” that the proposed tag under point 2 will not be an option?

General notes –

Whilst we reasoning behind understand the proposal and agree with it in the main, we feel that there will need to be some further specific consultation around the likely implementation prior to this being drafted and presented to government – we would expect that ourselves and all historical arms and collector clubs would be involved with this consultation, as well as dealers with specific interest and experience in the trade of antique firearms.

We note the point that “owners will simply need to provide contact details, information about the type of firearm and where and how it is stored.” Is there an expectation that storage will be in line with the requirements of the Firearms Regulations? What provision will be made for firearms that do not fit in many commercially available safes (Brown Bess Muskets for example)?

Yours sincerely,



Andrew Judd
President
SSAA Tasmania