

Firearms/ Customs Checklist for Deaflympic Games Shooters

International Athletes

Before leaving your country:

1. Ensure your firearm (FA) is registered, and that your FA licence is current (if applicable in your country)

2. Ensure you have obtained all of the appropriate permits before your departure from your Country (with the exception of the Restricted Goods Permit from Customs - this can be obtained once in Australia)

- Complete your 'Application for an International Visitor Firearm Permit'. It is recommended that you allow 30 days for this permit to be in effect, you will also need to obtain a certified passport photo for this permit. Please note: If you wish to import Category C FA (semiautomatic/ pump action shot guns), then a copy of this permit needs to be sent to the Australian Attorney General's Department (AGD), along with your application form (see below).

- Complete and send in the appropriate Import Permit Application:

Handgun Import Permit: For those shooters wishing to import pistols into Australia, you will need to complete the 'Application for Issue of Customs Import Permit (B709D)'. It is recommended that you allow 30 days for this permit to be in effect from the time the application is received in Australia.

Longarm Import Permit : For all other firearms, shooters will need to complete the 'Application for Issue of Customs Import Permit (B709A)'. It is recommended that you allow 30 days for this permit to be in effect from the time the application is received in Australia. When leaving Australia, if you are exporting 4 or less FA (not being Category C) in your checked airline baggage, then you need to apply for a 'Restricted Goods – Export Permit' from the Australian Customs Service. This permit can be completed and lodged while in Australia (see *While in Australia*).

Please note if you wish to export from Australia:

- More than 4 FA in your checked airline baggage; or
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- Any FA through the Postal System, Air Cargo or Sea Cargo

then you will need to apply for a Defence Export Permit (contact the Melbourne 2005 Deaflympic Games on the details below).

You will also need to investigate export and import requirements in **your own Country**. Ensure all paperwork is filled out correctly and completely or this may affect your application and in turn your participation in the Games.

Note: RETROSPECTIVE PERMITS WILL NOT BE ISSUED

3. To import your FA into Australia, you must be a visitor on a **Visa** allowing a stay period of one year or less, or the holder of a New Zealand Passport.

4. When going through customs while departing from your own country, you must declare if you are carrying a FA.

5. The method of FA shipment is up to the particular airline you are flying. Make sure you check with your airline/ s.

6. If you plan on travelling within Victoria/ Australia prior to, or after the Games, ensure that you investigate the policies with regards to FA, as well as the company or mode of transport you have chosen.

7. Ensure that if you are staying in a motel, that you abide by their conditions in regards to FA and dangerous goods.

While in Australia:

8. When you arrive in Australia, you must declare the firearms(s) and any ammunition and parts/accessories. Australian Customs will release the firearm(s) to you at the International Terminal, provided you have produced the ORIGINALS of the appropriate permits and other relevant documents, and there are no discrepancies.

9. To be exempt from safety testing, all FA imported into Australia **must be exported no later than the date of expiry of the visa, or (for NZ passports)** within 12 months. The competitor must also produce documentary evidence of their participation in the Deaflympics, and also hold an International Visitor Firearm Permit issued by the Victoria Police. You will be unable to sell your FA in Australia, however, it is possible for athletes to send their FA home, then continue on holiday.

10. You can only use your FA interstate if you fulfil the permit requirements for that specific state. Please note that there are different laws in each Australian state/ territory, and that it is your responsibility to be aware of these.

11. Ensure you have your licences, permits and FA paperwork on hand.

12. FA and ammunition must be carried and used in Victoria, in a manner that is secure and not dangerous.

13. The *Public Transport Act* allows you to carry **your FA on Public Transport** in Victoria as long as the athlete takes all reasonable precautions to ensure the FA safe keeping, that the FA is not stolen or lost, that it does not come into the possession of a person who is not authorised to possess it, and that the athlete does not carry ammunition with the firearm.

14. Each shooting venue is equipped with an armoury for you to leave your FA in only **during the Games period**.

15. It is recommended that athletes purchase ammunition within Australia – either at the shooting venue or at a licensed gun dealer in Victoria.

16. If you will be exporting 4 or less FA (not Category C) in your checked airline baggage: Prior to departure you will need to complete your 'Application for Restricted Goods – Export Permit'. This must be lodged with Customs at the airport before you check in for your flight. Competitors should allow extra time in order for the processing and issue of the RGP.

17. If you have obtained a Defence Export Permit, you must also acquire an 'Export Clearance Number' from Customs prior to departure.

Interstate Athletes

18. Interstate athletes need not apply for any type of Victorian Permit, however, they must ensure that their FA licence is current, and that the FA is registered.

19. Also see points **1, 5-7 and 13-16** of the International Athletes Checklist (above).

Victorian Athletes

20. Athletes from Victoria (those not travelling via plane) need only see points **1, 6, 7 & 13-16.**

If you have any further inquiries, send your questions/ comments to
Brent.Phillips@2005deaflympics.com, call Brent on +61 3 9622 2015 (TTY) or write to:
Attn: Brent Phillips
Melbourne 2005 Deaflympic Games Ltd.
Level 1 / 34 Queen Street
MELBOURNE VIC 3000

You can also refer to the *Firearms Act 1996* legislation, which will provide you with information and requirements pertaining to FA in Australia. See
www.austlii.edu.au/au/legis/act/consol_act/fa1996102/index.html

Send your 'Application for an International Visitor Firearm Permit' and your 'Application for Issue of Customs Import Permit' to:

**Manager
Victorian Firearms Licensing Services
GPO Box 28807AA
MELBOURNE VIC 3001
AUSTRALIA**

Send your letter of application for permission to Import Category C FA to:

**Firearms Unit
Criminal Justice Division
Attorney General's Department
Robert Curran Offices
National Circuit
BARTON VIC 2600
AUSTRALIA**

Note: The application for Restricted Goods – Export Permit', is to be lodged in Australia, prior to departure.

Enclosed:

Application for Issue of Customs Import Permit (B709D)
Application for Issue of Customs Import Permit (B709A)
Application for an International Visitor Firearm Permit
Application for a Restricted Good – Export Permit (B353)