
STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

2013 No. 2970

ARMS AND AMMUNITION

The Firearms (Amendment) (No. 2) Rules 2013

Made - - - - *19th November 2013*

Coming into force - - *1st December 2013*

The Secretary of State, in exercise of the powers conferred by sections 9(2), 27(2), 28(2) and 53 of the Firearms Act 1968(1), makes the following Rules:

Citation and commencement

1. These Rules may be cited as the Firearms (Amendment) (No. 2) Rules 2013 and shall come into force on 1st December 2013.

Amendment to the Firearms Rules 1998

2. The Firearms Rules 1998(2) are amended as follows.
3. In rule 3 (firearm certificates), for paragraph (4)(ii) substitute—

“(ii) the holder of the certificate must inform the chief officer of police by whom the certificate was granted within seven days of—

 - (a) the theft, loss, or destruction in Great Britain of the certificate;
 - (b) the theft, loss, deactivation or destruction in Great Britain of any firearm to which the certificate relates;
 - (c) the theft or loss in Great Britain of any ammunition to which the certificate relates.”
4. In rule 4 (referees: firearm certificates), omit paragraph (2).
5. In rule 5 (shotgun certificates), for paragraph (4)(ii) substitute—

“(ii) the holder of the certificate must inform the chief officer of police by whom the certificate was granted within seven days of—

 - (a) the theft, loss or destruction in Great Britain of the certificate;

(1) 1968 c.27. Section 27(2) was amended by section 23(5) of the Firearms (Amendment) Act 1988 (c.45). There are other amendments to the 1968 Act which are not relevant to these Regulations.
(2) S.I. 1998/1941; rules 3,4, 5 and 6, and Schedules 1 and 2, are amended by S.I. 2013/1945, which comes into force on 1st December 2013. Rule 6(2)(c) of the Firearms Rules 1998 was amended by S.I.1999/1820.

- (b) the theft, loss, deactivation or destruction in Great Britain of any shotgun to which the certificate relates.”
6. In rule 6(2) (verification of applications: shotgun certificates), for sub-paragraph (c), substitute “(c) be of good character.”
7. In rule 9 (other permits), for paragraph (2), substitute—
“(2) A permit issued under section 9(2) of the principal Act (permit for auctioneers) shall be in the form set out in Part III of Schedule 4.”
8. In Schedule 1 (firearm certificates: forms of application and certificate)(3)—
(a) for the certificate in Part II (firearm certificate), substitute the certificate in Schedule 1 to these Rules (firearm certificate);
(b) omit Part III (reference form).
9. In Schedule 2 (shotgun certificates; form of application and certificate) (4), for the certificate in Part II (shotgun certificate), substitute the certificate in Schedule 2 to these Rules (shotgun certificate).
10. In Schedule 4 (other permits: forms of permit)—
(a) for the permit in Part III (auctioneer’s firearm permit), substitute the permit in Schedule 3 to these Rules (auctioneer’s permit);
(b) omit Part IV (auctioneer’s shot gun permit).

Home Office
19th November 2013

Norman Baker
Minister of State

(3) The heading for Schedule 1 is prospectively amended by S.I. 2013/1945.
(4) The heading for Schedule 2 is prospectively amended by S.I. 2013/1945.

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SCHEDULE 1

Rule 8(a)

Firearm Certificate

Firearms Acts 1968 to 1997

Firearms Form 202

FIREARM CERTIFICATE

This certificate is granted for the purpose of section 1(1) of the Firearms Act 1968 to the holder named below and relates to the firearm(s) and ammunition specified.

Name and address of holder

Post code

Date of birth

Certificate number

Valid from to

Usual signature of holder:

Photograph of holder

Stamp/Crest of issuing police force

Signature of chief officer of police:

Date

Conditions

This certificate is issued subject to the following conditions. It is an offence to fail to comply with any of the conditions below. Maximum penalty for non-compliance: six months imprisonment and/or a fine.

1. The holder must, on receipt of the certificate, sign it in ink with his/her usual signature.
2. The holder of this certificate must inform the chief officer of police by whom the certificate was granted **within 7 days** of the theft, loss or destruction in Great Britain of the certificate and/or the theft, loss, deactivation or destruction of any firearms and/or the theft or loss of ammunition to which this certificate relates.
3. The holder of this certificate must, **without undue delay**, inform the chief officer of police by whom the certificate was granted of any change of permanent address.
4. (a) The firearms and ammunition to which the certificate relates must at all times (except in the circumstances set out in paragraph (b) below) be stored securely so as to prevent, so far as is reasonably practicable, access to the firearms or ammunition by an unauthorised person.

(b) Where firearms and/or ammunition to which the certificate relates is in use or the holder of the certificate has the firearm with him/her for the purposes of cleaning, repairing or testing it or for some other purpose connected with its use, transfer or sale, or the firearm or ammunition is in transit to or from a place in connection with its use or any such purpose, reasonable precautions must be taken for the safe custody of the firearm and/or ammunition.

Additional conditions may be added here by the chief officer of police

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Certificate number

1. Firearms possessed or authorised to be purchased or acquired

(i) **Firearms possessed**

CALIBRE METRIC OR IMPERIAL	MAKER'S NAME	TYPE	ACTION	IDENTIFICATION NUMBER
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(ii) **Firearms authorised to be purchased or acquired**

CALIBRE METRIC OR IMPERIAL	TYPE	QUANTITY	CALIBRE METRIC OR IMPERIAL	TYPE	QUANTITY
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Certificate number

2. Ammunition including expanding ammunition and expanding missiles

Maximum quantity authorised to be possessed at any one time

CALIBRE METRIC OR IMPERIAL	QUANTITY	CALIBRE METRIC OR IMPERIAL	QUANTITY
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Guidance for the holder of this certificate. Please ensure that anyone who sells, lets on hire, gives or lends you a firearm and/or ammunition reads these notes.

Guidance to anybody who sells, lets on hire, gives or lends firearms and/or ammunition, to the holder of this certificate.

1. You must complete each column of table 1 firearms or table 2 ammunition;
2. If you are a registered firearms dealer or a person who is entitled to possess a firearm without a certificate, you must inform the chief officer of police who issued this certificate **within 7 days** about the transaction by recorded delivery or permitted electronic means. You should provide a description of the firearm (including its identification number, if any) and/or the calibre and quantity of ammunition. You must also state whether the firearm and/or ammunition was sold, let on hire, given or lent, and give the name and address of the holder of this certificate.
3. Any circumstances attending the transaction which appear to require investigation must be reported within **48 hours** to the chief officer of police who granted this certificate. If you are selling a firearm and/or ammunition which will be sent or posted to another dealer for the buyer to collect in person, you should complete the table and notify the police. The dealer who actually hands over the firearm and/or ammunition should not complete the table or notify the police (except in circumstances which may require police investigation as above).

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Certificate number

Table 1 Firearms **Certification**

A Date of sale or transfer	B Name and address of person selling or transferring firearm	C State whether sold, let on hire, given or lent	D Quantity, calibre, makers name and type of firearm, identification number or mark	E Authority to possess (e.g. firearm certificate or dealer's registration number)	I certify that the entries I have made in columns A to E are correct. F Usual signature and date

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Certificate number

Table 2 Ammunition					Certification
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A Date of sale or transfer	B Name and address of person selling or transferring ammunition	C Quantity of ammunition	D Calibre and description of ammunition	E Authority to possess (e.g. firearms certificate or dealer's registration number)	I certify that the entries I have made in columns A to E are correct. F Usual signature and date
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Notes

A If you

(i) transfer firearms and/or ammunition to any other person, including lending it, selling it, hiring it out or making a gift of it; or

(ii) purchase or acquire firearms and/or ammunition; or

(iii) deactivate a firearm or have it deactivated by someone else; or

(iv) destroy a firearm, lose a firearm or section 1 ammunition, or have firearms or ammunition stolen. You must notify the Chief Officer of Police who issued the certificate under the requirement of section 34 of the Firearms (Amendment) Act 1997. This requirement applies even if the sale, loss, etc has happened outside Great Britain. It is an offence not to notify.

B Under section 32 of the Firearms (Amendment) Act 1997 where a person sells, lets on hire, lends or gives firearms and/or ammunition to which section 1 applies to another person who is not a registered firearms dealer or a person who is entitled to purchase or acquire the firearms and/or ammunition with out holding a certificate –

(i) the person receiving the firearms and/or ammunition must produce the certificate or permit entitling him/her to purchase or acquire the firearms and/or ammunition being transferred;

(ii) the person selling, letting on hire, lending or giving the firearm(s) and/or ammunition must comply with any instructions in the certificate or permit produced; and

(iii) the final handing-over of the firearms and/or ammunition must take place in person.

C (i) The entries relate to a transaction with the holder of this certificate, that I have inspected the record of the previous transactions, and that I have satisfied myself that the transaction will not place the holder of this certificate in possession of firearms in excess of or otherwise than as authorised by this certificate.

(ii) Please ensure that you have not transferred ammunition to the holder of this certificate that might put him or her in possession of more than the amount detailed in table two.

It is an offence for a person to fail to comply with these requirements.

D Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs will notify the chief officer of police who issued this certificate of any firearm which is imported into Great Britain on the authority of this certificate.

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SCHEDULE 2

Rule 9

Shotgun Certificate

Firearms Acts 1968 to 1997

Firearms Form 204

SHOTGUN CERTIFICATE

This certificate is granted for the purpose of section 2 of the Firearms Act 1968 to the holder named below and relates to the shotgun(s) specified.

Name and address of holder

Photograph of holder

Stamp/Crest of issuing police force

Post code

Date of birth

Certificate number

Valid from to

Usual signature of holder:

Signature of chief officer of police:

Date

Conditions

The holder of this certificate is authorised for the purpose of section 2(1) of the Firearms Act 1968 to possess shotguns, subject to the following conditions -

1. The holder must, on receipt of the certificate, sign it in ink with his/her usual signature.
2. The holder of this certificate must inform the chief officer of police by whom the certificate was granted **within 7 days** of the theft, loss or destruction in Great Britain of the certificate and/or the theft, loss, deactivation or destruction of any shotguns to which this certificate relates.
3. The holder of this certificate must, **without undue delay**, inform the chief officer of police by whom the certificate was granted of any change of permanent address.
4. (a) The shotguns to which the certificate relates must at all times (except in the circumstances set out in paragraph (b) below) be stored securely so as to prevent, so far as is reasonably practicable, access to the shotguns by an unauthorised person.

(b) Where a shotgun to which the certificate relates is in use or the holder of the certificate has the shotgun with him/her for the purposes of cleaning, repairing or testing it or for some other purpose connected with its use, transfer or sale, or the shotgun is in transit to or from a place in connection with its use or any such purpose, reasonable precautions must be taken for the safe custody of the shotgun.

Additional statutory conditions may be added here by the chief officer of police.

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Certificate number

Table 1 Shotguns possessed

BORE METRIC OR IMPERIAL	MAKER'S NAME	TYPE (E.G. OVER-AND-UNDER, SIDE-BY-SIDE ETC) INCLUDING IDENTIFICATION NUMBER IF KNOWN
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Certificate number

Guidance for the holder of this certificate: Please ensure that anyone who sells, lets on hire, gives or lends you a shotgun read these notes.

Guidance to anybody who sells, lets on hire, gives or lends shotguns, to the holder of this certificate.

1. You must complete each column of table 2 shotgun(s) transferred;
2. If you are a registered firearms dealer or a person who is entitled to possess the shotgun without a certificate – you must inform the chief officer of police who issued this certificate **within 7 days** about the transaction by recorded delivery or permitted electronic means. You should provide a description of the shotgun (including its identification number, if any) and also state whether the shotgun was sold, let on hire, given or lent and give the name and address of the holder of this certificate; and
3. Any circumstances attending the transaction which require investigation must be reported within **48 hours** to the chief officer of police who granted this certificate. If you are selling shotgun(s) which will be sent or posted to another dealer for the buyer to collect in person you should complete this table and notify the police. The dealer who actually hands over the shotgun(s) should not complete the table or notify the police (except in circumstances which may require investigation as above).

Table 2 Shotguns transferred					Certification
A Date of sale or transfer	B State whether sold, let on hire, given or lent	C Type, bore, maker's name and description (including identification number where known)	D Name and address of person selling or transferring shotgun	E Authority to possess (e.g. shotgun certificate or dealer's registration number)	F I certify that the entries I have made in columns A to D are correct Usual signature and date

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Certificate number

Table 2 Shotguns transferred (continued)					Certification
A	B	C	D	E	F
Date of sale or transfer	State whether sold, let on hire, given or lent	Type, bore, maker's name and description (including identification number where known)	Name and address of person selling or transferring shotgun	Authority to possess (e.g. shotgun certificate or dealer's registration number)	I certify that the entries I have made in columns A to D are correct Usual signature and date

Notes

A Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs will notify the chief officer of police who issued this certificate of any shotgun which is imported into Great Britain on the authority of this certificate.

B If you

- (i) transfer a shotgun to any person including selling it, hiring it out, lending it for more than 72 hours, or making a gift of it; or
- (ii) purchase or acquire a shotgun; or
- (iii) deactivate a shotgun or have it deactivated by someone else; or
- (iv) destroy a shotgun, lose one, or have it stolen

the Firearms (Amendment) Act 1997 requires you to notify the chief officer of police who issued your certificate.

This requirement applies even if the sale, loss, etc has happened outside Great Britain. It is an offence not to notify. Details of the notification required are available from your local police.

C Under section 32 of the Firearms (Amendment) Act 1997 where a person sells, lets on hire, lends for more than 72 hours or gives a shotgun to another person who is not a registered firearms dealer or a person who is entitled to purchase or acquire the shotgun without holding a certificate -

- (i) the person receiving the shotgun must produce the certificate or permit entitling him/her to purchase or acquire the shotgun being transferred;
- (ii) the person selling, letting on hire, lending or giving the shotgun must comply with any instructions in the certificate or permit produced; and
- (iii) the final handing-over of the shotgun must take place in person.

It is an offence for a person to fail to comply with these requirements.

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SCHEDULE 3

Rule 10(a)

Auctioneer's Permit

Firearms Acts 1968 to 1997; Violent Crime Reduction Act 2006

Firearms Form 213

AUCTIONEER'S FIREARMS PERMIT
(firearms, ammunition, shotguns, & airweapons)

This permit is issued under section 9(2) of the Firearms Act 1968. The permit holder is requested to report the loss of this permit to his/her local police at once.

The holder of this permit is hereby permitted to sell by auction, to expose for sale by auction and to have in his possession for sale by auction, the firearms, ammunition or shotguns specified below, as well as air weapons, in the police force area indicated below, on the terms that the holder shall:

Name of holder

Date of birth of holder

Address of holder

Post Code

Valid

from

to

Permit number

I understand that under section 9(3) of the Firearms Act 1968 that is an offence for a person knowingly or recklessly to make a false statement for the purposes of procuring the grant of a permit under section 9(2) of the same Act. **Please tick**

Usual signature of holder

Stamp/crest of issuing police force

Signature of chief officer of police

Date

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(i) FIREARMS

Permit number

CALIBRE METRIC/ IMPERIAL	MAKER'S NAME	TYPE	IDENTIFICATION NUMBER

(i)(a) AMMUNITION

QUANTITY	CALIBRE METRIC/IMPERIAL	QUANTITY	CALIBRE METRIC/IMPERIAL

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(ii) SHOTGUNS

Permit number

BORE METRIC/IMPERIAL	MAKER'S NAME	TYPE (E.G.OVER AND UNDER, SIDE BY SIDE, INCLUDING IDENTIFICATION NO. IF KNOW)

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Permit number

NOTES

1. Under section 3(2) of the Firearms Act 1968 it is an offence for a person to sell or transfer to any other person in the United Kingdom, other than a registered firearms dealer, any firearm or ammunition, or a shotgun, unless that other person produces a firearm certificate authorising them to purchase or acquire it, or a shotgun certificate, or shows that he/she is by virtue of the Firearms Acts entitled to purchase or acquire it without holding a certificate.
2. Under section 32 of the Firearms (Amendment) Act 1997 where a person sells, lets on hire, lends or gives a firearm or ammunition to which section 1 applies, or sells, lets on hire, lends for more than 72 hours or gives a shotgun, to another person who is not a registered firearms dealer or a person who is entitled to purchase or acquire either a firearms, ammunition or the shotgun without holding a certificate -
 - i) the person receiving the firearm, ammunition or shotgun must produce the certificate or permit entitling them to purchase or acquire the firearm, ammunition or shotgun being transferred;
 - ii) the person selling, letting on hire, lending or giving the firearm, ammunition or shotgun must comply with any instructions in the certificate or permit produced; and,
 - ii) the final hand over of the firearms, ammunition or shotguns must take place in person.
3. Under section 3 (1) (c) of the Firearms Act 1968, as amended by the section 31(1) of the Violent Crime Reduction Act 2006, it is an offence for a person to sell or transfer to any person an air weapon other than a registered firearms dealer.
4. Under section 32 of the Violent Crime Reduction Act, the final hand over of air weapons must take place in person.

It is an offence for a person to fail to comply with these requirements.

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EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This note is not part of the Rules)

These Rules replace the existing prescribed firearm certificate and shotgun certificate with new certificates. These new certificates are designed to accompany the new single application form which applies for the purposes of applications for firearm and shotgun certificates.

Rules 3 and 5 make minor changes to the conditions attached to a firearm certificate and a shotgun certificate. These changes relate to the certificate holder's obligation to inform the chief officer of police of developments in connection with the certificate, the firearm, the shotgun or the ammunition.

Rule 4 omits the prescribed reference form that is used by referees in relation to an application for a firearm certificate. This is no longer required in light of the content of the new single application form, which contains provision for the input of referees.

Rule 6 amends the requirements for referees in relation to applications for shotgun certificates. The effect of the change is that the referee is not required to fall within a particular category of professional; rather they are simply required to be a person of good character. This change reflects the existing requirement for referees in respect of applications for firearms certificates.

Rule 7 of these Rules amends rule 9 of the Firearms Rules 1998, with the effect that from now on there will be only one prescribed auctioneer's permit, rather than two separate prescribed permits: one for firearms and ammunition and the other for shotguns.

Rule 8 substitutes the new firearm certificate, which appears at Schedule 1 to these Rules, for the formerly applicable prescribed certificate.

Rule 9 substitutes the new shotgun certificate, which appears at Schedule 2 to these Rules, for the formerly applicable prescribed certificate.

Rule 10 substitutes the new auctioneer's permit, which appears at Schedule 3 to these Rules, for the formerly applicable prescribed auctioneer's firearm permit, and omits the old auctioneer's shotgun permit.