Firearms and Weapons Legislation Amendment Bill 2017

Explanatory note
This explanatory note relates to this Bill as introduced into Parliament.

Overview of Bill
The object of this Bill is to amend the Firearms Act 1996, the Weapons Prohibition Act 1998 and the regulations under those Acts as follows:

(a) to recategorise lever action shotguns from category A to category B (for up to 5 round capacity) or category D (for more than 5 round capacity) and to provide transitional arrangements for persons in whose name a lever action shotgun is registered when the recategorisation amendments commence,

(b) to increase from 1 to 3 the number of category D firearms that a primary producer is permitted to have under the genuine reason of vertebrate pest control,

(c) to provide a temporary amnesty for the surrender of firearms, firearms parts, ammunition and prohibited weapons, the supply of unregistered firearms to a licensed firearms dealer and the registration of unregistered firearms,

(d) to remove the requirement for a firearms dealer to record the address of a person to whom or from whom ammunition is supplied or acquired,

(e) to allow police the option of not seizing a firearm or ammunition that is improperly stored if the failure has been rectified or will be rectified without delay,

(f) to limit the regulation of ammunition to ammunition for a firearm so as to deregulate the supply and possession of ammunition for articles that are not firearms (such as explosive powered tools),

(g) to clarify that ammunition for a firearm includes any ammunition that can be safely fired in the firearm and is not limited to ammunition of the nominal calibre of the firearm,
(h) to prohibit the possession and use of a firearm or prohibited weapon by means of remote control unless specifically authorised by a permit,

(i) to make it clear that references to a pistol include a prohibited pistol,

(j) to remove the requirement for a permit to acquire a firearm when an imitation firearm is acquired from a firearms dealer,

(k) to require an application for a licence or permit to be refused if the applicant is subject to an interim apprehended violence order or is required to be registered under the Child Protection (Offenders Registration) Act 2000 and to prevent a person who is subject to an interim apprehended violence order from being employed or involved in the management of the business of a licensed firearms dealer,

(l) to clarify that a permit for a firearm is not to be issued unless the applicant has a legitimate reason for possessing or using the firearm,

(m) to clarify the operation with respect to firearms and prohibited weapons of provisions for the mutual recognition of domestic violence orders made in other jurisdictions,

(n) to provide for the establishment of online firearms and prohibited weapons registry services so that applications can be made and notices served electronically,

(o) to make it clear that a disassembled firearm or prohibited weapon is to be regarded as a firearm or prohibited weapon,

(p) to amend provisions dealing with the supervision of unlicensed shooters, persons undertaking firearms safety training, probationary pistol licence holders and minors to clarify the required level of supervision and in some cases to authorise a supervisor to decide on an adequate level of supervision,

(q) to validate the past issue of permits for a powerhead for spear fishing and to replace provision for permits for powerheads for spear fishing with provision for a permit for a powerhead for protection against shark attack,

(r) to authorise the issue of penalty notices for certain offences in respect of the safe keeping and storage of firearms and administrative and firearms security obligations of licensed firearms dealers,

(s) to enact consequential savings and transitional provisions and to make miscellaneous minor amendments.

The Bill also makes amendments to the Criminal Procedure Act 1986 that are consequential on the proposed new offences concerning the remote controlled possession and use of firearms and prohibited weapons.

Outline of provisions

Clause 1 sets out the name (also called the short title) of the proposed Act.

Clause 2 provides for the commencement of the proposed Act on a day or days to be appointed by proclamation.

Schedule 1 Amendment of Firearms Act 1996 No 46

Recategorisation of lever action shotguns

Section 8 (1) is amended to change the category of lever action shotguns from category A to category B for lever action shotguns with a magazine capacity of no more than 5 rounds and to category D for lever action shotguns with a magazine capacity of more than 5 rounds.

Section 8 (1) is also amended to increase from 1 to 3 the number of category D firearms that a category D licence holder who is a primary producer is permitted to have under the genuine reason of vertebrate pest animal control.
New item 4A of Schedule 1 is consequential on the proposed change of category of lever action shotguns.

New clauses 29–32 of Schedule 3 provide for the transitional arrangements that are to apply following the recategorisation of lever action shotguns to persons who are currently the registered owners of lever action shotguns.

Supervision of shooters
Section 6B is amended to make it clear that the level of supervision required for unlicensed persons shooting at an approved shooting range and for persons undertaking firearms safety training courses is direct supervision so that the supervisor supervises one person only.

Sections 16A and 32 are amended to require that the level of supervision of the holder of a probationary pistol licence or minor’s firearms permit is to be as required by the regulations. The regulations are amended in Schedule 2 to the Bill to prescribe supervision requirements, including the requirement that the level of supervision is to be the level that the supervisor reasonably considers to be adequate taking into account listed relevant factors.

Issue of licences and permits
Section 11 (5) (c) is substituted to require an application for a licence to be refused if the applicant is the subject of an interim apprehended violence order.

New section 11 (5) (f) requires an application for a licence to be refused if the applicant is a registrable person or corresponding registrable person under the Child Protection (Offenders Registration) Act 2000.

New section 29 (1A) clarifies that the Commissioner is not to issue a permit for a firearm unless satisfied that the applicant has a legitimate reason for possessing or using the firearm.

Section 29 (3) (c) is substituted to require an application for a permit to be refused if the applicant is the subject of an interim apprehended violence order.

New section 29 (3) (f) requires an application for a permit to be refused if the applicant is a registrable person or corresponding registrable person under the Child Protection (Offenders Registration) Act 2000.

Ammunition
Section 45A is amended to remove the requirement that the records a licensed firearms dealer keeps for ammunition transactions with a person must include the person’s address.

Section 65 is amended to limit restrictions on the supply, acquisition and possession of ammunition to ammunition that is for a firearm so that the restrictions will not apply to ammunition for firearms that are exempted from the operation of the Act (such as explosive powered tools).

Section 65 (5) is inserted to make it clear that a reference to ammunition that a firearm takes extends to any ammunition that can be safely fired in the firearm. Section 65A (1) is amended consequentially.

Section 67 is amended to limit restrictions on the pawning of ammunition to ammunition for a firearm.

Section 74 (3), (5) and (6) are amended to limit ammunition restrictions under a firearms prohibition order to ammunition for a firearm.

Remote controlled firearms
New section 51I makes it an offence to possess or use a firearm by remote control unless specifically authorised by a permit. This includes having a firearm on any vehicle, vessel, aircraft or other device that is being operated by remote control.
Online registry arrangements

New section 78 authorises the establishment of online service arrangements for the making of applications for licences and permits for firearms and prohibited weapons and the giving of notices by electronic means.

Sections 10 (1) and 30 (1) are substituted to facilitate the operation of the proposed new online service arrangements provided for by new section 78.

Miscellaneous amendments

New section 4 (2) (c) makes it clear that a collection of the unassembled component parts of a firearm constitute a firearm. The clarification is necessary because of doubt created by the decision of the Court of Criminal Appeal in Jacob v R [2014] NSWCCA 65.

New section 4D (1) (c) removes the requirement for a permit to acquire a firearm when an imitation firearm is acquired from a firearms dealer by the holder of a permit for the possession or use of the imitation firearm. Section 51 (1B) is inserted consequentially to remove the requirement that a permit to acquire must be produced and inspected when an imitation firearm is acquired.

Sections 4D (2), 7 (1), 32 (5), 36 (1), 39 (1), 50, 50AA (2), 50A (2), 50B, 51 (1A) and (2A), 51A, 51BA (2), 51D (2), 51E, 57, 62 (1), 63 (1), 70, 72 (1) and 74 (1) are amended to insert notes to make it clear that references in those provisions to a pistol include a prohibited pistol.

Section 17A (6) is substituted to clarify that the shooting competition participation requirements for a special category C licence apply to each consecutive 12 month period of the licence.

Section 32 (1) (which requires an application for a minor’s firearms permit to be lodged personally) is repealed and transferred to the regulations by an amendment in Schedule 2 to the Bill. Section 32 (2) is amended consequentially.

Section 36 (3) is amended to extend the requirement that a licensed firearms dealer must apply for the registration of an unregistered firearm within 24 hours after acquiring the firearm so that the requirement will also apply when the dealer takes possession of an unregistered firearm.

Section 42 is amended to authorise a police officer to decide not to seize a firearm or ammunition that is found not properly stored if the officer is satisfied that the failure has been rectified or will be rectified without delay.

Section 44A is amended to prevent a person from being employed in or participating in the management of the business of a licensed firearms dealer if the person is subject to an interim apprehended violence order or is a registrable person or corresponding registrable person under the Child Protection (Offenders Registration) Act 2000.

Section 63 (1) is amended to recognise that a permit (and not just a licence) for a pistol can authorise the conversion of a firearm to a pistol.

New section 78A prevents an overlap between provisions of the Act and provisions that are part of the national scheme for the recognition of domestic violence orders and that require the revocation or refusal of a firearms licence or permit.

New clause 33 of Schedule 3 validates the past issue under the regulations of permits for powerheads for use in spear fishing despite the use of a powerhead for spear fishing being generally unlawful under fisheries laws. Any such permit still in force is revoked.

Schedule 2 Amendment of Firearms Regulation 2006

Temporary amnesty

New Part 12A provides an amnesty for 3 months starting on 1 July 2017 for the surrender of firearms, firearms parts and ammunition, the supply of firearms to firearms dealers and the making of registration applications for unregistered firearms.
Application for minor’s firearms permit

New clause 44A requires an application for a minor’s firearms permit to be lodged personally by the applicant. This requirement is transferred to the regulations from section 32 of the Act.

Participating requirements for club members

Clause 96 (which deals with the participation requirements for firearms licence holders who are firearms club members) is replaced with a new Part 9A that clarifies and improves the consistency of the existing requirements of clause 96. The amendments to clauses 3, 27, 29, 34 and 93 and the repeal of clause 90 are consequential on the replacement of clause 96.

Permits for powerheads

Clause 63 (which currently provides for the issue of a permit to possess or use a powerhead for spear fishing) is replaced with provision for the issue of a permit to possess or use a powerhead for protection against shark attack.

Information disclosure

Clause 98 is substituted to extend the existing power of the Commissioner to disclose information to an approved firearms club about an applicant for membership of the club so that the information will also be able to be disclosed to an association with which the approved club is affiliated.

Ammunition

Clause 115A (which relates to supply of ammunition by licensed firearms dealers) is amended to include a note (consequential on an amendment in Schedule 1 to this Bill) that a reference to ammunition that a firearm takes extends to any ammunition that can be safely fired in the firearm.

Supervision requirements

New clause 133 prescribes requirements for supervision for the purposes of sections 16A and 32 of the Act, including the requirement that the level of supervision is to be the level that the supervisor reasonably considers to be adequate taking into account listed relevant factors. The prescribed requirements will also apply for the purposes of other provisions of the Regulation that are amended to standardise existing supervision requirements.

Clauses 31, 35A, 47, 52, 66 and 87 are amended to standardise the existing supervision requirements in the Regulation by requiring supervision to be as required by new clause 133.

Clauses 109A and 110 (which relate to the supervision of unlicensed shooters shooting at an approved shooting range under section 6B of the Act) are amended to change supervision requirements as a consequence of changes to supervision requirements under that section resulting from amendments in Schedule 1 to this Bill.

Penalty notice offences

Schedule 1 (which lists offences that can be dealt with by penalty notice) is amended to list offences dealing with safe keeping and storage of firearms by firearms owners and certain administrative and firearms security obligations of licensed firearms dealers.

Schedule 3 Amendment of Weapons Prohibition Act 1998 No 127

Disassembled prohibited weapons

New section 4 (2) (a1) provides that a collection of the unassembled component parts of a prohibited weapon constitute a prohibited weapon. The clarification is necessary because of doubt created by the decision of the Court of Criminal Appeal in Jacob v R [2014] NSWCCA 65.
Online service arrangements
Section 9 (1) and (2) are substituted to facilitate the proposed new online service arrangements provided for by new section 78 of the Firearms Act 1996 to be inserted by Schedule 1.

Interim apprehended violence orders
Section 10 (3) (b) is substituted to require an application for a prohibited weapons permit to be refused if the applicant is the subject of an interim apprehended violence order.

Child sex offenders
New section 10 (3) (e) requires an application for a permit to be refused if the applicant is a registrable person or corresponding registrable person under the Child Protection (Offenders Registration) Act 2000.

Remote controlled prohibited weapons
New section 25D makes it an offence to possess or use a prohibited weapon by remote control unless specifically authorised by a permit. This includes having a prohibited weapon on any vehicle, vessel, aircraft or other device that is being operated by remote control.

Recognition of interstate DVOs
New section 35A prevents an overlap between provisions of the Act and provisions that are part of the national scheme for the recognition of domestic violence orders and that require the revocation or refusal of a prohibited weapons permit.

Schedule 4 Amendment of Weapons Prohibition Regulation 2009

Amnesty
New clause 35B provides an amnesty for 3 months starting on 1 July 2017 for the surrender of prohibited weapons.

Remote controlled prohibited weapons
New clause 26A provides for the issue of a permit to authorise the remote controlled possession and use of a prohibited weapon for the purposes of the proposed new offence to be inserted by Schedule 3 of possessing or using a prohibited weapon by remote control unless authorised by a permit.

Consequential amendment
Clause 5 of Schedule 1 is amended consequentially on the transitional arrangements for the proposed recategorisation of lever action shotguns.

Schedule 5 Amendment of Criminal Procedure Act 1986 No 209

Remote controlled firearms
Section 268 (2) (e) is amended to provide for the maximum Local Court penalty for the proposed new offence of possessing or using a firearm by remote control unless authorised by a permit (see new section 51I in Schedule 1). Clause 7 of Table 2 of Schedule 1 is amended to provide that the offence must be dealt with summarily unless the prosecution otherwise elects.
Remote controlled prohibited weapons

Section 268 (2) (f) is amended to provide for the maximum Local Court penalty for the proposed new offence of possessing or using a prohibited weapon by remote control unless authorised by a permit (see new section 25D in Schedule 3). **Clause 8 of Table 2 of Schedule 1** is amended to provide that the offence must be dealt with summarily unless the prosecution otherwise elects.
# Firearms and Weapons Legislation Amendment Bill 2017

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Firearms and Weapons Legislation Amendment Bill 2017

No  , 2017

A Bill for

An Act to amend the Firearms Act 1996, the Weapons Prohibition Act 1998 and other laws to make further provision in respect of the categorisation of firearms, firearms and weapons amnesties, ammunition controls, licences and permits and administrative arrangements; and for other purposes.
The Legislature of New South Wales enacts:

1 Name of Act
   This Act is the *Firearms and Weapons Legislation Amendment Act 2017*.

2 Commencement
   This Act commences on a day or days to be appointed by proclamation.
Schedule 1  Amendment of Firearms Act 1996 No 46

[1] Section 4 Definitions
   Insert at the end of section 4 (2) (b):
   (c) any collection of the component parts of a thing that if assembled would
   be a firearm or prohibited firearm (or would be a firearm or prohibited
   firearm if it did not have something missing from it, a defect or
   obstruction in it or something added to it) is taken to be a firearm or
   prohibited firearm (as appropriate).

[2] Section 4D Special provisions relating to imitation firearms
   Insert after section 4D (1) (b):
   (c) the holder of a permit authorising the possession or use of an imitation
   firearm (a possession or use permit) is not required to be authorised by
   a permit to acquire an imitation firearm to which the possession or use
   permit applies.

[3] Section 4D (2)
   Insert at the end of the subsection:
   Note. Reference to a pistol includes a prohibited pistol. (See section 4C.)

[4] Section 6B Exemption for unlicensed persons shooting on approved ranges and for persons undertaking firearms safety training courses
   Omit “direct” from section 6B (1) (a) and (b) wherever occurring.

[5] Section 6B (1A)
   Insert after section 6B (1):
   (1A) The level of supervision that is required for the purposes of this section is
   direct supervision so that the person supervising supervises one person only.

[6] Section 7 Offence of unauthorised possession or use of pistols or prohibited firearms
   Insert at the end of section 7 (1):
   Note. Reference to a pistol includes a prohibited pistol.

[7] Section 8 Licence categories and authority conferred by licence
   Omit “shotguns (other than pump action or self-loading)” from the matter relating to
   category A licence in section 8 (1).
   Insert instead “shotguns (other than pump action, lever action or self-loading)”.

[8] Section 8 (1)
   Insert after the third dot point in the matter relating to category B licence:
   • lever action shotguns with a magazine capacity of no more than
     5 rounds

[9] Section 8 (1)
   Insert after the fourth dot point in the matter relating to category D licence:
   • lever action shotguns with a magazine capacity of more than 5 rounds
[10] Section 8 (1)
Omit “the licensee is authorised to possess or use no more than one registered firearm to which the licence applies” from the matter relating to category D licence.
Insert instead “the licensee is authorised to possess or use no more than 3 registered firearms to which the licence applies”.

[11] Section 8 (1)
Omit “the licensee is authorised to use the firearm” from the matter relating to category D licence.
Insert instead “the licensee is authorised to use a firearm to which the licence applies”.

[12] Section 10 Applications for licences
Omit section 10 (1). Insert instead:

(1) An application for a licence must be made in an approved manner and the fee prescribed by the regulations for the application must be paid when the application is made or as otherwise approved.

[13] Section 11 General restrictions on issue of licences
Omit section 11 (5) (c). Insert instead:

(c) is subject to an apprehended violence order or interim apprehended violence order or who has, at any time within 10 years before the application for the licence was made, been subject to an apprehended violence order (other than an order that has been revoked), or

[14] Section 11 (5) (f)
Insert at the end of section 11 (5) (e):

, or

(f) is a registrable person or corresponding registrable person under the Child Protection (Offenders Registration) Act 2000.

[15] Section 16A Probationary pistol licences
Insert after section 16A (2):

(2A) The supervision of a person for the purposes of this section is to be as required by the regulations.

[16] Section 17A Special provisions relating to category C licences issued for clay target shooting purposes
Omit section 17A (6). Insert instead:

(6) Without limiting the conditions to which a category C licence is subject, a special category C licence issued under this section is subject to the condition that the licensee must, during each compliance period, participate in no less than the number of clay target shooting competitions required by the regulations. A compliance period is each of the consecutive 12-month periods during which the licence is in force, with the first of those periods starting when the licence is issued and subsequent periods starting at the end of the previous compliance period.
[17] **Section 29 General restrictions on issue of permits**

Insert after section 29 (1):

(1A) The Commissioner must not issue a permit that authorises the possession or use of a firearm unless the Commissioner is satisfied that the applicant has a legitimate reason for possessing or using the firearm.

[18] **Section 29 (3) (c)**

Omit the paragraph. Insert instead:

(c) is subject to an apprehended violence order or interim apprehended violence order or who has, at any time within 10 years before the application for the permit was made, been subject to an apprehended violence order (other than an order that has been revoked), or

[19] **Section 29 (3) (f)**

Insert at the end of section 29 (3) (e):

(f) is a registrable person or corresponding registrable person under the Child Protection (Offenders Registration) Act 2000.

[20] **Section 30 General provisions relating to permits**

Omit section 30 (1). Insert instead:

(1) An application for a permit must be made in an approved manner and the fee prescribed by the regulations for the application must be paid when the application is made or as otherwise approved.

[21] **Section 32 Minor’s firearms permits**

Omit section 32 (1).

[22] **Section 32 (2)**

Omit “The applicant must”.

Insert instead “An applicant for a minor’s firearms permit must”.

[23] **Section 32 (5) (a), (5A) (a) and (6) (a)**

Omit “personal supervision” wherever occurring. Insert instead “supervision”.

[24] **Section 32 (5)**

Insert at the end of the subsection:

Note. Reference to a pistol includes a prohibited pistol.

[25] **Section 32 (6A)**

Insert after section 32 (6):

(6A) The supervision of a person for the purposes of this section is to be as required by the regulations.

[26] **Section 36 Unregistered firearms**

Insert at the end of section 36 (1):

Note. Reference to a pistol includes a prohibited pistol.
[27] **Section 36 (3)**

Insert “or taking possession of” after “after acquiring”.

[28] **Section 39 General requirement**

Insert at the end of section 39 (1):

*Note.* Reference to a pistol includes a prohibited pistol.

[29] **Section 42 Seizure of firearms and ammunition if storage requirements not met**

Insert at the end of the section:

(2) This section does not require the seizure of a firearm or ammunition if the police officer is satisfied that the failure to keep the firearm or ammunition in accordance with this Part has been rectified or will be rectified without delay. A decision not to seize a firearm or ammunition on that basis does not prevent the taking of a prosecution or the issuing of a penalty notice in respect of the failure.

[30] **Section 44A Prescribed persons not to be involved in firearms dealing business**

Omit section 44A (3) (d). Insert instead:

(d) is subject to an apprehended violence order or interim apprehended violence order, or

[31] **Section 44A (3) (g)**

Insert at the end of section 44A (3) (f):

, or

(g) is a registrable person or corresponding registrable person under the *Child Protection (Offenders Registration) Act 2000*.

[32] **Section 45A Recording of ammunition transactions**

Omit “and address” from section 45A (2) (a) and (3) (a) wherever occurring.

[33] **Section 50 Acquisition of firearms**

Insert at the end of the section:

*Note.* Reference to a pistol includes a prohibited pistol.

[34] **Section 50AA Acquisition of firearm parts**

Insert at the end of section 50AA (2):

*Note.* Reference to a pistol includes a prohibited pistol.

[35] **Section 50A Unauthorised manufacture of firearms**

Insert at the end of section 50A (2):

*Note.* Reference to a pistol includes a prohibited pistol.

[36] **Section 50B Giving possession of firearms or firearm parts to unauthorised persons**

Insert at the end of the section:

*Note.* Reference to a pistol includes a prohibited pistol.
[37] **Section 51 Restrictions on supply of firearms**

Insert after section 51 (1A):

(1B) If the firearm is an imitation firearm, the other person’s permit to acquire the firearm is not required to be produced to and inspected by the supplier under subsection (1) or (1A) (without affecting the requirement that the other person’s licence or permit be produced to and inspected by the supplier).

**Note.** The holder of a permit authorising the possession or use of an imitation firearm is not required to be authorised by a permit to acquire the imitation firearm. See section 4D.

[38] **Section 51 (1A) and (2A)**

Insert at the end of the subsections:

**Note.** Reference to a pistol includes a prohibited pistol.

[39] **Section 51A Restrictions on acquiring firearms**

Insert at the end of the section:

**Note.** Reference to a pistol includes a prohibited pistol.

[40] **Section 51BA Restrictions on supply of firearm parts**

Insert at the end of section 51BA (2):

**Note.** Reference to a pistol includes a prohibited pistol.

[41] **Section 51D Unauthorised possession of firearms in aggravated circumstances**

Insert at the end of section 51D (2):

**Note.** Reference to a pistol includes a prohibited pistol.

[42] **Section 51E Possession or use of pistols fitted with magazines of more than 10 round capacity**

Insert at the end of the section:

**Note.** Reference to a pistol includes a prohibited pistol.

[43] **Section 51I**

Insert after section 51H:

**51I Remote controlled possession and use of firearms**

(1) A person who possesses or uses a firearm by remote control is guilty of an offence under this subsection unless the person is authorised by a permit to possess or use the firearm by remote control. Maximum penalty: imprisonment for 5 years.

(2) A person who possesses or uses a pistol or prohibited firearm by remote control is guilty of an offence under this subsection unless the person is authorised by a permit to possess or use the pistol or prohibited firearm by remote control. Maximum penalty: imprisonment for 14 years.

**Note.** Reference to a pistol includes a prohibited pistol.

(3) A person possesses a firearm by remote control when the person has the firearm in or on any vehicle, vessel, aircraft or other device that is being operated by the person by remote control. A person uses a firearm by remote control when the person operates the firearm by remote control.
(4) If, on the trial of a person for an offence under subsection (2), the jury is not satisfied that the accused is guilty of the offence but is satisfied on the evidence that the person is guilty of an offence under subsection (1), it may find the person not guilty of the offence charged but guilty of an offence under subsection (1), and the accused is liable to punishment accordingly.

[44] Section 57 Non-commercial transportation of firearms
Insert at the end of the section:
Note. Reference to a pistol includes a prohibited pistol.

[45] Section 62 Shortening firearms
Insert at the end of the section 62 (1):
Note. Reference to a pistol includes a prohibited pistol.

[46] Section 63 Converting firearms
Insert “or permit” after “licence” in section 63 (1).

[47] Section 63 (1)
Insert at the end of the subsection:
Note. Reference to a pistol includes a prohibited pistol.

[48] Section 65 Supply, acquisition and possession of ammunition
Insert before section 65 (1):
Note. Provisions such as this section that refer to ammunition for any firearm do not apply to ammunition for anything declared by the regulations not to be a firearm.

[49] Section 65 (3)
Insert “for any firearm” after “possess ammunition”.

[50] Section 65 (5)
Insert after section 65 (4):
(5) For the purposes of this Act, the ammunition that a firearm takes includes any ammunition that can be safely fired in the firearm (whether or not that ammunition has the same calibre designation as the calibre designation of the firearm).

[51] Section 65A Supply of ammunition by firearms dealers—additional requirements
Insert at the end of section 65A (1):
Note. Section 65 provides that the ammunition that a firearm takes includes any ammunition that can be safely fired in the firearm.

[52] Section 67 Pawning of firearms prohibited
Insert “for any firearm” after “ammunition”.

[53] Section 70 False or misleading applications
Insert at the end of the section:
Note. Reference to a pistol includes a prohibited pistol.

[54] Section 72 Falsifying or altering records
Insert at the end of section 72 (1):
Note. Reference to a pistol includes a prohibited pistol.
[55] Section 74 Effect of firearms prohibition order

Insert at the end of section 74 (1):

Note. Reference to a pistol includes a prohibited pistol.

[56] Section 74 (3), (5) and (6)

Insert “for any firearm” after “ammunition” wherever occurring.

[57] Sections 78 and 78A

Insert before section 79:

78 Arrangements for online services

(1) The Commissioner may establish arrangements (online service arrangements) that facilitate the following:

(a) the making by electronic means of applications under a relevant Act,
(b) the giving of any notice under a relevant Act by electronic means,
(c) the use of digital signatures for the purposes of the authentication of any application made or notice given by electronic means,
(d) the payment or refund by electronic means of fees payable under a relevant Act.

(2) The use of online service arrangements is subject to any terms and conditions imposed by the Commissioner but a person cannot be required to use online service arrangements.

(3) A notice given by means of online service arrangements is taken to have been given in writing.

(4) In this section:

give includes serve.

notice means any notice, notification, approval or other instrument that is authorised or required to be given in writing by or under a relevant Act.

relevant Act means this Act or the Weapons Prohibition Act 1998.

78A Recognition of domestic violence orders

Section 98ZI (Recognition of disqualification to hold firearms licence) of the Crimes (Domestic and Personal Violence) Act 2007 does not apply to a recognised DVO if section 98ZH of that Act applies to the recognised DVO and requires the Commissioner to revoke a licence or permit under this Act held by the person concerned or to refuse to issue a licence or permit under this Act to the person concerned.

[58] Schedule 1 Prohibited firearms

Insert after item 4:

4A Any lever action shotgun with a magazine capacity of more than 5 rounds (including any such firearm described elsewhere in this Schedule).
[59] Schedule 3 Savings and transitional provisions

Insert at the end of the Schedule:

Part 10 Provisions consequent on enactment of Firearms and Weapons Legislation Amendment Act 2017

29 Definitions

In this Part:

*category B shotgun* means a lever action shotgun with a magazine capacity of no more than 5 rounds.

*category D shotgun* means a lever action shotgun with a magazine capacity of more than 5 rounds.

*special category B licence* means a special category B licence provided for by this Part.

30 Transitional arrangements for lever action shotguns

(1) A person in whose name a lever action shotgun was registered immediately before the commencement of this clause and whose possession of the shotgun was authorised at that time by a category A licence (referred to in this Part as the person’s *existing category A licence*) is entitled to the benefit of the following transitional arrangements in respect of that particular shotgun but only while the shotgun remains registered in the name of the person:

(a) if the person is not the holder of a category B licence, the person is deemed to be the holder of a special category B licence for the shotgun but only while the person’s existing category A licence (or any renewal of that licence) is in force,

(b) if the shotgun is a category D shotgun and the person is not the holder of a category D licence but is the holder of a category B licence (including a special category B licence), the shotgun is deemed to be a firearm to which a category B licence held by the person applies.

(2) A *special category B licence* is a licence that authorises a person to possess or use a lever action shotgun (and no other firearm) that was registered in the name of the person immediately before the commencement of this clause, but only for the purpose established as being the genuine reason for possessing or using a firearm for the purposes of the person’s existing category A licence (or any renewal of that licence) as in force from time to time.

(3) However, a special category B licence does not authorise the licensee to possess or use a category D shotgun at any time when the person holds a category D licence that authorises the possession or use of the shotgun and that is not subject to any condition imposed by the Commissioner under section 19 (1).

(4) A special category B licence that a person is deemed to hold is revoked if the person is granted a category B licence (not being a special category B licence) that authorises the possession or use of a lever action shotgun that the special category B licence applied to.

(5) A permit issued before the commencement of this clause that authorises a person to acquire a shotgun does not authorise the person to acquire a lever action shotgun after the commencement of this clause unless the person is:

(a) the holder of a category B licence (not being a special category B licence) in the case of acquisition of a category B shotgun, or
(b) the holder of a category D licence in the case of acquisition of a category D shotgun but only if the category D licence will authorise the possession or use of the shotgun once acquired.

Note. A category D licence may be subject to a limit on the number of firearms that the licensee is authorised to possess or use and so may not authorise the acquisition of another category D firearm.

Note. A person has the benefit of the transitional arrangements of this clause only for the particular shotgun registered in the name of the person immediately before the commencement of this clause and only while the shotgun remains registered in the name of the person. A person loses the benefit of the transitional arrangements for a shotgun if it is supplied to another person or is lost, stolen or destroyed. The same principles apply to the transitional arrangements under clause 31 for a shotgun that a person has registered in their name in another jurisdiction immediately before the commencement of the interstate recategorisation amendments.

31 Inter-jurisdictional transitional arrangements for lever action shotguns

(1) A resident of another State or Territory in whose name a lever action shotgun was registered under the interstate law immediately before the commencement of the interstate recategorisation amendments and whose possession of the shotgun was authorised at that time under the interstate law by an interstate category A licence is subject to the following provisions in respect of that particular shotgun:

(a) sections 26 (Recognition of interstate licences for certain purposes) and 27 (Interstate residents moving to this State) apply to the person as if the firearms to which a category A or B licence issued in this State apply include the shotgun concerned but only while the shotgun remains registered in the name of the person under the interstate law,

(b) if the shotgun is a category D shotgun and a category B licence is issued to the person under this Act (not being a special category B licence), the shotgun is deemed to be a firearm to which a category B licence held by the person applies but only while the shotgun remains registered in the name of the person under this Act,

(c) a category B licence issued to the person under this Act does not apply to the shotgun (despite paragraph (b)) if a category D licence issued to the person under this Act applies to the shotgun.

(2) Regulations under clause 1 may include provisions that are inconsistent with this clause.

(3) In this clause:

**interstate category A licence** means a licence issued under the interstate law that is equivalent to a category A licence issued under this Act.

**interstate law** means the law in force in the State or Territory of which the person is a resident.

**interstate recategorisation amendments** means amendments made to the interstate law that resulted in interstate category A licences ceasing to apply to lever action shotguns.

32 Administrative arrangements for lever action shotgun owners

(1) The Commissioner may issue a licence as a special category B licence to a person who is deemed to hold a special category B licence, with the licence to specify details of the shotgun (or each shotgun) for which it is issued.

(2) The Commissioner may provide to a person a statement in writing certifying that a category B licence held by the person (including a special category B licence) is deemed under this Part to apply to a specified category D shotgun.
The statement may be provided by being included in the category B licence concerned or separately.

33 Validity of permits for powerheads for spear fishing

(1) The regulations are taken to have always been authorised to provide for the issue of a permit (a spear fishing powerhead permit) that authorised a person to possess and use a powerhead for the purposes of underwater spear fishing even if the person’s use of a powerhead for that purpose would have been unlawful under another Act.

(2) The following provisions apply to a spear fishing powerhead permit issued or purporting to have been issued before the commencement of this clause:

(a) the permit is validated to the extent of any invalidity arising from inconsistency between the regulations and another law,

(b) the permit operated only for the purposes of this Act and did not authorise a contravention of any other law,

(c) if the permit is in force immediately before the commencement of this clause it is revoked on the commencement of this clause.
Schedule 2  Amendment of Firearms Regulation 2006

[1] Clause 3 Definitions
Insert in appropriate order in clause 3 (1):

*club* means:

(a) in relation to the genuine reason of sport/target shooting—a shooting club that has been established for at least 3 months, or

(b) in relation to the genuine reason of recreational hunting/vermin control—a hunting club that has been established for at least 3 months, or

(c) in relation to the genuine reason of firearms collection—a collectors’ society or collectors’ club that has been established for at least 3 months.

*pistol club* means a shooting club that conducts or organises approved pistol shooting competitions.

[2] Clause 27 Sport/target shooting—club participation requirements
Omit clause 27 (1). Insert instead:

(1) A licence that is issued for the genuine reason of sport/target shooting is subject to the condition that the licensee must comply with any applicable requirements of Part 9A (Participation requirements for club members).

[3] Clause 29 Recreational hunting/vermin control—club participation requirements
Omit clause 29 (1). Insert instead:

(1) A licence that is issued for the genuine reason of recreational hunting/vermin control is subject to the condition that the licensee must comply with any applicable requirements of Part 9A (Participation requirements for club members).

*Note.* Participation requirements for club members apply only if membership of the club is the sole ground on which the licensee has established that genuine reason.

[4] Clause 31 Practising at approved ranges
Insert after clause 31 (3):

(3A) The supervision of a person for the purposes of subclause (3) (a) is to be as required by clause 133.

[5] Clause 34 Firearms collections
Omit clause 34 (2). Insert instead:

(2) Without limiting the conditions to which a firearms collector licence may be subject, any such licence is subject to the condition that the licensee must comply with any applicable requirements of Part 9A (Participation requirements for club members).

[6] Clause 35A Theatrical armourers
Insert after clause 35A (1):

(1A) The supervision of a person for the purposes of subclause (1) (b) is to be as required by clause 133.
Schedule 2  Amendment of Firearms Regulation 2006

[7] Clause 44A
Insert before clause 45:

44A Minor’s firearms permit—application
An application for a minor’s firearms permit must be lodged personally by the applicant.

[8] Clause 47 Recognition of interstate minor’s firearms permits
Omit “direct supervision” from clause 47 (3). Insert instead “supervision”.

[9] Clause 47 (4)
Insert after clause 47 (3):

(4) The supervision of a person for the purposes of subclause (3) is to be as required by clause 133.

[10] Clause 52 Permit for firearms used in film, television or theatrical production
Omit “direct supervision” from clause 52 (3). Insert instead “supervision”.

[11] Clause 52 (3A)
Insert after clause 52 (3):

(3A) The supervision of a person for the purposes of subclause (3) is to be as required by clause 133.

[12] Clause 63
Omit the clause. Insert instead:

63 Permit for powerhead for protection against shark attack
(1) The Commissioner may, on application by a person, issue a permit authorising the person to possess and use a powerhead for the purpose of protecting themselves or any other person against shark attack.

(2) A permit under this clause may be issued despite clause 11 (2) but must not be issued to a person unless the Commissioner is satisfied that because of activities engaged in by the person in the course of the person’s business or employment it is reasonably likely that the person will need to protect themselves or any other person against shark attack.

(3) A permit under this clause authorises the holder of the permit to possess and use a powerhead but only for the purpose of protecting themselves or any other person against shark attack and only while engaged in an activity in the course of the permit holder’s business or employment.

(4) In this clause:

powerhead means a device that:
(a) is capable of propelling a projectile by means of an explosive, and
(b) is designed to be attached to the end of a spear gun for use in underwater spear fishing.

[13] Clause 66 Permits relating to open days
Insert after clause 66 (2):

(2A) The supervision of a person for the purposes of subclause (2) is to be as required by clause 133.
[14] **Clause 87 Approval of shooting range**
Omit “general supervision” from clause 87 (2) (a). Insert instead “supervision”.

[15] **Clause 87 (2) (b) (ii)**
Omit “close supervision”. Insert instead “supervision”.

[16] **Clause 87 (2A)**
Insert after clause 87 (2):

(2A) The supervision of a person for the purposes of subclause (2) is to be as required by clause 133.

[17] **Clause 90 Definitions**
Omit the clause.

[18] **Clause 93 Conditions of approval of club**
Omit “the requirements specified in clause 96” from clause 93 (2) (b).
Insert instead “any applicable requirements of Part 9A (Participation requirements for club members)”.

[19] **Clause 96 Participation requirements for club members**
Omit the clause.

[20] **Clause 98**
Omit the clause. Insert instead:

98 **Disclosure of information by Commissioner**
The Commissioner is authorised to disclose to the secretary or other relevant office holder of an approved club, or of any association with which an approved club is affiliated, any information as to the following:

(a) the pistols that are held by an applicant for membership of the approved club,
(b) any other club of which an applicant for membership of the approved club is a member,
(c) any other information that, in the opinion of the Commissioner, is relevant to a person’s application for membership, or a person’s continued membership, of the approved club.

[21] **Part 9A**
Insert after clause 98:

**Part 9A Participation requirements for club members**

98A **Definitions**
In this Part:

*competitive shooting match* means a shooting activity in which scores are kept and results recorded.

*compliance period* for a licence means each consecutive 12-month period during which the licence is in force, with the first of those periods starting
when the licence is issued and subsequent periods starting at the end of the previous compliance period.

*Participation* in a shooting activity includes, in the case of a competitive shooting match, officiating at such a match.

*Shooting activity* of an approved club means the following:

(a) a shooting activity that is conducted by the club at the club’s shooting range, including a competitive shooting match, shooting training and target practice at the club’s shooting range,

(b) firearms safety training conducted by the club at the club’s shooting range,

(c) a competitive shooting match held at a shooting range other than the club’s shooting range where the match is endorsed by the club (including such a match that is conducted outside NSW or outside Australia).

**98B Participation requirements for pistol sport/target shooters**

(1) The holder of a category H (sport/target shooting) licence must be a member of at least one approved pistol club and must during each compliance period for the licence participate in shooting activities of an approved pistol club (whether or not a club of which the person is a member) as follows:

(a) during a compliance period in which the person has only 1 kind of pistol, the person must participate in at least 6 shooting activities of an approved pistol club that are competitive shooting matches,

(b) during a compliance period in which the person has 2 kinds of pistol, the person must participate in at least 4 shooting activities of an approved pistol club for each kind of pistol (a minimum of 8 shooting activities in total) of which at least 6 must be competitive shooting matches,

(c) during a compliance period in which the person has 3 kinds of pistol, the person must participate in at least 4 shooting activities of an approved pistol club for each kind of pistol (a minimum of 12 shooting activities in total) of which at least 6 must be competitive shooting matches.

(2) There are 3 different kinds of pistol for the purposes of this clause—air pistols, rimfire pistols and centre-fire pistols. A black powder pistol is to be regarded as a centre-fire pistol.

(3) The number of different kinds of pistol that a person has during a compliance period is the number of different kinds of pistol that the person has registered in their name during the compliance period.

(4) If the number of different kinds of pistol that a person has during a compliance period changes during the compliance period, it is the highest number that the person has that determines the number of shooting activities that the person is required to participate in during the compliance period but in such a case the Commissioner may reduce the required number of shooting activities if the Commissioner considers it to be fair and reasonable to do so.

**98C Participation requirements for sport/target shooters (other than pistol shooters)**

The holder of a licence issued for the genuine reason of sport/target shooting (not being a category H licence) must be a member of at least one approved shooting club (other than a pistol club) and must, during each compliance period for the licence, participate in not less than 4 shooting activities of an...
approved shooting club (other than a pistol club) whether or not of a club of which the person is a member.

98D Participation requirements for member of approved hunting club

(1) The holder of a licence issued for the genuine reason of recreational hunting/vermin control to a member of an approved hunting club must be a member of at least one approved hunting club and must, during each compliance period for the licence, participate in no less than 2 hunting club events.

(2) This clause applies only where membership of an approved hunting club is the sole ground on which the licensee has established the genuine reason of recreational hunting/vermin control.

(3) In this clause:

hunting club event means any event approved by any approved hunting club (whether or not a club of which the licensee is a member) involving hunting, shooting or firearms safety training.

98E Participation requirements for member of approved collectors’ society or club

The holder of a firearms collector licence must be a member of at least one approved collectors’ society or collectors’ club and must, during each compliance period for the licence, attend at least one meeting of an approved collectors’ society or collectors’ club of which the licensee is a member.

98F Participation requirements for category C licences issued for clay target shooting purposes

The holder of a special category C licence issued under section 17A of the Act must, during each compliance period, participate in no less than 4 clay target shooting competitions.

98G Membership of more than one approved club

(1) The holder of a licence who is required under this Part to be a member of an approved club of a particular category and who is a member of more than one approved club of that category must:

(a) nominate a principal club of that category of which the licensee is a member and with which the licensee will mainly be involved, and

(b) notify the Commissioner in writing of the nominated principal club, and

(c) if the licensee participates in any compliance activity of a club of that category that is not the licensee’s nominated principal club of that category—notify the nominated principal club of the details of any such activity in writing within each annual return period.

(2) In this clause, compliance activity means an activity in which a person participates for the purposes of compliance with a requirement of this Part.

[22] Clause 109A Exemption for unlicensed persons shooting on approved ranges

Insert “(so that the person supervising supervises one person only)” after “direct supervision”.

[23] Clause 110 Requirements relating to exemption for unlicensed persons shooting on approved ranges and for persons undertaking firearms safety training courses

Omit “direct supervision” from clause 110 (6). Insert instead “supervision”.

Page 17
[24] **Clause 115A Exemption in relation to sales of ammunition by firearms dealers**

Insert at the end of the clause:

**Note.** Section 65 of the Act provides that the ammunition that a firearm *takes* includes any ammunition that can be safely fired in the firearm.

[25] **Part 12A**

Insert after clause 116:

**Part 12A Amnesties**

117 **Definitions**

In this Part:

- *amnesty period* means the period starting on 1 July 2017 and ending at midnight on 30 September 2017.
- *participating dealer* means a licensed firearms dealer who is designated for the time being by the Commissioner as a participating dealer for the purposes of this Part, as notified on the website of the NSW Firearms Registry.
- *possession restrictions* of the Act means any provision of the Act or this Regulation that would operate to make a person’s possession of a firearm or related article unlawful.
- *related article* means a firearm part or ammunition.
- *supply restrictions* of the Act means sections 36, 62 and 66 of the Act to the extent that they relate to the supply of a firearm.

118 **Temporary amnesty for surrender of firearms and related articles**

(1) A person is exempt during the amnesty period from the possession restrictions of the Act in respect of a firearm or related article while in possession of the firearm or related article at a police station or participating dealer, or while proceeding to a police station or participating dealer, for the purposes of surrendering the firearm or related article.

(2) In this clause, *surrender* of a firearm or related article means the surrender of the firearm or related article to the Commissioner on behalf of the State.

(3) This clause does not apply to a person who is subject to a firearms prohibition order or to a weapons prohibition order under the *Weapons Prohibition Act 1998*.

(4) The surrender of a firearm or related article during the amnesty period does not constitute a supply of the firearm or related article.

(5) The Commissioner may publish information and advice about how a person should go about surrendering a firearm or related article during the amnesty period.

119 **Temporary amnesty for transfer of firearms to participating dealers**

(1) A person is exempt during the amnesty period from the possession restrictions of the Act in respect of a firearm while in possession of the firearm at a participating dealer, or while proceeding to a participating dealer, for the purposes of supplying the firearm to the participating dealer.

**Note.** Supply of a firearm can be by sale, gift or otherwise.

(2) A person is exempt during the amnesty period from the supply restrictions of the Act in respect of the supply of a firearm to a participating dealer during the amnesty period.
(3) This clause does not apply to a person who is subject to a firearms prohibition order.

119A Temporary amnesty for registration of firearms

(1) A person is exempt during the amnesty period from the possession restrictions of the Act in respect of a firearm while in possession of the firearm at a participating dealer, or while proceeding to a participating dealer, for the purposes of applying for registration of the firearm during the amnesty period.

(2) A person is exempt from the possession restrictions of the Act in respect of a firearm that the person has in the custody of a participating dealer from the time the firearm is taken into the custody of the participating dealer until an application for registration of the firearm is made, but only if the application is made within 24 hours after the firearm is taken into the custody of the participating dealer and is made during the amnesty period.

(3) A person is exempt from the possession restrictions of the Act in respect of a firearm while an application for registration of the firearm made during the amnesty period is pending, but only if:

(a) the application is made by a participating dealer or by a person who holds an appropriate licence or permit for the firearm, or

(b) the application (referred to in this clause as an unlicensed person application) is made by a person in conjunction with an application by the person for an appropriate licence or permit for the firearm and at all times when those applications are pending the firearm is held in the custody of a participating dealer.

(4) If an unlicensed person application is granted, the transfer of possession of the firearm to the applicant from the custody of the participating dealer in whose custody the firearm is held is deemed (for the purposes of provisions of the Act relating to the supply and acquisition of firearms) to constitute the supply of the firearm by the participating dealer and the acquisition of the firearm by the applicant.

Note. This requires the applicant to have a permit to acquire the firearm.

(5) After a firearm has been registered in the name of a participating dealer pursuant to an application for registration made during the amnesty period, a person is exempt from the possession restrictions of the Act in respect of the firearm while the person has the firearm in the custody of the participating dealer during or after the end of the amnesty period.

(6) An application is pending from when the application is made until the application is granted or, if the application is refused, until the end of the appeal period for the application.

Note. An application can be pending after the end of the amnesty period so long as the application was made during the amnesty period.

(7) This clause does not apply to a person who is subject to a firearms prohibition order.

(8) In this clause:

appeal period for an application means the period that runs from when the application is refused until the end of the period within which an application for administrative review of a relevant decision about the application may be made as of right or (if an application for administrative review is made within that period) until the application for administrative review is withdrawn or finally determined.
appropriate licence or permit for a firearm means a licence or permit that would authorise possession of the firearm if the firearm were registered.

119B Protection for participating dealers

(1) A participating dealer is exempt from section 51A (Restrictions on acquiring firearms) of the Act during the amnesty period.

(2) A participating dealer who comes into possession of an unregistered firearm that has been surrendered is exempt from the possession restrictions of the Act in respect of the firearm while complying in respect of the firearm with any directions of the Commissioner as to how a participating dealer must deal with such a firearm.

[26] Clause 133

Insert after clause 132:

133 Supervision requirements

(1) This clause applies to supervision for the purposes of sections 16A and 32 of the Act and any provision of this Regulation that provides for supervision to be as required by this clause.

(2) The following requirements apply to supervision to which this clause applies:

(a) a person being supervised must at all times be in the direct line of sight of the supervisor and the supervisor must at all times be ready and able to give directions and render immediate assistance to a person being supervised,

(b) supervision is to be at a level that the supervisor reasonably considers to be adequate taking into account relevant factors under this clause.

(3) The following factors are relevant factors to be taken into account in deciding what is an adequate level of supervision:

(a) the general competency of persons being supervised,

(b) the proficiency with firearms of persons being supervised,

(c) the number of persons being supervised and the number who are actively engaged in shooting,

(d) the effect of the landscape and range configuration on the ability of the supervisor to maintain direct line of sight observation of persons being supervised and to give directions and render immediate assistance.

[27] Schedule 1 Penalty notice offences

Omit the matter relating to sections 45 (3) and 47 (1) and (4). Insert instead:

Section 39 (1) 550
Section 40 (1) 220
Section 41 (1) 550
Section 45 220
Section 45A 220
Section 46 (1) 550
Section 47 (1)–(6) 550
Section 48 550
Schedule 3  Amendment of Weapons Prohibition Act 1998 No 127

[1] Section 4 Definitions
Insert after section 4 (2) (a):
(a1) any collection of the component parts of a thing that if assembled would be a prohibited weapon (or would be a prohibited weapon if it did not have something missing from it or a defect or obstruction in it) is taken to be a prohibited weapon, and

[2] Section 9 Application for permit
Omit section 9 (1) and (2). Insert instead:
(1) An application for a permit must be made to the Commissioner in an approved manner and the fee prescribed by the regulations for the application must be paid when the application is made or as otherwise approved.
(2) The application must include or be accompanied by such information and particulars as may be prescribed by the regulations.

[3] Section 10 Issuing of permit
Omit section 10 (3) (b). Insert instead:
(b) is subject to an apprehended violence order or interim apprehended violence order or who has, at any time within 10 years before the application for the permit was made, been subject to an apprehended violence order (other than an order that has been revoked), or

[4] Section 10 (3) (e)
Insert at the end of section 10 (3) (d):
(e) is a registrable person or corresponding registrable person under the Child Protection (Offenders Registration) Act 2000.

[5] Section 25D
Insert after section 25C:

25D Remote controlled possession and use of prohibited weapons
(1) A person who possesses or uses a prohibited weapon by remote control is guilty of an offence unless the person is authorised by a permit to possess or use the weapon by remote control.
Maximum penalty: imprisonment for 14 years.
(2) A person who possesses or uses a military-style weapon by remote control is guilty of an offence unless the person is authorised by a permit to possess or use the weapon by remote control.
Maximum penalty: imprisonment for 20 years.
(3) A person possesses a prohibited weapon by remote control when the person has the prohibited weapon in or on any vehicle, vessel, aircraft or other device that is being operated by the person by remote control. A person uses a prohibited weapon by remote control when the person operates the prohibited weapon by remote control.
(4) If, on the trial of a person for an offence under subsection (2), the jury is not satisfied that the accused is guilty of the offence but is satisfied on the evidence that the person is guilty of an offence under subsection (1), it may find the person not guilty of the offence charged but guilty of an offence under subsection (1), and the accused is liable to punishment accordingly.

[6] Section 35A

Insert after section 35:

35A Recognition of domestic violence orders

Section 98ZJ (Recognition of disqualification to hold weapons permit) of the Crimes (Domestic and Personal Violence) Act 2007 does not apply to a recognised DVO if section 98ZH of that Act applies to the recognised DVO and requires the Commissioner to revoke a permit under this Act held by the person concerned or to refuse to issue a permit under this Act to the person concerned.
Schedule 4  Amendment of Weapons Prohibition Regulation 2009

[1]  Clause 26A
Insert after clause 26:

26A Remote control permit

(1) The Commissioner may, on application by a person, issue a prohibited weapons–remote control permit that authorises the person to possess or use by remote control a prohibited weapon to which the permit relates.

(2) The Commissioner must not issue a prohibited weapons–remote control permit unless the applicant satisfies the Commissioner that the applicant has a special need that justifies the possession or use of a prohibited weapon by remote control.

[2]  Clause 35B
Insert after clause 35A:

35B Temporary 2017 amnesty for surrender of prohibited weapons

(1) A person is exempt during the amnesty period from the possession restriction of the Act in respect of a prohibited weapon while in possession of the prohibited weapon at a police station, or while proceeding to a police station, for the purposes of surrendering the prohibited weapon.

(2) The surrender of a prohibited weapon during the amnesty period does not constitute a supply of the prohibited weapon.

(3) A firearms dealer who comes into possession of a prohibited weapon during the amnesty period is exempt from the possession restriction of the Act in respect of the prohibited weapon while complying in respect of the prohibited weapon with any directions of the Commissioner as to how a firearms dealer must deal with such a prohibited weapon.

(4) This clause does not apply to a person who is subject to a weapons prohibition order or to a firearms prohibition order under the Firearms Act 1996.

(5) The Commissioner may publish information and advice about how a person should go about surrendering a prohibited weapon during the amnesty period.

(6) In this clause:

   amnesty period means the period starting on 1 July 2017 and ending at midnight on 30 September 2017.

   firearms dealer means the holder of a firearms dealer licence under the Firearms Act 1996.

   possession restriction of the Act means the requirement under section 7 of the Act to hold a permit authorising possession of a prohibited weapon.

   prohibited weapon includes any part of a prohibited weapon.

   surrender of a prohibited weapon means the surrender of a prohibited weapon to the Commissioner on behalf of the State.

[3]  Schedule 1 Persons exempt from requirement for permit
Insert after clause 5 (1):

(1A) If a person who holds a category B licence under the Firearms Act 1996 (including a special category B licence referred to in Part 10 of Schedule 3 to
that Act) is authorised to possess and use a lever action shotgun with a magazine capacity of more than 5 rounds as a result of the shotgun being deemed to be a firearm to which the person’s category B licence applies, the person is deemed for the purposes of subclause (1) to be the holder of a category D licence under that Act in respect of the shotgun.
Schedule 5  Amendment of Criminal Procedure Act 1986
No 209

[1] Section 268 Maximum penalties for Table 2 offences
   Insert “ 51I,” after “51H,” in section 268 (2) (e).

[2] Section 268 (2) (f)
   Insert “ 25D,” after “25B (1),”.

[3] Schedule 1 Indictable offences triable summarily
   Insert “ 51I,” after “51H,” in clause 7 of Table 2.

[4] Schedule 1, Table 2