

Dorset Police Firearms Licensing

Section 11(6) Firearms Act 1968 – Application for Clay Pigeon Shooting Exemption

Section A – Organiser Details

Full Name: _____

Organisation / Club Name (if applicable): _____

Address: _____

Date of Birth: _____ Telephone Number: _____

Email Address: _____

Role in Event / Club: _____

Section B – Event Details

Type of Event (tick one):

☐ One-off / Occasional event

Brief description, for example charity shoot, village fete, corporate day.

☐ Regular club or commercial shoot

Name of ground or club

Attach fixture list or typical schedule if available.

Reason for requiring a Section 11(6) exemption:

For example, non-certificate holders expected to shoot as guests, corporate clients, charity participants, have a go stands.

Expected number of attendees:

Total persons on site: _____ Estimated shooters: _____

Estimated non-certificate holders: _____

Event Dates: _____

Event Times: _____

Section C – Location and Layout

Address or description of land where shooting will take place:

If the shoot is near public access or residential areas, please describe any signage, marshals, or liaison arrangements

Landowner name and confirmation of permission: _____

Site plan or map:

- Please attach a clear plan or map showing:

- Firing points and clay traps.
- Direction of fire and approximate fall of shot.
- Backstops and natural features used for safety.
- Boundaries of the land used.
- Nearby roads, public rights of way, buildings, bridleways or other public access.
- Indicate approximate distances from firing points to boundaries and sensitive features.

☐ Site plan attached

Applications may be delayed if a suitable plan is not provided.

Section D – Supervision and Instruction

Supervision arrangements:

Number of instructors / supervisors: _____

Are instructors CPSA-accredited?

☐ Yes

☐ No

☐ Other (specify): _____

If not CPSA-accredited, please briefly describe instructor experience or training

Arrangements for young persons under 15: _____

Arrangements to prevent prohibited persons handling guns: _____

Section E – Safety Measures

Safe shooting zone confirmed (approx. 300 yards in direction of fire):

☐ Yes

☐ No (explain): _____

Control of public access:

Loading and handling procedures: _____

Intoxication / drug policy: _____

Personal protective equipment provided (tick all that apply):

☐ Eye protection

☐ Hearing protection

☐ Other: _____

Noise management considerations: _____

Risk assessment:

If no formal risk assessment is available, please summarise key risks and control measures

☐ Attached

☐ Summary provided: _____

Section F – Insurance

Insurer: _____

Policy Number: _____ Level of Cover: _____

Policy Start Date: _____ Policy Expiry Date: _____

Required Attachment:

☐ Public liability insurance certificate attached

Section G – Declaration

I accept responsibility for the safe conduct of the shooting event(s) and will comply with the guidance provided in relation to Section 11(6) of the Firearms Act 1968 and any additional conditions imposed by the Chief Officer of Police.

I confirm that the information provided is true to the best of my knowledge and belief.

I understand that this authority, if granted, applies only to the use of Section 2 shotguns by persons without a shotgun certificate at the approved time and place.

Signature: _____

Print Name: _____

Date: _____

Annexe A – Summary of Requirements and Guidance for Section 11(6) Exemptions

This annex provides a concise overview of the legal requirements and safety expectations associated with Section 11(6) of the Firearms Act 1968. Organisers should read this information carefully before submitting an application.

1. Legal Basis

Section 11(6) of the Firearms Act 1968 allows a person who does not hold a shotgun certificate to use a shotgun at a time and place approved by the Chief Officer of Police for shooting at artificial targets such as clay pigeons.

This exemption applies only to shotguns falling under Section 2 of the Firearms Act 1968.

2. Key Legal Requirements

- Supervision of non-certificate holders:

All persons without a shotgun certificate must be supervised by a competent person at all times when in possession of a shotgun.

- Young persons:

Anyone under 15 years of age must be supervised by a person aged 21 or over (Firearms Act 1968, Section 22(3)).

- Prohibited persons:

Individuals prohibited under Section 21 of the Firearms Act 1968 must not be permitted to possess guns or ammunition.

- Shotgun type:

Only Section 2 shotguns may be used under this exemption.

- Responsibility:

The organiser is legally responsible for the safe conduct of the event and for ensuring compliance with all relevant legislation.

3. Safety Expectations

The following safety measures reflect recognised good practice for clay pigeon shooting events:

- A safe zone of approximately 300 yards (275 metres) should be maintained in the direction of fire.

- Shot, broken clays or whole clays must not fall onto public areas or land without permission.

- Guns should only be loaded when on the firing point and must be made safe between stands.

- No person who appears intoxicated or under the influence of drugs should be permitted to handle guns.
- Suitable eye and hearing protection should be available for all participants.
- Public access must be controlled, particularly where rights of way or footpaths are present.
- Noise impact should be considered, and neighbours informed where appropriate.

4. Insurance and Risk Management

- Organisers are strongly advised to hold appropriate public liability insurance covering clay pigeon shooting activities.
- A copy of the current insurance certificate must be provided with the application.
- A risk assessment should be completed for the event.
 - If a formal written assessment is not available, organisers should be able to explain the key risks and control measures in place.

5. Supporting Documents Required

Applications should include:

- A site plan or map showing firing points, traps, direction of fire, fall of shot, boundaries and nearby public access.
- A copy of the public liability insurance certificate.
- A fixture list or schedule (for regular club shoots).
- Details of supervision and instructor competence, including whether instructors are CPSA-accredited.
- Confirmation of landowner permission where applicable.

Incomplete applications may result in delays.

6. Important Notes

- A Section 11(6) exemption does not authorise the general operation of a shooting ground.
- It applies only to the specific dates, times and location approved.
- The exemption does not remove any other legal obligations relating to firearms, land use, health and safety, or noise management.