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STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

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**2018 No. 1042**

**ARMS AND AMMUNITION**

**The Firearms (Amendment) Rules 2018**

*Made* - - - - *3rd October 2018*

*Coming into force* - - *16th October 2018*

The Secretary of State, in exercise of the powers conferred by sections 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) Rules 2018 and come into force on 16th October 2018.

**Amendments to the Firearms Rules 1998**

2.—(1) The Firearms Rules 1998(2) are amended as follows.

(2) In paragraph 4(ii) of rule 3 (firearm certificates), after “granted”, insert “as soon as reasonably practicable but”.

(3) In paragraph 4(ii) of rule 5 (shotgun certificates), after “granted”, insert “as soon as reasonably practicable but”.

(4) In Schedule 1 (form of application for firearm and shotgun certificates, and firearm certificate), for the certificate in Part II (firearm certificate), substitute the certificate in Schedule 1 to these Rules (firearm certificate).

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(1) 1968 c. 27  
. See section 57(4) for a definition of “prescribed”.

(2) S.I. 1998/1941  
; relevant amending instruments are  
S.I. 2013/1945  
,  
2013/2970  
,  
2014/1239  
,  
2016/425  
and  
2017/1281  
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(5) In Schedule 2 (shotgun certificate), for the certificate in Part II (shotgun certificate), substitute the certificate in Schedule 2 to these Rules (shotgun certificate).

3rd October 2018

*Nick Hurd*  
Minister of State  
Home Office

SCHEDULE 1

Rule 2(4)

Firearm certificate

Firearms Acts 1968 to 1997

Firearms Form 202

<b>FIREARM CERTIFICATE</b>		<b>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.</b>	
Name and address of holder: <input type="text"/>		Photograph of holder: <input type="text"/>	Stamp/Crest of issuing Police Force: <input type="text"/>
Post code: <input type="text"/>	Date of birth: <input type="text"/>		
Certificate number: <input type="text"/>	Valid from: <input type="text"/>	Valid to: <input type="text"/>	
Usual signature of holder: <input type="text"/>		Signature of Chief Officer of Police: <input type="text"/>	
		Date: <input type="text"/>	

**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 **as soon as reasonably practicable, but 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 a firearm 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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Firearms Acts 1968 to 1997

Firearms Form 202

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). You must also state whether the firearm 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.
4. 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(s) and notify the police of the transaction concerning the firearm (as in 2 above). The dealer who actually hands over the firearm and/or ammunition should not complete the table(s) or notify the police (except in circumstances which may require police investigation as above).

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Firearms Acts 1968 to 1997

Firearms Form 202

Certificate number:

<b>Table 1 Firearms</b>					<b>Certification</b>
<b>A</b>	<b>B</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>D</b>	<b>E</b>	<b>F</b>
Date of sale or transfer	Name and address of person selling or transferring firearm	State whether sold, let on hire, given or lent	Quantity, calibre, maker's name and type of firearm, identification number or mark	Authority to possess (e.g. firearm certificate or dealer's registration number)	I certify that the entries I have made in columns <b>A</b> to <b>E</b> are correct. <b>Usual signature and date</b>

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Certificate number:

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

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Firearms Acts 1968 to 1997

Firearms Form 202

Certificate number: **Notes**

**A** 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 without 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 firearms and/or ammunition must comply with any instructions in the certificate or permit produced; and
- (iii) the final handing-over of firearms and/or ammunition must take place in person.

**B** Under section 33 of the Firearms (Amendment) Act 1997, where a person transfers a firearm to any other person, including lending it, selling it, hiring it out or making a gift of it, he/she shall within seven days of the transfer give to the Chief Officer of Police who granted his/her certificate or permit a notice

- (i) containing a description of the firearm in question (giving its identification number if any); and
- (ii) stating the nature of the transaction and the name and address of the other party.

**C** Under Section 34 of the Firearms (Amendment) Act 1997, where you

- (i) deactivate a firearm or have it deactivated by someone else; or
- (ii) destroy a firearm, lose a firearm or section 1 ammunition; or
- (iii) have firearms or ammunition stolen,

you must notify the Chief Officer of Police who issued the certificate. This requirement applies even if the sale, loss, etc. has happened outside Great Britain.

**It is an offence for a person to fail to comply with the requirements at A - C.**

**D** The entries for boxes A - E in Tables 1 and 2 relate to transactions with the holder of this certificate. The seller must be satisfied that the transaction will not place the holder of this certificate in possession of firearms and ammunition in excess of the amount authorised by this certificate.

**E** 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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Data Protection Act DPA 2018

National Firearms Licensing Management System (NFLMS)

Personal data supplied may be held or verified by computer

SCHEDULE 2

Rule 2(5)

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: Valid 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 **as soon as reasonably practicable, but 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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Firearms Acts 1968 to 1997

Firearms Form 204

Certificate number:

**Table 1 Shotguns possessed**

CALIBRE, BORE OR GAUGE	MAKER'S NAME	TYPE (E.G. OVER-AND-UNDER, SIDE-BY-SIDE ETC) INCLUDING IDENTIFICATION NUMBER IF KNOWN
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\*\*\*\*\* no entries \*\*\*\*\*

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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 reads 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 Shotguns transferred.
2. If you are a registered firearms dealer or a person who is entitled to possess a 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.
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	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 <b>A to E</b> are correct <b>Usual signature and date</b>

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Firearms Acts 1968 to 1997

Firearms Form 204

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 <b>A to E</b> are correct <b>Usual signature and date</b>

**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 notifications 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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## EXPLANATORY NOTE

*(This note is not part of the Rules)*

These Rules make amendments to the Firearms Rules 1998 ([S.I. 1998/1941](#)).

Rule 2(2) and (3) amend the Firearms Rules 1998 in respect of conditions imposed on the grant or renewal of a firearm or shotgun certificate. The amendments require the holder of a firearm or shotgun certificate to inform the chief officer of police by whom the certificate was granted as soon as reasonably practicable but within seven days, of the theft, loss, or destruction in Great Britain of the certificate, and of the theft, loss, deactivation or destruction in Great Britain of any firearm, shotgun or ammunition to which the certificate relates.

Rule 2(4) and (5) replace the existing firearm and shotgun certificates to reflect the amendment to the conditions.

A full impact assessment has not been produced for this instrument as no, or no significant, impact on the private, voluntary or public sectors is foreseen.