

FACT SHEET

NSW Firearms Law Changes - What Members Need to Know

JULY UPDATE



Purpose of this Fact Sheet

This fact sheet explains the major firearms law changes in NSW following legislation passed in late 2025, what has already taken effect, what is still to come, and what SSAA NSW is doing in response.

These reforms were introduced rapidly following the Bondi incident and represent one of the most significant changes to NSW firearms law in decades.

What Has Already Changed (In Force Now)

The following provisions are law and currently operating:

1. Loss of NCAT Appeal Rights
 - Firearms licence decisions can no longer be appealed to NCAT.
 - Reviews are now conducted by a police internal review committee.
 - SSAA NSW strongly opposed this change and is monitoring its operation.
2. Terrorism-Related Provisions
 - Expanded grounds for refusal, suspension, or revocation.
 - Applies regardless of firearms type or genuine reason.
3. Licence terms reduced from 5 years to 2 years
4. PTA applications are now subject to additional legislative requirements-
 - Safe storage requirements
 - Additional eligibility requirements.

Changes Passed but Not Yet Proclaimed

These changes are not yet active, but members must prepare.

Key Pending Changes

- 10-firearm limit for individuals (long arms)
 - 4 firearms permitted for hunting
 - Additional firearms only by Commissioner's Permit
- Mandatory club membership for Category A & B licences (exemptions for primary producers, veterinarians, animal welfare)
- Magazine capacity limits
 - Detachable magazines limited to 10 rounds
 - Tube-fed firearms still under discussion
- Firearm reclassifications
 - Straight-pull rifles → Category C
 - Some pump-actions → higher categories
 - Certain rimfire firearms → under review
 - Air rifles → under review
- Deceased estate nominations required

Important: Current licences remain valid until expiry. The new 2-year licence term applies only after proclamation.