

FACT SHEET

Genuine Reasons Explained – Target Shooting, Rec Hunting & Collecting



What Is a “Genuine Reason”?

A genuine reason is the lawful purpose for which a person may possess and use firearms.

In NSW, every licence holder must have at least one approved genuine reason.

Common genuine reasons include:

- Target shooting
- Recreational hunting/vermin control
- Collecting

HUNTING GENUINE REASON

What is a Hunting Genuine Reason?

A "genuine reason" for a hunting firearms license is a legally recognised purpose for hunting and needs to be supported by one of the following:

- Hunting Club membership, or
- Ownership/occupancy of rural land as a primary producer
- Game hunting licence (Restricted licence)

Mandatory Club Membership

Once proclaimed:

- Category A & B licence holders must be members of an approved hunting club
- SSAA NSW membership satisfies this requirement as a hunting club and offers online hunting meetings that qualify as an attendance

TARGET SHOOTING GENUINE REASON

Who Needs It?

You need Target Shooting as a genuine reason if you:

- Own or use firearms for shooting at an approved range
- Need to meet mandatory participation requirements
- Wish to access club competitions, training, or events

Mandatory Club Membership

Once proclaimed:

- Category A & B licence holders must be members of an approved club
- SSAA NSW membership satisfies this requirement for target shooting

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COLLECTING GENUINE REASON

What Is a Collector's Genuine Reason?

Using Collecting as your Genuine Reason allows the possession of firearms for:

- Historical
- Thematic
- Commemorative
- Financial or investment value

Key Points (Still Being Clarified)

- Definition of “collectible” remains under development
- Branch or Club approval required for collecting category
- Storage and operability rules vary by category
- Heirloom firearms currently have no clear pathway without a collecting licence

SSAA NSW is actively engaging the Registry on these unresolved issues.