



Sporting Shooter Association Australia (Victoria)

MEDIA RELEASE

22 April 2015

Recommendations for changes to firearms categories

The Sporting Shooters Association of Australia (Victorian Branch) opposes recommendations made by a Firearms and Weapons Policy working group within the Federal Government to change certain ‘technical aspects’ of the National Firearms Agreement, re-classifying numerous firearms from Categories A and B to Category C.

Jack Wegman, Chief Executive Officer of SSAA (Vic), said that firearms in Australia are already very strictly regulated and there is no reason to make further changes. If anything, some aspects could benefit from being made more workable.

There are relatively few firearms incidents in Australia each year which strongly suggests that current laws are more than adequate in ensuring the safe use and control of firearms. “The vast majority of people who use firearms for recreation in Australia are responsible users” said Mr. Wegman.

Before anyone can obtain a firearms licence they must undertake a course of training on how to safely use a firearm and have knowledge of firearms law. They must then sit a test to demonstrate their understanding. They are also required to undergo Police vetting to establish that they are a fit and proper individual to possess a firearm.

“With this rigorous process of licensing in place why would it be necessary to introduce further regulation” said Mr. Wegman.

ENDS: 214 words

NOTES FOR EDITOR

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