

PO Box 6168 Malabar NSW 2036
Club Approval No.403921728

New Members Fact Sheet

Hello and welcome to the Drummoyne RSL Pistol Club. This fact sheet is to help you understand the process of joining a pistol club in general, and the specifics relating to this club.

The first thing to do is to contact the Firearms Registry and request a licence application. Once received, bring the licence application paperwork to the range. The club will provide you with a membership form to be filled out. To accompany the membership form, you will need to provide:

- 100 points of identification at the time of joining.
- The names and contact details of two people who have known you for more than two years, and can vouch for your good character – this is a legal requirement.

Upon payment of the current membership fee, a club official will endorse your licence application so that you can apply for your **Probationary Pistol Licence (PPL)**. You will then be placed on the club's training list. The cost of a probationary pistol licence is set by the government, and can be found on the Firearms Registry website.

You are responsible for the **renewal of your club membership on a yearly basis**. This is due at the end of September, prior to the AGM in October, and members must be current and financial to be able to vote at the AGM.

A \$150 Joining and Training fee covers your training and gun hire for the duration of your probationary licence, payable by cash or cheque upon commencement of your training. Everything you need is included in the fee: training, insurance, equipment and ammunition.

If you are an existing pistol licence holder (Category H), for instance if you are changing clubs, then the training fee may be reduced or waived under certain circumstances. It can be significantly reduced if you have your own suitable and safe equipment (holster and firearm).

The IPSC training program runs over at least two days, based on your availability, covering the theory and practical requirements of the sport. You will be given a rule book, course outline and test papers, as well as all other documents needed to join various relevant bodies:

NSW Amateur Pistol Association – The NSWAPA is the parent body for most pistol shooting sports in NSW. Affiliation with the NSWAPA is a legal requirement for DRSLPC members, and your affiliation fee is included in club membership fees. NSWAPA helps fund travel and entry costs for IPSC State Team members.

International Practical Shooting Association – IPSC is the parent body that governs our shooting discipline. They provide rule books, train range officers, organise large scale matches, and provide a political lobby group for our members. DRSLPC recommends that all new members join IPSC upon completion of training. Without membership, you will be unable to compete at large matches (open competitions), including those held at our club. The club member is responsible for the yearly membership fee to IPSC. Without IPSC membership, you will only be

able to compete at club level shoots and not open competitions, and your holster qualification will not be recognised by other clubs.

Upon completing your IPSC training, you will be invited to join the NSW Section of IPSC Australia. A copy of your training records are forwarded to IPSC.

Once you have completed three shoots, the Club Captain or Secretary are able to provide you with a letter to confirm your training to the Firearms Registry, prior to the issue of a full licence, or application to purchase a firearm. Failure to make the required attendances will result in revocation of the probationary pistol licence by the Firearms Registry.

Until you have your own pistol, you can use club firearms for free, if they are available, for the first 12 months. Following this, they may be rented at \$20 per rental. It is advisable to inform the club in advance if you will require a club firearm. Availability will be limited when training is in progress. Availability and sizes of belts are very limited, and you are encouraged to obtain a belt of your own as soon as possible. The club has holsters in both left and right hand configurations for club firearms.

Once you have held your probationary pistol licence for six months, with a satisfactory attendance record, you may apply for a **Permit to Acquire (PTA)** which, when granted, will allow you to purchase your own pistol. At this time, you will need to have firearm storage arrangements that comply with legal safekeeping requirements. Once a club has authorised a PTA, it is submitted to the Firearms Registry along with the appropriate fee, and is subject to checks, and waiting periods if purchasing a firearm type for the first time. Once a PTA is approved, you have a limited period, usually 90 days, to purchase the specified firearm. At the time of purchase, the firearm is registered to you, and part of the PTA form becomes your temporary registration form. A proper registration form is mailed to you by the Firearms Registry afterwards, once all paperwork has been processed. If your firearm is purchased from an interstate dealer, the registration process can be long winded. It is a good idea to borrow other club members' firearms and try them before purchasing your own, as different guns suit different hands. Currently, the club can authorise PTAs for centrefire pistols for IPSC, Silhouette and Revolver matches, and rimfire pistols for Silhouette matches, as these are the matches we host.

Once you have a licence, you can purchase ammunition from a gun shop, or the Club Captain. Ammunition is also subject to safe keeping requirements, and you should make yourself familiar with those requirements. Factory ammunition costs around \$30-40 per 100 rounds; purchasing reloaded (re-manufactured) ammunition is almost always cheaper, and reloading your own ammunition is cheaper again.

Pistols must be transported to and from the range either fitted with a trigger lock, inside a locked container, and/or in a disabled state, and ammunition must be separate from the firearm. Firearms purchased for the purpose of target shooting cannot be carried or used for any other purpose.

Ongoing participation in shooting competitions is required to maintain your licence – a minimum of 6 matches are required in any 12 month period. If you own multiple types of pistols, such as an air pistol and a centrefire pistol, then each type must be shot at least four times in the course of the club year. You can bring two or more types of pistol to the range on a given day, compete with one type, then practice with the others, to easily meet this requirement. These requirements are not onerous, and are simply to prevent people from buying guns with no intention of shooting them.

DRSLPC shoots Silhouette on the 3rd Sunday of each month, and IPSC every Sunday.

In summary:

Waiting period for PPL: Minimum 28 days

IPSC training: Two days, over one to three weeks

Training and acceptance as club member: Up to 12 months, during PPL period

Time to purchase firearm: 6 months from obtaining PPL

First year costs:

Joining / Training: \$150

Club membership: \$275

IPSC membership: \$90

A basic IPSC pistol with magazines, gun belt, holster and magazine carriers will cost around \$1000, and will be perfectly competitive. High end custom pistols will cost up to \$6500 with equipment.

Reloading equipment can be obtained for as little as \$500, or as much as \$2000, depending upon the sophistication of the setup.

Reloading ammunition yourself will cost around \$25 per 100 rounds; factory ammunition is \$30-40 per 100 rounds.

If you wish to purchase a .44 Magnum or .45 Automatic for Silhouette shooting, you will need to apply for a High Caliber Permit, which is only available to a full licence holder. The High Caliber Permit application must be endorsed by the Club Secretary.