



Sportsman's Association News

August 2017

by Mike Wells, General Secretary

GREEN LIGHT FOR STEYR

This month, updates on the Steyr LP50 air pistol and deactivated guns...

You may recall that I wrote a newsletter a while back, where the Home Office had deemed the three foot-pound Steyr LP50 air pistol as prohibited section 5. The ruling was that any self-loading rifled gun, with the exception of .22 rimfire, would become section 5. Steyr UK were advised that they were no longer to import the LP 50, but existing pistol owners would not be prosecuted, how very strange! I contacted Harry Preston of Steyr UK. We agreed that the loading principle was self-indexing and not-self-loading. Here is an example that went over the heads of the Home Office.

If you load a .22 Rim Fire magazine with 5 rounds, fire 2 rounds and then eject the magazine there will be 2 rounds, in the magazine (1 round will be in the breech) The Steyr LP50 uses a square side mounted 5 shot .177 magazine, upon insertion the LP 50 is cocked, if you fire 2 rounds and then eject the magazine there will be 3 rounds, as it has not self-loaded.

I wrote to the Home office and the British Shooting Sports Council with the principles of self loading guns. Thanks to the Effort of the BSSC and other shooting organizations I was pleasantly surprised that all the correspondence and effort had not fallen on deaf ears. The following Press Release appeared on 26th June 2017



Steyr Sport UK

Official importer and supplier of Steyr products in the UK

BREAKING NEWS!!!!

Today Monday 26th June 2017 we have officially been informed that the Steyr LP50 is indeed self indexing and not self loading as defined by section 57(2A) of the Firearms Act 1968. Therefore does not fall within any category of Section 5 or Section 1.

As the Steyr Hunting 5 Auto is the same mechanism and sub 12 foot pounds muzzle energy this also does not fall in the Section 5 category of self loading.

Sales, service and repair are now fully resumed

LP50 5 Shot



Club and Dealer Vigilance

Police are concerned that Gun Clubs and Firearms Dealers could be terrorist targets. Higher levels of vigilance are required, such as CCTV, remote controlled locks, panic buttons etc. In the main, clubs and dealers that I have spoken to are pretty switched-on, and selective as to whom they will invite in. I am astonished when I receive a Met email with serial numbers of lost and stolen guns, advising me to keep an eye open for said guns. How do you lose a gun? Frankly the owners in my view should not hold a certificate.

This Police intelligence comes from posts made by ISIS and their sympathisers. Take every precaution to keep your guns safe, and the clubhouse door locked from the inside, fit a spy hole if not already fitted. CCTV is inexpensive and can be recorded onto a hard drive, a small price to pay to keep your club.

Deactivation News

Since the 8th of April 2016 there have been changes made to deactivating firearms after that date. This was brought in after Terrorist attacks in Europe.

Shotgun deactivation remains unchanged; a Proof House certificate is required.

Semi-auto pistols require the slide to be fitted with a stop, so that it may not be removed but will still rack and dry fire. Revolvers must be welded so that the swing out cylinder will not swing out, and in the case of a break action it will not break, so the top strap must be welded.

All de-acs are subject to a double submission. They must be taken to the Proof House once the preparatory work has been done and a part 1 certificate is stamped. Upon completion, another visit to the Proof House for the final inspection and part 2 certificate. Prices will now spiral, as the De-activator must visit the Proof House twice, and there are only two Proof Houses London & Birmingham.

Finally, it is an offence not to have a valid Proof House certificate.