



Shooters Union – Legal Defence Fund

Introduction to the Legal Defence Fund

The Shooters Union Legal Defence Fund is a vital resource established to help responsible firearms owners across Australia. This fund demonstrates Shooters Union's commitment to standing up for shooters and ensuring their interests are defended against unjust regulations and legal and regulatory challenges.

Purpose of the Fund

The primary purpose of the Legal Defence Fund is to provide financial support for legal cases that impact the broader firearms community. By contributing to key legal battles, Shooters Union aims to secure favourable outcomes for the interests of shooters nationwide.

Scope of Legal Assistance

The Legal Defence Fund is dedicated to addressing legal and regulatory matters that affect multiple responsible shooters. This includes however is not limited to:

- Challenging unfair legislation
- Advocating for the legalisation of suppressors
- Ensuring handguns remain accessible to primary producers
- Promoting the availability of Category C firearms for competitive and recreational shooting.

Shooters Union's focus is on cases with the potential to set significant legal precedents and benefit the shooting community as a whole.

Individual cases where Shooters Union is unable to provide assistance may be due to the nature of the problem or if it is deemed a criminal matter.

For Shooters Union members who have been a member for over 12 months*, who have their licence suspended, revoked or refused due to no longer being a fit and proper person, or who have a rejection of a valid PTA application, Shooters Union will:

- Arrange one free, no-obligation phone consultation with our expert lawyers
- Pay the appeal's Civil and Administrative Tribunal filing fees if the Shooters Union expert lawyer feels an appeal has merit

To receive our assistance, it is vital that you immediately email legal@shootersunion.com.au with all relevant documents (particularly the suspension/revocation/rejection letter from the relevant police firearms or weapons registry).

** In exceptional cases, the board may, at its discretion, approve funding for members who do not meet the 12-month requirement if the case is deemed beneficial to the broader membership and the firearms community.*



Administration and Decision-Making Process

The Shooters Union Legal Defence Fund is managed with the utmost integrity and transparency. The Board of Shooters Union Australia oversees all funding decisions, ensuring that contributions are allocated effectively to the most impactful legal cases.

The decision-making process involves careful consideration and, when necessary, consultation with members and legal experts to determine the best course of action. Shooters Union's goal is to prioritise cases that have the potential to set important legal precedents and bring about positive changes for the broader firearms community.

Eligibility for Funding

To be eligible for support from the Shooters Union Legal Defence Fund, applicants must be current Shooters Union Australia members for at least 12 months prior to applying.

In exceptional cases, the board may, at its discretion, approve funding for members who do not meet the 12-month requirement if the case is deemed beneficial to the broader membership and the firearms community.

Recent Achievements and Success Stories

The Shooters Union Legal Defence Fund has had a significant impact in defending interests of our members. Over the past two years, Shooters Union have assisted more than 300 members with positive outcomes in nearly all cases.

Shooters Union's efforts have led to the issuing of licences and PTAs and the overturning of suspensions and refusals for several members. These successes include challenging refusals based on historic minor criminal charges and traffic infringements, ensuring that responsible shooters retain their interests.

Examples of Supported Legal Cases

The Legal Defence Fund has been instrumental in several key legal cases, including:

- **Licence Issuances and Reinstatements:** Shooters Union has successfully helped members obtain their firearms licences and overturned unjust suspensions and refusals, often stemming from minor or old offences.
- **Show Cause Notices:** Shooters Union has provided legal support to members who received Show Cause notices due to other individuals at their residence being deemed unsuitable to access firearms.
- **Suppressors Legalisation:** Shooters Union is actively involved in legal efforts to legalise suppressors, advocating for their safe and regulated use.
- **Handgun Accessibility:** Shooters Union has fought to ensure that handguns remain available to primary producers for occupational reasons.
- **Category C Firearms:** Shooters Union supports making Category C firearms accessible for competition target shooting and recreational purposes.



How the Fund is Financed

The Shooters Union Legal Defence Fund is financed through the generous contributions of our members and supporters. Donations are crucial to maintaining and expanding the fund, enabling us to take on significant legal battles that protect and advance the interests of responsible firearms owners.

Importance of Donations

Donations make a tangible difference in Shooters Union's ability to defend the interests of shooters across Australia. Every dollar contributed strengthens our capacity to challenge unjust laws and support key legal cases.

By donating, you are directly contributing to the fight for fair treatment and legal recognition of firearms owners' interests.

How to Donate

Donating to the Shooters Union Legal Defence Fund is simple and secure. You can make a donation online through our website or by contacting our office for alternative methods. Every contribution, no matter the size, is greatly appreciated and goes directly toward our legal advocacy efforts.

Contact Information for Enquiries

For any questions or inquiries about the Legal Defence Fund, please contact us at:

Email: legal@shootersunion.com.au

Our team is here to assist you and provide any information you need regarding the fund and its initiatives.