**Guidance for Commercial Deer Hunting Application Form for 2023/2024 Deer Hunting Season**

***Part 1: Personal Details***

Please ensure that your full name, address, email address and date of birth are completed in this part. You should provide a valid email address, not providing one may delay the processing of your application. All applicants must be 16 years or over.

**Out of State Hunters**

First time applicants must have an approved licence and/or relevant training certification from their Country of origin. If you have previously held an Irish Deer Hunting Licence, please state the year that the licence was granted.

***Part 2: Commercial Operator Details***

Please provide the full details of the Commercial Operator you intend using.

***Part 3: Land Information***

The Commercial Operator will complete Part 3 ‘Land Information’ and supply full details to the licencing authority.

***Part 4: Firearms Details***

This should only be completed if you are using your own gun. If you are using your own gun – you must provide a COPY of your up to date EU Firearms Pass or International equivalent with your application.

If the Commercial Operator is supplying a firearm – the Commercial Operator must complete this section***.***

All details relating to your firearm **must** be completed. The Regulations governing this, S.I. No. 239/1977 (Wildlife Act, 1976 (Firearms and Ammunition) Regulations, 1977) specifies that you can only use a centre-fire rifle of not less than **.22 calibre** with a muzzle energy of not less than **1,700 foot pounds** to hunt deer species and such rifles must use bullets weighing not less than **55 grains**.Although the legal requirements are outlined above, the Irish Deer Management Forum have recommended a minimum calibre of .243 and a bullet weight of 100 grains.

It is important that you comply with these requirements otherwise your application for a deer hunting licence will be refused.

***Part 5: Returns***

Details of all deer shot (including species and gender) during your hunt should be provided to the Commercial Operators prior to your departure.

Your Commercial Operator will have returns forms for completion. Commercial Operators are asked to forward on all returns as soon as possible to the Wildlife Licencing Unit at the below address.

The Returns form is available on npws.ie

***Part 6: Declaration***

The declaration must be signed by yourself and dated. Any person who, for the purposes of obtaining a licence under the Wildlife Acts 1976 to 2018, makes any statement or gives information which they know to be false shall be guilty of an offence. Penalties, on conviction include fines and forfeiture of firearms.

**Checklist for Hunters:**

* All personal details filled in, including valid email address 🞏
* Firearm details completed (if applicable) 🞏
* Returns for previous seasons completed (if applicable) 🞏
* Copy European Firearms Pass attached (if applicable) 🞏
* Certificate of Training or Licence if first time applicant 🞏
* Declaration, signed & dated 🞏

**Checklist for Operators:**

* Land details completed 🞏
* Availability of Return Forms 🞏
* Operator Details are Correct 🞏
* Relevant Licences/Training Certs/Firearms Passes Attached 🞏

When the form and checklist are completed, please return your application to the email address / address below as soon as possible **unless instructed by your Commercial Operator to return form to their business address**. Commercial Operators will forward to the Wildlife Licencing Unit.

**Incomplete applications will be returned to the applicant.**

Email: deerlicences@npws.gov.ie Emailed forms must contain the applicant’s signature/electronic signature.

**Post:**

Wildlife Licensing Unit

National Parks and Wildlife Service

Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage

90 King Street North,

Smithfield

Dublin 7 D07 N7CV