**Guidance to the Application Form for a licence to hunt deer for the 2018/19 Hunting Season**

**Part 1: Personal Details**

Please ensure that your full name, address, daytime contact details and date of birth are completed in this part. All applicants must be 16 years or over.

**Mandatory Certification of first time Hunters**

The application form seeks information on whether you have a Certificate of Competency appropriate for the Republic of Ireland such as the ‘Hunter Competence Assessment Programme (HCAP)’ or equivalent in respect of firearms and matters relating to wild deer. The Department is in the process of considering the introduction of an appropriate training and certification process for first time applicants for deer hunting licences to commence from a date which will be determined in due course but no later than 2020.

**Part 2: Land Information**

Please tick the appropriate box to indicate if you

1. are the **owner** of the lands and entitled to the sporting rights over these lands,
2. are a **guest, invitee, servant or agent** of the landowner(s),
3. have **leased** the sporting rights
4. are a **member of a gun club or game association** whose members are entitled to hunt deer over the lands described.

If you have lands leased from Coillte or have any other leasing arrangement:

(a) You must show written proof that the lease is valid for the 2018/2019 season,

*or*

(b) If you intend hunting on a Coillte letting which is not in your name, you must provide a permit or letter from Coillte confirming that you are entitled to hunt on those lands.

If you are obliged to retain your original Coillte permit, please provide a photocopy. Please ensure the permit is both signed, stamped and dated by Coillte.

**You must complete the SCHEDULE with all details in relation to the lands, including County, Townland, number of acres (minimum 100 acres), Landowner Details (in full) and the correct Folio number(s).**

Folio numbers are subject to checks, and can be obtained by visiting [www.landdirect.ie](http://www.landdirect.ie) (proceed as guest user) or contacting the Property Registration Authority at 0761 0001610 or 051 303000. Please be aware that **100 acres (42 hectares) is the minimum amount of land required for a deer hunting licence.**

However, if you are applying to hunt deer on your own lands, the 100 acre (42 hectare) requirement does not apply.

If you are not the landowner, you will need written permission, signed and dated by the landowner for the current (2018/2019) hunting season. A separate form for landowner permissions is enclosed and can be used if required, though you should ensure that a separate form is completed for each permission.

**Part 3: Firearms Details**

All details relating to your firearm **must** be completed. Another issue you need to be aware of is the type of firearm and ammunition that may be used to hunt deer species. The Regulations governing this, S.I. No. 239/1977 (Wildlife Act, 1976 (Firearms and Ammunition) Regulations, 1977 specify 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. It is important that you comply with these requirements otherwise your application for a deer hunting licence will be refused. Although a .22 calibre with a muzzle energy of not less than 1,700 foot pounds is the legal minimum requirement a rifle with a minimum calibre of .240 as a more appropriate firearm for shooting deer is recommended. **All non-resident applicants must submit a copy of their current European Firearms Pass with the application form.**

**Part 4: Returns**

If you previously held a deer hunting licence, this part must be completed for **the season you last held a licence and hunted, even if the return is zero.** You need to state the County where the deer were shot and the number of each species shot and the total number shot in that season. First time applicants should note that a return will be required at the end of each hunting season.

**Part 5: Declaration**

The declaration must be signed by yourself and a witness and dated.

**Checklist:**

All personal details filled in 🞏

Copy European Firearms Pass attached (if applicable) 🞏

Landowner permission form(s) signed, dated and attached 🞏

Firearm details complete 🞏

Returns for previous seasons completed (if applicable) 🞏

Declaration, signed, dated & witnessed 🞏

We will contact you if we have any query with any form you submit to us

Details, including the application form, guidance document and the landowner permission form, are available at <https://www.npws.ie/licences/hunting/deer-hunting-licences-20182019-season>

Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht

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| **License application under the Wildlife Acts 1976 to 2018**  **PRIVACY STATEMENT**  The Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht is committed to protecting and respecting your privacy and employs appropriate technical and organisational measures to protect your information from unauthorised access.The Department will not process your personal data for any purpose other than that for which they were collected.Personal data may be exchanged with other Government Departments, local authorities, agencies under the aegis of the Department, or other public bodies, in certain circumstances where this is provided for by law. The Department will only retain your personal data for as long as it is necessary for the purposes for which they were collected and subsequently processed. When the business need to retain this information has expired, it will be examined with a view to destroying the personal data as soon as possible, and in line with Department policy. Further information on Data Protection can be found on our website at:  <https://www.chg.gov.ie/help/legal-notices/data-protection/> |