

IPA PISTOL CLUB NEWS



by Neil O'Malley,
IPAPC Treasurer



As the 2019 pistol shooting season starts, the IPA Pistol Club have put together the following answers to questions they are regularly asked when it comes to joining the club and starting the sport of pistol shooting. We hope we have covered everything in the Q&A session.

WHO CAN JOIN THE IPA PISTOL CLUB?

Membership to the pistol club is open to both Serving, Retired and Reserve members of An Garda Síochána who are members of the International Police Association. It is also open to serving or retired members of another police force, who reside in Ireland and are members of the International Police Association in the country of their service. All applications will go before the committee for approval decision.

HOW MUCH DOES IT COST TO JOIN THE IPA PISTOL CLUB?

As a member of the IPA, your annual membership to the Pistol Club will cost just €55. Membership runs from September to September. Insurance is also required and can be obtained from a number of providers. The IPAPC recommended provider provides annual cover at €30.

HOW DO I JOIN THE IPA PISTOL CLUB?

Option 1: Applicants should complete

the Pistol Club application form (downloaded for website) and forward it to the address listed. The application should be accompanied by €55 and 1 passport sized photograph. This photograph will be used for the club ID card that will be issued.

Option 2: Visit the clubs website and you can join online using the link you'll find there. A PayPal account will be required for this and a digital passport type photo.

WHAT IS REQUIRED TO JOIN THE IPA PISTOL CLUB?

IPA membership and Insurance are prerequisites to joining the club. Insurance is mandatory before using shooting ranges around the country.

DO I NEED A PISTOL BEFORE JOINING THE IPA PISTOL CLUB?

At present there is no necessity to licence a Pistol or Revolver before joining the club. It is probably better to sample some of the firearms that are available first and see what suits you before buying a pistol. The club have a number of pistols for members to try out at their competitions.

CAN I LICENCE ANY .22 PISTOL?

Once the pistol has its magazines restricted to a maximum capacity of 5 rounds, you can license the pistol. This application is made on a normal

FCA1 and submitted to your local Garda Superintendent.

CAN I LICENCE ANY 9MM PISTOL?

No, unless you had a licence for a 9mm or similar before 2008, you can not apply for a new licence.

IS IT EXPENSIVE TO TAKE UP THE SPORT OF PISTOL SHOOTING?

The greatest expense for someone new to the sport of pistol shooting is in buying the firearm - these can range from €400 to €1000 for a new pistol. A second hand pistol may be considerably cheaper. Ammunition can be bought in bulk packs and this can range from €25 to €50 for 500 rounds of .22 calibre rounds.

DO THE IPA PISTOL CLUB RUN EVENTS FOR THEIR MEMBERS?

Yes, the pistol club run regular events for its members all around the country on several different ranges. These events are organised every 5 to 6 weeks and members are notified via text message and email.

WHERE WILL THE EVENTS BE HELD?

The pistol club have received permission from a number of different ranges to use their facility for IPA Pistol Club events. These ranges are:-

- » Lough Bo Shooting Grounds, Sligo
- » East Coast Shooting Club, Wicklow
- » Fermoy Rifle and Pistol Club, Cork



- » Hilltop Shooting Grounds, Wicklow
- » Harbour House Shooting Grounds, Kildare
- » Mourne Shooting Grounds, Monaghan
- » Castlebridge Pistol Club, Wexford
- » Gorey Rifle & Pistol Club
- » Courlough Shooting Club
- » Fingal Sports Club
- » Midlands National Shooting Centre of Ireland
- » Redridge Shooting Club

WHAT DO EVENTS CONSIST OF?

Each event consists of 1 Competition, organised to an IPAPC Discipline, with scoring from a total of 1000 points. A shooter will be grouped in either Alpha, Bravo, Charlie or Delta Class depending on their scores – this is so each shooter is competing against members that are of a similar standard.

DO MEMBERS HAVE TO PAY FOR THESE EVENTS?

As each range charges the Club for the use of their facility, normally each events costs members between €20 and €25. This fee will be advertised with the information circulated to members about each event.

DO I NEED TO JOIN AN AUTHORISED RANGE AS WELL AS THE IPAPC?

There is no necessity to join another club, unless you want to. The IPAPC are an authorised pistol club and we have our own PULSE number. This is all you will need when applying for a firearms licence.

CAN IPA PISTOL CLUB MEMBERS USE THE RANGES OTHER THAN AT EVENTS?

Permission has been granted by private ranges for IPA Pistol Club members to use their ranges. However, these will have to be booked prior to the shooter arriving at the range.

WHAT ELSE DOES MEMBERSHIP TO THE IPA PISTOL CLUB OFFER TO MEMBERS?

Apart from running events regularly for club members, the club have

also joined with the National Association of Sporting Rifle and Pistol Clubs (NASRPC) and members of the IPA Pistol Club can attend events run by this national body. Members can take part in both their pistol and rifle competitions. These events will be circulated via email to members and also appear on the NASRPC.ie website. The club has also received some special offers at private ranges. Information on those is available from the IPA Pistol Club Committee. Also, the club have sourced supplies of memorabilia that club members can purchase.

HOW DO I FIND OUT ABOUT EVENTS RUN BY THE PISTOL CLUB?

The committee of the Pistol Clubs will inform Club members of upcoming events run by them and the NASRPC, by the following method:


- » Email to members Email address Text message to members mobile phone
- » Article in the clubs newsletter Advertisements on the clubs website (www.ipapistolclub.com)
- » Notification on the Club App

CAN I CONTACT THE PISTOL CLUB TO ASK A QUESTION THAT ARE NOT LISTED HERE?

Yes, interested persons can contact the committee of the pistol club to ask any question or for more information as follows: by Phone : Neil O'Malley on 087-6579413, Phone Pat Donnelly on 086-1080213 by email: ipapistolclub@gmail.com

These are the answers to the many FAQ's. If there are other questions that you might have, please feel free to contact us and we'd be more than happy to assist you.

FIND US ON

-  IPA Pistol Club
-  @ipapistolclub
-  [youtube.com/ IPA Pistol Club](https://www.youtube.com/IPA%20Pistol%20Club)