

SCOUTS AUSTRALIA
Victorian Branch

FIREARMS ACT 1996

Act No 66/1996

When this Act was proclaimed we were advised by Target Rifle Victoria that under the new Act Scouts would no longer be able to participate in shooting activities at their ranges without an appropriate shooters' licenses.

As from the 6th August 1998 the Act is subject to various amendments.

Included in these amendments is a provision which "provides that a person between the age of 12 and 18 is able to engage in supervised shooting activities at ranges, subject to conditions, provided they first obtain written consent of their parent or guardian to do so. To do this Target Rifle Victoria is developing a register that can be completed at their ranges, but expect that a simple letter (whether pro forma or not) from the parent or guardian should be quite sufficient.

The Scout Association **stresses** it is the individual's choice to decide whether or not he/she wish to engage in such activities.

As in all Scouting Activities Leaders must consider the legality, safety and health aspects and their Duty of Care to their members before allowing them to engage in such activities.

Alston Park
Deputy Chief Commissioner
4th September 1998