



Prohibited Weapons Exemptions

Astronomical Purposes (Clauses 22)

[Schedule 2 of the Summary Offences Act 1953](#) determines the exemptions relating to possession and use of prohibited weapons.

This clause only relates to exemptions for hand held laser pointers (more than 1 milliwatt). This is a prescribed weapon in the [Summary Offences Regulations 2016](#).

Prescribed Weapons – Astronomical Purposes (Clause 22)

A person is exempt if they use or possess a prohibited weapon in relation to the use or possession of a prescribed weapon if the weapon –

- The person is using or has possession of the weapon in the course of participating in astronomy AND
- The person
 - is a member of or participates under the supervision of a member of
 - The Astronomical Society of South Australia Incorporated
 - or
 - The Mars Society Australia Incorporated
 - or
 - participates in astronomy at an observatory
 - or
 - participates in astronomy as part of a course of study conducted by an educational institution

If this or any other exemption does not apply to your possession and use of a prohibited weapon, consider surrendering the weapon to a police officer.

Delivery to Police (Clause 4)

A person may possess a prohibited weapon if the person is delivering the weapons, as soon as reasonably practical, to a police officer.

If you unlawfully have a prohibited weapon, utilise the clause 4 exemption to deliver the weapon to a police officer.

Compensation is not offered for weapons surrendered through clause 4.



Note – the clause 4 exemption is not available to a person who ceased to be exempt in accordance with previous legislation (reg 7(4) Summary Offences (Dangerous Articles and Prohibited Weapons) Regulations 2000.

