Dear Member,

I asked information to Annette about how to fill in the SAPS 520 form, necessary to import firearms and ammunitions to SA. The answers are below.

 There are often problems in SA to clear the ammunitions from the customs. And there is also the need to have the agreement of the police to import more than 200 rounds for a given firearm.

Isolated shooters may chose to bring their ammo in their luggage. But it is more and more difficult, the agreement of the pilot is necessary and no more than 5 Kg are allowed. The best is to send the ammo by freight. I think that the cooperation of a local contact would be useful to cope with the customs and the police.

Ludy Starke has an import license. I asked him what would be the cost to receipt the ammo sent by freight and to bring them to the range. I am waiting for an answer. I keep you aware.

Please see comments.  Also please find attached example.

I understand that the SAPS 520 form is for both firearms and ammunitions.  *This is correct – however you will have to make sure that the number of rounds indicated on the form corresponds with the number that you bring in.*

On the SAPS 520 form, what are the differences between "Applicant" and "Current owner of the firearms" and within these paragraphs between "Natural person" and "Responsible person" ? *“Applicant” and “current owner of the firearms” will be different identities if the firearms do not belong to the applicant (borrowed) and then I doubt if an import permit will be granted.  You will only have to complete the portion on Natural person – Responsible person is not required to complete – to do with estate firearms.*

I guess that if a shooter named Smith fills in this form, it is Smith who is the applicant, the current owner of the firearms, the natural person and the responsible person. Am I right or is there some subtlety.  – See above

Are the info about profession and employer relevant for non SA citizens ? *– Yes it is but you can be self-employed*

In "Responsible person's details" from paragraph E (PARTICULARS OF APPLICANT) in "Type of identification", there is choice only between "SA citizen" and "Non SA citizen with permanent residence". Does this mean that this part must be filled in only by SA citizen or SA residents and not by foreigners? *Foreigners need to provide passport details and residential address.*

What is the difference between "Residential address" and "Physical address". Is the residential address the place where the shooters dwell during their stay in SA and the physical address their home in their country ? *This will be the same address, but you do not have to complete the section on responsible person and therefore physical address is not required.*

Paragrah H (TRANSPORTER'S DETAIL) seems to apply only for business purposes and for SA residents. Am I right ? *Yes, if a business imports firearms*

Since it is a temporary importation for sporting purposes and since the ammunitions will be used for these purposes, there should be no taxes to pay to the customs. Can you confirm that? What about the re export of the rounds not shot ?  *- Yes you are not required to pay taxes and the same on the export of unused rounds*

The ammunitions are shipped by freight. They will arrive in SA prior to the arrival of the foreign teams. I guess they will be stored in the customs premises. Is there a fee to pay ? What about the person who will fetch them ? Must he/she be signaled to the customs as the person responsible of the care of the ammo ? How to inform the customs of who and when the ammunitions will be fetched ?  *Yes if you ship it by freight you will have to pay some fee – the best will be to get a dealer in SA to receive the ammo here.  Thus you will ship the ammo to a local dealer who will be able to assist with all the customs issues.*

You told me that we have to get permission from the SA Police to import more than 200 rounds per firearm. I think this limit will be exceeded. How to be sure that this permission will be granted prior to send the ammo ?  *Again the best will be to work through a dealer – Otherwise you will have to forward the completed SAP 520 to the local police for approval of more than the 200 rounds.*

You stated that the easier way is to get a firearm dealer to import the ammunitions. You indicated Safari and Outdoor and Eagle arms. I found out Safari and Outdoor in Stellenbosch on the net. I sent them a request to know what would be their conditions to take care of our ammo once sent by our freighter (customs clearance, storage,...). They acknowledged my mail but till now I got no answer*.  I will give Willem a call and arrange with him for handling of ammo.*