

# Fit and competent registration form

## About this form

This form is intended for offline use and may not be fully accessible.

It is quick and easy to fill in this form online at <https://licensing-deer.nature.scot/deer-fit-and-competent/intro>

Contact the Licensing team if you need help completing this form.

**Email**: [licensing@nature.scot](mailto:licensing@nature.scot)

**Telephone**: 01463 725364

## Who should use this form

The fit and competent register allows us to assess that you have enough knowledge and experience to control deer safely and responsibly. You must register as fit and competent if you wish to:

* shoot during the close season
* shoot at night (from one hour after sunset until one hour before sunrise)
* drive deer with vehicles to shoot them

## General authorisation for deer

The General Authorisation allows certain people to shoot deer without the need to register as fit and competent or apply for a specific licence.

You do not need to register as fit and competent to shoot deer under General Authorisation if you are:

* an owner or occupier of agricultural land or enclosed woodland
* an employee of the owner or occupier (authorised by them)
* any other resident on the land

You must meet the General Authorisation criteria and follow its terms and conditions. For example, you cannot shoot female deer over one year old from 1 April to 31 August. You would need to apply for a specific authorisation to do so.

Killing, wounding or injuring wild deer without the legal right to do so is a wildlife crime.

Find out more about the general authorisation at <https://www.nature.scot/professional-advice/protected-areas-and-species/licensing/species-licensing-z-guide/deer/deer-authorisations>

## Section A: Your details

We need your contact details to process your application. You will receive an email notification from NatureScot about your fit and competent registration.

If you have Deer Stalking Certificate (DSC) 1, we'll also pass your details on to your nominated referee.

Your details

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Full name (as it appears on official documents) |  |
| Address line 1 |  |
| Address line 2 (optional) |  |
| Town or city |  |
| County (optional) |  |
| Postcode |  |
| Email address |  |
| Telephone number |  |

## Section B: Your deer stalking information

Deer stalking

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| What is the highest level of Deer Stalking Certificate you hold? | DSC1  DSC2  Other certification scheme |
| If ‘other’, please specify |  |
| What is your certificate number? |  |
| Date issued (dd/mm/yyyy) |  |

## Section C: Your firearm details

You must either have a firearm certificate or Crown exemption. Crown exemption applies to people who hold firearms in an official capacity. For example: permitted Forestry and Land Scotland staff.

Firearm certification

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Firearm certificate number |  |
| Firearm certificate expiry date (dd/mm/yyyy) |  |
| Do you have Crown exemption? | Yes  No |

## Section D: Referee details

You must supply the name and contact details of one referee if you have only achieved DSC1. Your referee must hold the DSC1 but does not need to be registered as fit and competent. We will contact your referee about this application.

Referee details

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Referee full name |  |
| Referee email address |  |

## Section E: Control history

Control history by species

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Control history | Red | Roe | Sika | Fallow |
| Have you controlled these deer in the past? | Yes  No | Yes  No | Yes  No | Yes  No |
| Years of experience |  |  |  |  |
| Average number controlled each year (consider last 5 years) |  |  |  |  |

## Section F: Declaration

* I have provided up-to-date and correct information
* I will comply with the fit and competent registration conditions
* I agree with the privacy policy of this service at <https://licensing-deer.nature.scot/deer-authorisations/privacy>
* I have not been convicted of a wildlife crime within the last five years
* I have a sound knowledge and understanding of Scotland’s Wild Deer Best Practice Guides at <https://bestpracticeguides.org.uk/guides/>

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Date:** | **Print name:**  Signature: Signature field |

## Submitting your form

You can send this form by email or post. We aim to assess your application within 10 working days of receipt.

### Send by email

Send the completed form and any supporting documents to[**licensing@nature.scot**](mailto:licensing@nature.scot)

Do not send zip files as these may be blocked by our security system. A signature is not required if you are sending this form by email.

### Send by post

If you do not have access to email, you can print out and send your signed form to the address below.

NatureScot (Licensing Department)

Great Glen House

Leachkin Road

Inverness

IV3 8NW