



Who can act as a referee for you on your firearm certificate application?

(August 2017)

Article 4 of the Firearms (Northern Ireland) Order 2004 states that referees must be UK residents and of good character, and have known you for at least two years, with the exception of authorised target club officials.

Please note that referees cannot be:

- *Members of the Police Service of Northern Ireland (Police Officers and Support Staff, unless they are a Club Official)*
- *Firearms Dealers (unless a they are a Club Official)*
- *A Relative – Article 2 defines a relative (in relation to an applicant) as the father, mother, stepfather, stepmother, son, daughter, stepson, stepdaughter, grandmother, grandfather, grandson or granddaughter of that person or of that person's spouse or former spouse or;*
- *The brother, sister, uncle, aunt, niece or nephew (whether of the full blood or of the half blood or by affinity) of that person or of that person's spouse or former spouse and includes, in relation to a person who is living or has lived with another person as husband and wife or civil partner, any person who would fall within the above if the parties were married to each other.*
- *Authorisation should be sought to use the stated person as a referee.*

If you have any queries Firearms and Explosives Branch can be contacted Monday – Friday between the hours of 2pm – 4pm on the non-emergency number 101.