

## PA HOLSTER ACCREDITATION – CANDIDATES NOTES

### NOTES for CANDIDATES – PRE COURSE



PA Holster Accreditation is **MANDATORY** for the PA 'Holster' events, i.e.:

- PA Service Pistol
- Action Pistol
- WA1500

**No current PA Holster Accreditation – You cannot compete in these events!**

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### ABOUT THE PA HOLSTER COURSE

#### OUTCOME

The PA Holster Accreditation course will teach you how to **SAFELY** holster and then draw a loaded firearm!  
You will have to satisfy the Examiner that you:

- Understand the equipment requirements
- Understand the safety components
- can consistently holster a loaded firearm safely
- can consistently draw a loaded safely, and then
- can consistently safely move into and out of the shooting positions safely.

#### PA HOLSTER ACCREDITATION CATEGORIES

There are two firearm categories:

- Revolver;
- Semi-automatic pistol;

You can be examined and assessed on all, or any of these categories to suit your needs – i.e. if you only want a PA Holster Accreditation to shoot a revolver, you only need that category.

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#### YOU WILL NEED

1. Firearm/s and Holster/s for the categories (revolver and/or pistol) you wish to gain PA Holster Accreditation.
2. 100 rounds of ammunition – plus an additional 10 rounds if you are seeking both revolver and semi-automatic pistol accreditation. Some States and some individual ranges prohibit the use of jacketed ammunition. Check these requirements (only lead or similar materials are allowed for Service Pistol).
3. Eye protection (MANDATORY)
4. Hearing protection (MANDATORY)
5. Proof of current affiliation to PA (i.e. membership of State Association affiliated to Pistol Australia)
6. Proof of having shot at least six “positional”\* matches prior to attending the course.

\* (“Positional” matches may include, for example, Service Unrestricted or any of the PA supported holster matches adapted to be shot without using a holster.)

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**PA HOLSTER ACCREDITATION – CANDIDATES NOTES**  
**SELECTING YOUR HOLSTER / BELT**

**SELECTING A HOLSTER**

There are few restrictions on holster 'type' other than:

- **Safe**
  1. The holster **MUST** cover the trigger when the pistol/revolver is holstered,
  2. Direction of holstered firearm
    - a. Not directed at any part of the shooter
    - b. Not directed to the rear
    - c. When holstered, directed within one metre of shooter standing normally
  3. Direction of firearm as the pistol/revolver is holstered or un-holstered
    - a. Is not directed to rear when holstering or un-holstering
  4. Retain the firearm during 'normal' activity
- **Any retention device, if used to pass Equipment Control must be used throughout the match**
- **No holster tie-down permitted.**
- **Holster must be safe and serviceable, and suited to the pistol/revolver**
  1. Make sure the holster fully 'matches' the firearm.
  2. The holster must retain the holstered firearm during all normal shooting activities.
- **Strong side only**
  1. Both shoulder and cross-draw holsters are prohibited.
- **Things to avoid**
  1. Low-slung – when holstered a part of the firearm must be positioned no lower than the top edge of the belt.
  2. A holster that does not fully 'match' the firearm will give you problems.

**SELECTING A BELT**

- Belt/holster 'fit' – wide enough to support the holster without the holster swivelling on belt.
- Rigid – typically this means double thickness for leather belts.

**HOLSTER POSITION**



**COMPONENTS OF A SAFE DRAW**

## PA HOLSTER ACCREDITATION – CANDIDATES NOTES

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### PREREQUISITES (i.e. your equipment must be safe and serviceable)

- **Suitable Clothing**
  - Your upper garments need to be reasonably close fitting – this is to prevent the firearm from becoming snagged.
- **Suitable holster/belt**
  - The holster must properly 'fit' the firearm
  - The holster must retain the firearm – if the firearm falls out of the holster during the event you may be disqualified!
  - The Belt must be suitable for the holster and be of sufficient width and thickness to suit the loop in the holster. It must not allow the holster to swivel or change position during the course of fire.
  - The holster belt must pass through belt loops on the shooter's clothing. If a double belt is used the inner belt must pass through the belt loop. Where two belts, that are not both part of the holster rig, are used they must be affixed by the use of keepers, and the inner belt must pass through belt loops on the shooter's clothing. Refer to PA GTRs rule 2.4.2.1 (2015.1).
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- **Position of holster**
  - **Strong side only!**
  - The holster is to be positioned square on the hip and not allow the holstered firearm to be directed at your leg, nor more than one metre from your body when standing normally
  - The holster should hold the holstered firearm such that the barrel is directed forwards at all times.



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### SAFETY CRITERIA

- **The barrel direction is CRITICAL at all times! This includes:**
    - When loading the firearm
    - When holstering the firearm
    - When drawing the firearm
    - (WA1500) when racking the slide of a pistol
    - When assuming the firing positions
    - When changing position within a course of fire
    - At the completion of a series, and
    - If you have any problem during a course of fire
  - Eye protection is **mandatory** for all the PA 'holster' events
  - Suitable clothing
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PA HOLSTER ACCREDITATION – CANDIDATES NOTES

HOLSTER STYLES

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 <p>Closed front</p>	<p>Simple and serviceable</p> <p>Fully protects firearm and sights</p>	<p>Firearm needs to be fully clear of holster before it can be raised to target</p>
 <p>Open front</p>	<p>A good 'starter' design</p> <p>Simple and serviceable</p> <p>Protects firearm</p>	<p>Ensure that the firearm does not need to be tilted to the rear to disengage from holster!</p>
 <p>'Skeleton'</p>	<p>A more competitive design</p> <p>Simple and serviceable</p>	<p>Ensure the holster securely holds the firearm and does not permit the firearm to be 'bumped' forward out of the holster.</p> <p>Firearm should only be able to be drawn directly upwards along the line of the barrel to disengage from the holster!</p>
 <p>Duty / Tactical</p>	<p>Not allowed for PA events as firearm directed to rear</p>	<p>Not allowed for PA events as firearm directed to rear</p>