



Isle of Man

Ellan Vannin

AT 1 of 1968

**AIR GUNS AND SHOT GUNS ETC., ACT
1968**

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Index

Section	Page
1 [Repealed]	5
2 Shot guns.....	5
3 Offences.....	5
4 Interpretation.....	5
5 [Amends section 4 of the <i>Firearms Act 1947</i> .].....	6
6 Short title and commencement	6
ENDNOTES	7
TABLE OF ENDNOTE REFERENCES	7

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AIR GUNS AND SHOT GUNS ETC., ACT 1968

Received Royal Assent: 12 July 1968

Passed: 15 October 1968

Commenced: 15 October 1968

AN ACT to restrict the use and possession of air guns, shot guns, and similar weapons.

1 [Repealed]¹

2 Shot guns

[1962/2]

No person under the age of fifteen shall have an assembled shot gun in his possession except while under the supervision of a person of or over the age of twenty-one or while the shot gun is so covered with a securely fastened gun cover that it cannot be fired.

3 Offences

[1962/3; 1967]

- (1) Any person who contravenes any of the provisions of this Act shall be liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding level 1 on the standard scale; and the court by whom he is convicted may make such order as to the forfeiture or disposal of the air weapon or ammunition in respect of which the offence was committed or any firearm or ammunition found in his possession as the court thinks fit.²
- (2) In any proceedings for an offence under this Act committed by giving or parting with the possession of an air weapon or ammunition for an air weapon to a person under the age of fourteen it shall be a defence to prove that the person charged with the offence believed the other person to be of or over that age and had reasonable ground for the belief.

4 Interpretation

[1962/4; 1967]

- (1) In this Act —

“**air weapon**” means such a weapon as is specified in paragraph (b) of subsection (1) of section sixteen of the *Firearms Act, 1947* (that is to say, an air gun, air rifle or air pistol not being of a type declared by rules made by the Department under that Act to be specially dangerous);³

“**the Department**” means the Department of Home Affairs;⁴

“**firearm**” has the same meaning as in the said Act of 1947;

“**premises**” includes any land;

“**public place**” includes any highway and any other premises to which at the material time the public have or are permitted to have access, whether on payment or otherwise; and

“**shot gun**” means such a weapon as is specified in paragraph (a) of subsection (1) of section sixteen of the said Act of 1947, (that is to say, a smooth-bore gun having a barrel not less than twenty inches in length).

- (2) Any reference in this Act to a person having any description of firearm or ammunition in his possession shall be construed as a reference to his having it with him.

5 [Amends section 4 of the *Firearms Act 1947*.]

6 Short title and commencement

- (1) This Act may be cited as the Air Guns and Shot Guns etc., Act, 1968.
- (2) This Act shall come into operation when the Royal Assent thereto has been by the Governor announced to Tynwald and a certificate thereof has been signed by the Governor and the Speaker of the House of Keys.

ENDNOTES

Table of Endnote References

¹ S 1 repealed by Shot Guns, Air Weapons and Cross-bows Act 1994 Sch.

² Subs (1) amended by Fines and Penalties Act 2024 Sch 1.

³ Definition of “air weapon” amended by GC55/88.

⁴ Definition of “the Department” inserted by GC55/88.