



Matt Kean

Minister for Innovation and Better Regulation

MEDIA RELEASE

Wednesday, 8 August 2018

MODERNISATION OF PAINTBALL REGULATION

A reduction in paintball red tape will make the popular activity more accessible to NSW families, Minister for Better Regulation Matt Kean said today.

Mr Kean said the Department of Finance, Services and Innovation had been working with the paintball industry and safety representatives to modernise paintball regulations, and streamline permit requirements while maintaining robust public safety controls.

“A review of work health and safety data, hospital admissions, NSW Fair Trading complaints and criminal offences showed low levels of incidents,” Mr Kean said.

“A new digitised system will make it easier to apply for the required permits – saving paintball enthusiasts and paintball businesses time and money.

“These common sense regulatory changes will ensure appropriate permits, training, storage and restricted use requirements are maintained to ensure the highest levels of consumer protection and community safety.

“Use of paintball markers will still only be allowed at authorised venues; people wishing to purchase and own a paintball marker will still need permits; and paintball markers will still need to be registered by the supplier with the regulator.

“As well, children aged 12 and over will be able to participate with parental permission, removing an anomaly which allowed them to shoot guns under supervision but not play paintball.”

Minister for Police Troy Grant said the current regulatory arrangements are not appropriate for an industry such as paintball.

“It does not make sense to regulate paintball in the same way as actual firearms that fire live ammunition,” Mr Grant said.

“Paintball is a recreational activity that is more appropriately regulated by the department which looks after commercial activities and work, health and safety,” he said.

A Bill regarding the regulatory changes has been introduced into Parliament this week.

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