



HORNADY A-MAX – ISSUE RESOLVED

After recent scares about the classification of Hornady A-Max bullets as prohibited, BASC can confirm otherwise.

After much deliberation between BASC, The British Shooting Sports Council members, The Home Office, ACPO's Firearms & Explosives Licensing Working Group (FELWG) and Hornady representatives; it has been accepted that the design of the A-Max 'match' bullet is not designed to expand on impact and therefore is **not** a prohibited item in the UK.

The issue was referred to ACPO by a police licensing department following firearms liaison forum.

BASC raised concerns to ACPO about their proposal to view A-Max bullets as prohibited items. The concerns were threefold;

1. That the design was in fact a non-expanding 'match' target round regardless of marketing material or its consequential performance when hitting a hard object.
2. That target shooters would be in illegal possession of such missiles overnight and would no longer be able to use them competitive target shooting.
3. That the A-Max bullet could be adopted by shooters for shooting quarry and pest species in the UK thus causing concern over animal welfare, especially on larger animals. BASC supports the use of properly designed expanding missiles to ensure a rapid and humane death of quarry species.

The Home Office indicated that in the absence of a court ruling and any public safety concerns, there was evidence to show the design of the bullet was for match target use, and not as a hunting bullet designed to expand on impact.

ACPO FELWG stated that they support the view expressed by the Home Office and the representatives of the shooting organisations that this ammunition is **NOT** prohibited from use for target shooting. ACPO FELWG wish to emphasise that this is an opinion and not a legal ruling.

BASC's senior firearms officer Mike Eveleigh said: "It was important to establish the design intention as that is what matters for the law. Discussions have been complex but are testament to how the shooting community can work with the police and government to find common ground."

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