



Confederation of Hunters Associations of SA

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SAPS Accreditation Number 1300018

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The Chairman

Urgent

TRANSPORT OF FIREARMS BY DOMESTIC AIR CARRIERS IN SOUTH AFRICA

You are by now well informed of the fact that BA/Comair/Kulula will no longer be accepting firearms for carriage on any of their domestic or regional flights in South Africa effectively 1 March 2013

With reference also to our discussion on this matter during our board meeting in Bloemfontein recently and discussions with other interested parties we have agreed to add our voice of objection to the many others. We will together with the Safe Air Transport of Firearms and Ammunition Action Group (SAFTA-GROUP) endeavour to exert pressure on BA/Comair/Kulula to reconsider their decision or to work towards offering alternatives to our members. In an effort to address the matter with Comair in an organized and informed manner we will however require feedback from your association on certain key matters or questions.

Comair's decision limits the air transport of firearms and ammunition to only SAA flights between Cape Town International Airport and O.R. Tambo International Airport. The only option for transportation of firearms through King Shaka International Airport in Durban would now be lost, since SAA shares flights to and from this airport with Mango, which also does not allow the carriage of firearms. Similarly, the option of transporting firearms through Lanseria International Airport will now also be lost.

The implication of Comair's decision for the broader firearms community is immediately obvious:

1. It severely limits the transportation options for Sport Shooters that need to attend national events and competitions in different provinces to where they live.
2. Hunters will be negatively affected, as access to hunting destinations will now mean far longer times spent on the road.
3. The businesspersons that legally and responsibly carry firearms for self-protection are now suddenly left vulnerable, should they need to attend a meeting in another city.

We are now asking your association to respond to this letter with the best informed estimation that is possible, with specific reference to the following questions: Please indicate your association's estimations on the attached form and return it to the CHASA office by **22 March 2013**.

1. An estimation of the number of your members that have travelled by air with their firearms in the past, for whatever purpose, and how many will want to do so in future.
2. An estimation of the number of your members that will now not be utilising air travel, due to a restriction on air travel with firearms.
3. An estimation of the number of your members that will rather book a flight, than drive, if they had more options (than what is currently available) regarding airlines that allow firearms and ammunition as checked luggage.
4. An estimation of the loss in revenue generated within the destination communities, should no solution be found.

This will allow us to compile a factually-based summary that can be used in further discussions with the airlines.

Thank you

Yours truly

Matt Relihan
Secretary

