

# PENTATHLON GB<sup>+</sup>

## TRAVELLING WITH LASER PISTOLS

We have created some guidelines for anyone that may be flying to an event or competition. The overriding rule is that you must check with the airline company you intend to fly with as to the current requirements for travelling with Laser Pistols. No two companies are the same and rules do change according to the security level at the time of travel.

Certain airlines do not permit the carriage of any form of item that could be seen as a firearm and airlines that do permit the carriage of Laser Pistols all have differing requirements – this is why you must check before making your booking with any airline.

Below, Pentathlon GB have outlined some recommended steps to follow before travelling with your laser pistol. We have also provided a list of airlines at the end of this document that have previously permitted Laser Pistol carriage.

## BOOKING

1. Check with the airline that you can carry a Laser Pistol with you on your preferred flight.
2. When checking, make it clear that the Laser Pistol is not a firearm and that it is not capable of firing projectiles or emitting lead pellets. It is simply a laser pointer and is on the UIPM approved list of sport equipment for Modern Pentathlon. Although the Laser Pistol is NOT a firearm, it may appear on X-Ray scanners as a pistol and you do not wish to spark a security incident unnecessarily.
3. You should provide the airline (at point of check) the declaration forms on non-dangerous sport equipment from Pentashot or EcoAims (declaration 1, declaration 2) as appropriate (depending on your make of pistol). These can be found at the links above and via the Resources tab, on the Pistol Safety webpage of the Pentathlon GB website.
4. Once you have confirmation that you can carry the Laser Pistol, you should check if you are required to book specific baggage (e.g. sporting equipment) or whether the Laser Pistol can be included in normal hold luggage as some airlines may incur extra charges for the carriage of these goods.
5. You may also need to complete additional forms to be able to take the pistols in your luggage, ensure these are completed before attending check in.
6. So that check-in staff are aware when you arrive at the airport, you should also request that a note is added to your booking, such as "This customer will be travelling with a Laser Pistol in their hold luggage as agreed with "airline" Customer Service for use in a Modern Pentathlon event. It is NOT a weapon or firearm as it only emits a Class 1 laser beam."

## PACKING

7. Ensure you remove all removable batteries from your pistol and do not leave these in your pistol case.
8. The pistol must be placed in the checked-in hold baggage and not hand luggage.
9. Ensure you have all necessary documentation and proof about your booking. This includes a printed copy of the Pentashot or Ecoaims declaration with you. It is recommended you carry this in your hand luggage so that you have to hand if required.
10. Alongside the Pentashot or Ecoaims document, print and complete the following form and place 1 copy in your pistol case, 1 copy in your hold suitcase and 1 in your hand luggage.

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## AT THE AIRPORT

11. Arrive at the airport early so that you can allow extra time for potential delays whilst airport police/security/customs fill in paperwork (the exacts of this depend on the airline) and make security checks.
12. Take your hold luggage to the check-in desk to be weighed/tagged (you may then be asked to take your hold luggage containing Laser Pistols to the out of gauge/non-standard baggage desk to be screened separately).
13. The luggage containing your pistol must be carried by a person who is 18yrs or older to the check-in desk.
14. You must declare the luggage contains Laser Pistols at both check-in and non-standard baggage screening. You may also be asked to sign a record sheet.
15. The laser pistol cases must not be opened at the airport unless instructed to do so by airport staff.
16. In the event of problems at the airport, show them your documentation, and advise them the contact centre has added notes to your booking.
17. Never argue with the check-in or Airport Security as you could be there for an extended period of time and in the worst-case scenario could travel without your laser pistol.

## ON ARRIVAL AT DESTINATION

18. Check with the LOC of the competition you are attending whether you need to declare the pistols on arrival. The rules on this differ from country to country.
19. At many airports (including Heathrow), your bags will be passed through airport security or oversize luggage and not on the baggage belt, so please be aware of this.

## AIRLINE LIST

In order to assist you with planning, the list below outlines some airlines that have previously allowed carriage of Laser Pistols. However, it is your responsibility to always double check before booking your flights just in case policies change. Please note, most of these airlines require you to request approval in advance and/or complete a declaration form. They may also charge an additional baggage fee.

There may also be exceptions depending on the airport being used, you must check this directly with the airline you are using.

Air France Baltic Airlines  
British Airways Bulgarian Air  
EasyJet EgyptAir  
Eurowings LOT  
Lufthansa Qatar Airways  
Swiss Air Tap Air Portugal  
Tui Virgin Atlantic  
Vueling airlines Flybe  
Jet2 Logan air  
Air Lingus KLM

Airlines that don't allow travel with Laser pistols:  
Ryanair Wizz air