

# Deer Management Qualifications

## Deer Stalking Certificate 2 (DSC 2)

### Approved Witness Application

Approved Witnesses are involved with DMQ on a voluntary basis. Before applying to become one, it is important that you understand the requirements and conditions of being an Approved Witness. This document gives a brief overview of some of the requirements; however, prior to submitting your application, it is essential that you read all the material produced by DMQ relating to being an Approved Witness. This is available in the download section of the DMQ website, [www.dmq.org.uk](http://www.dmq.org.uk)

#### THE ROLE OF DSC 2 APPROVED WITNESSES

DSC 2 Approved Witnesses are a key element in the awarding process for the DSC 2 qualification. The role of the Approved Witness is to give candidates opportunities to demonstrate their competence and to confirm their knowledge, and record that they have done so according to set standards.

Requirements: - To be considered as an Approved Witness you must:

- apply to a DMQ Approved Assessment Centre via an AW application form
- hold DSC Level 2
- hold the Large Wild Game Meat Hygiene certificate or a “blue” DSC 1 certificate
- be technically competent and up to date with current best practice and legislation
- be able to demonstrate relevant experience
- read the Approved Witness Introductory Briefing Documents Part 1 - 4
- accept the conditions of witnessing
- have an e-mail address which is regularly monitored
- be IT literate, able to download electronic PDF documents, complete and save them for attachment to an email

Registration with only one DMQ Assessment Centre is allowed. To prevent multiple registration the fact and result of your application will be shared with other assessment centres.

Assessment Centres reserve the right to seek further information about an applicant or to reject any application.

For witnesses to remain on the list they must attend any re-briefing sessions or read and accept update information as and when required.

Witness name, contact details (telephone and e-mail) and other relevant information such as, having own ground and willingness to travel, will be published in a list provided to registered DSC 2 candidates. Addresses will never appear.

Conditions - Approved Witnesses must:

- be prepared to respond to requests for advice from candidates prior to witnessing
- be prepared to witness candidates while stalking
- observe candidate performance against portfolio criteria and accurately record the matching of relevant activities against portfolio PC's

- where the PC requires, ask questions of the candidate and record answers, as appropriate
- without undue delay, record questions asked, complete a witness statement for each stalk and sign off candidate cull records as appropriate when the required standard of competence has been met by the candidate
- respond in a timely manner to Assessors seeking further information concerning submitted evidence
- be prepared to have their name and contact details published on a list made available to DSC 2 candidates
- work to the DMQ standards laid down for the award of DSC 2 and support the ethos of the award

Further guidance and assistance can be downloaded from [www.dmq.org.uk](http://www.dmq.org.uk) or obtained from any of the DMQ Approved Assessment Centres.

**If you wish to pursue becoming an Approved Witness you should complete the attached application form and return it together with two completed reference forms to the Assessment Centre of your choice. You will have to send or give a form to each of your referees requesting that they complete it and return it to you in a sealed envelope for inclusion with your application. Referees must already be an Assessor, Internal Verifier or a listed DMQ Approved Witness currently active within the DMQ system.**

**Receipt of your application will be acknowledged by the Assessment Centre who will send you a series of DMQ Approved Witness Briefing Documents. You will be required to read and understand these and sign that you have done so.**

**Having understood the terms and conditions of being an Approved Witness, successful applicants will be required to sign a form accepting the terms of acting as an Approved Witness before their names are added to the official DMQ list.**

## **DMQ Approved Assessment Centres**

British Association for Shooting and Conservation (BASC) [www.basc.org.uk](http://www.basc.org.uk)

British Deer Society (BDS) [www.bds.org.uk](http://www.bds.org.uk)

Borders College [www.borderscollege.ac.uk](http://www.borderscollege.ac.uk)

Barony College [www.barony.ac.uk](http://www.barony.ac.uk)

Forestry Commission [www.forestry.gov.uk](http://www.forestry.gov.uk)

Sparsholt College [www.sparsholt.ac.uk](http://www.sparsholt.ac.uk)

Elmwood College [www.elmwood.ac.uk](http://www.elmwood.ac.uk)

North Highland College [www.nhcscotland.com](http://www.nhcscotland.com)

National Gamekeepers Organisation [www.nationalgamekeepers.org.uk](http://www.nationalgamekeepers.org.uk)

Newton Rigg College [www.newtonrigg.ac.uk](http://www.newtonrigg.ac.uk)

This is an editable PDF enabling you to complete the form electronically then print or save it to a folder for subsequent emailing. To enable this, you should have the latest version of Adobe Reader DC suitable for your computer operating system. This is available as a free download from: <https://get.adobe.com/uk/reader/otherversions/>

## Application to become an Approved Witness for the purposes of the Deer Stalking Certificate Level 2

Please complete all sections of this form in block capitals or type and forward it with two suitable reference statements and a copy of your DSC 1 and 2 Certificates to the DMQ Approved Assessment Centre of your choice. Please note: if you do not hold a blue DSC 1 certificate, a copy of a recognised Large Wild Game Meat Hygiene qualification must be provided.

Full Name

Address

Phone  Mobile

E-mail

DSC 2 Certificate number  Date achieved

Please detail below your relevant deer experience

Please detail below why you wish to become an Approved Witness and how you believe you are able to contribute to the DMQ system

Name the principal county you are available to witness in

Do you have ground a candidate can visit to stalk and be witnessed on? Yes  No

Would you travel to a candidate's ground to witness them? Yes  No  Discretionary

Do you have a larder on your ground for a candidate to use? N/A  Yes  No

Can you legally loan a suitable deer rifle to a candidate if required? Yes  No

I can offer witnessed stalking on these habitats: *mark all that apply:* Upland  Lowland

Do you intend to charge a candidate for witnessing them? Yes  No  Discretionary

*Charges might include, time, travel, accommodation, trophy fees, ICR completion fee or any other cost*

Are you able to witness all DSC2 candidates? Yes  No

*If you are only able or intending to witness people who share your employment or a specific club you belong to, you should indicate as such by marking the No box*

Please enter below the names and contact details of the two referees you have chosen to support your application and whose references you have enclosed with this application. **Referees must already be an Assessor, Internal Verifier or a listed DMQ Approved Witness currently active within the DMQ system.**

Two reference forms are enclosed with this pack and it is the applicant's responsibility to send a form to each referee for completion, return and enclosure.

Reference forms are also individually available for download from the DMQ website: [www.dmq.org.uk](http://www.dmq.org.uk)

| 1 <sup>st</sup> Referee:     | 2 <sup>nd</sup> Referee:     |
|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Name <input type="text"/>    | Name <input type="text"/>    |
| Address <input type="text"/> | Address <input type="text"/> |
| Phone <input type="text"/>   | Phone <input type="text"/>   |
| Mobile <input type="text"/>  | Mobile <input type="text"/>  |
| E-mail <input type="text"/>  | E-mail <input type="text"/>  |

I have read and understood the terms and conditions of becoming an Approved Witness and hereby submit my application form together with two references supporting my application, copies of my DSC 1 certificate, Large Game meat hygiene certificate (if required) and DSC 2 certificate.

I am aware that I will be required to read and understand a four part introductory briefing presentation and will be required to sign confirming I have done so prior to being added to a DMQ Approved Witness list if my application is successful.

In signing this form, I confirm I have basic computer skills and the means to complete an editable PDF document, save it to a folder and attach to an email when required.

Name *Please print*

Signature

Date

**Please ensure you include the following with your Approved Witness application:**

- Copy of Deer Stalking Certificate 1
- Copy of Large Wild Game Meat and Hygiene qualification if not part of DSC1
- Copy of Deer Stalking Certificate 2
- First Reference Form
- Second Reference Form