



# User Guidelines for Taxidermists

## Conservation of Wild Birds (Amendment) Regulations, 2023

### Scope

These guidelines are issued in fulfilment of the legal requirements set out in the Small Business Act – Annex 2 and are intended to explain the new legal requirements for taxidermists following publication of Legal Notice 150 of 2023: Conservation of Wild Birds (Amendment) Regulations, 2023<sup>1</sup>.

### New legal requirement for all taxidermists

The Conservation of Wild Birds (Amendment) Regulations, 2023 introduces a legal requirement for all taxidermists to be enrolled (as paid-up members) in an organisation representing taxidermists. A legally recognised organisation representing taxidermists must be enrolled with the Commissioner of Voluntary Organisations under the Voluntary Organisations Act, must have more than eighty (80) paid up members, a statute, and a committee which is elected at least once every three years.

The legal requirement for paid membership in such organisation applies to all taxidermists, namely:

1. Individuals who stuff or mount any European territory bird or Non-European territory bird or those who act as taxidermists or in any manner process for the purpose of preservation any European territory bird or Non-European territory bird **for commercial purposes**, who shall, apart from being in possession of a valid membership with an organisation representing taxidermists, also be in possession of a valid taxidermist's licence issued by the Wild Birds Regulation Unit, and
2. Individuals who preserve not more than thirty (30) specimens in any given year, **exclusively for personal use** and not as a service provided on a commercial basis. In such instances only, these individuals are not required to also be in possession of a taxidermist's licence, as already set out in regulation 21 of the Conservation of Wild Birds Regulations (S.L.549.42).

All legal requirements regarding proof of legal acquisition and the type of specimens that can be processed for taxidermy as provided for in regulation 21(2)(a) and (b) of S.L.549.42 apply and are unaffected by this legal amendment.

For further clarifications please contact the/ Wild Birds Regulation Unit via email on [wildbirds@gov.mt](mailto:wildbirds@gov.mt) or by phone on (+356) 22155608/07.

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<sup>1</sup> LN 150 of 2023: Conservation of Wild Birds (Amendment) Regulations, 2023 available at <https://legislation.mt/eli/ln/2023/150/eng>