

# FACT SHEET: Gel Blasters

## What is a Gel Blaster?

A gel blaster (or gel ball blaster, hydro blaster, gel gun) is a life-like toy gun designed to shoot a gel pellet that has been soaked in water (similar to an Orbeez). Gel blasters are similar to a paintball gun and are becoming more popular for use in activities similar to paintball skirmish and laser tag.

Gel blasters are not prohibited in Queensland and do not require a permit or license to keep. They need to be used responsibly and in accordance with relevant laws and requirements (e.g. importation permits, noise, parking, etc.). Please refer to the information below and visit Council's webpage on [Local Laws](#).

## Do I need approval?

Depending on where you are using gel blasters, and on what scale (i.e. how many people participating, how often), you may need approval from Council.

Use	Approval required?	Description of proposed development
<b>Private use</b> (residents at home)	No	Where gel blasters are being used for skirmish by the resident of a house (Dwelling house) and their family and/or friends, there is no Council approval required. It is strongly recommended that you: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>do <b>not</b> advertise your skirmish event on social media, SMS or word of mouth; and</li><li>refer to the <a href="#">Party Safe Program</a> information provided by the Queensland Police.</li></ul>
<b>Indoor sport and recreation</b> (commercial)	Yes	Where gel blasters are being used for commercial purposes in an indoor setting the activity is defined as Indoor sport and recreation. Indoor sport and recreation means the use of premises for a leisure, sport or recreation activity conducted wholly or mainly indoors. Approval from Council is required before the activity can be carried out.

Use	Approval required?	Description of proposed development
<b>Outdoor sport and recreation</b> (commercial)	Yes	<p>Where gel blasters are being used for commercial purposes in an outdoor setting the activity is defined as Outdoor sport and recreation. Outdoor sport and recreation means the use of premises for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• a recreation or sporting activity that is carried on outdoors and requires areas of open space; or</li> <li>• providing and selling food and drink, change room facilities or storage facilities, associated with the recreation or sporting activity.</li> </ul> <p>Approval from Council is required before the activity can be carried out.</p>

Please note that the sport and recreation uses (both indoor and outdoor) do not include accommodation (e.g. Short term accommodation or Tourist park). If any form of short-term or holiday accommodation, including overnight camping, is being offered at a commercial site, the development approval/permit will also need to include this use.

Where a development approval/permit is required, it can be obtained by lodging a development application for a Material Change of Use (MCU) with Council, which will be assessed against the requirements of the Logan Planning Scheme 2015. Applications can be lodged online, in person, via email or by post. Please visit [Council's website](#) for more information, and to access the required forms and fees.

Depending on the location and nature of the proposed development, the application is either code assessable (i.e. assessment against applicable codes of the planning scheme) or impact assessable (which requires the application be made available for public comment). To determine whether a proposed development is code or impact assessable, and to view the requirements/criteria the development must meet:

- Go to the [Logan PD Hub](#) and search for your property. Select the Planning Enquiry tool and the 'What can I do here' option. Select the Indoor sport and recreation or Outdoor sport and recreation activity to receive a report which outlines the requirements and what development application is needed. OR
- Refer to Part 5 of the [Logan Planning Scheme 2015](#) for the relevant zone of your property, and the relevant activity (Indoor sport and recreation or Outdoor sport and recreation). The Tables of Assessment specify if the development is code assessable or impact assessable and outlines what the requirements (assessment benchmarks) are. These may refer you to codes (sets of rules) relevant to the location (zone) and/or activity (e.g. Indoor sport and recreation) and related considerations, such as noise, access and parking.

Development approvals (permits) given by Council are subject to a range of conditions dependant on the type, scale, location and circumstances of the proposed development. Council is likely to set conditions to ensure the development does not adversely impact others who live in, use, pass through and service the area (e.g. in regards to such aspects as the hours of operation of the gel blasters, limiting noise, managing traffic and parking, ensuring safe ongoing access for emergency services, rubbish collection, etc.).

## How much will it cost?

Fees for development applications lodged with Council vary depending on the type of application and the assessment required (code or impact). They can be identified via:

- viewing the Register of Cost Recovery Fees and Schedule of Commercial and Other Charges published on Council's [website](#); or
- the [Logan PD Hub](#), which includes a Development Fees Estimator.

Payment can be made [online](#) via credit card or BPay (savings or cheque account), by email or direct deposit by contacting [council@logan.qld.gov.au](mailto:council@logan.qld.gov.au), in-person or by post (via cheque).

From 1 October 2022, a merchant surcharge fee of 0.34% will apply to all online and phone credit card payments.

Developments which result in extra load on infrastructure (e.g. water supply, sewer, stormwater and roads) will also incur **infrastructure charges**. Under Queensland's planning legislation, Council collects these charges from developers to help provide important large-scale assets like sewerage treatment plants, regional roads, and pumping stations. With respect to potential activities involving gel blasters, Indoor or Outdoor sport and recreation developments will incur infrastructures charges. The [Logan PD Hub](#) includes an Infrastructure Charges Estimator to help you identify these charges, which depend on the location and scale of the development.

## More Information:

- visit Council's [Planning & Development webpage](#);
- contact Council using the details provided in the footer of this fact sheet; or
- visit the Planning, Building and Plumbing counter at 150 Wembley Road Logan Central; opening hours and directions are available on Council's [website](#).