



BCRS Malta

103, Strait Street, Valletta,
VLT 1436, Malta

Email: info@bcrcsmalta.mt

Website: www.bcrcsmalta.mt

BCRS RETAILER GUIDELINES

The Beverage Container Refund Scheme starts on the 14th November 2022! *Are You Ready?*

1. Registration with the Scheme

There is a legal requirement for all economic operators placing beverage containers in scope, to register with the scheme through the official portal of BCRS Malta Ltd.

To proceed with registration, participants are asked to visit bcrcsmalta.mt and click on the 'REGISTER HERE' tab which is situated at the top right corner of the screen. Once there, participants may click on 'RETAILER'. On that screen, BCRS Malta Ltd provided a walk-through video showing step by step the process of registration, which will help answer most queries. For ease of reference, video link may be accessed from here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AOb4KA6fWpM&t=128s>

Retailers will first be asked to register their user account, followed by the registration of the Business ('mother company'), and finally registration of the Retail Establishment/s through which they are placing beverage containers on the market.

Remember that each one of your retail outlets needs to be registered.

2. Receipt

a. BCRS Registration Number

Businesses' BCRS Registration Number is to be made clearly visible on all invoices and fiscal receipts at every stage of the supply chain.

b. Treatment of €0.10 Deposit

As per S.L 549.134, Regulation 15(1):

"Every single use container made available on the market shall be subject to the payment of a €0.10c deposit. The deposit value shall not be subject to VAT and shall be indicated separately from the price on all receipts and invoices at every stage of the supply chain."



Beverage Container
Refund Scheme
Licensed Operator

Once the scheme starts, in order to comply with the respective legislation, *at the very least*, for this purpose, all customer receipts and invoices at every stage of the supply chain *shall contain a summary of the total refundable deposit value being charged within such purchase at the end of the receipt or invoice as a separate line item labelled as 'BCRS Refundable deposit'* (for POS systems) or 'BCRS Ref. Dep.' (for Cash registers) and *may be governed by the letter 'M'*. (Letter M until now has not been in use but has since been proposed by the Office of the Commissioner for Revenue to be applied for the BCRS deposit).

Furthermore, it is suggested that on all customer receipts and invoices at every stage of the supply chain, the €0.10c deposit being charged should be listed as a separate line item underneath each beverage (whether a single unit or multipack) clearly labelled as 'BCRS Refundable deposit' (for POS systems) or 'BCRS Ref. Dep.' (for Cash registers) and **may be governed by the letter 'M'**.

The total value of redeemed BCRS deposit Vouchers may also be shown on a separate line item clearly marked as 'BCRS Deposit Refund' (for POS Systems).

The major Point of Sale suppliers in Malta have upgraded their software in line with the above, so if these upgrades have not yet been included in your POS kindly contact your POS supplier. In case of difficulty with your POS or Cash Registers, kindly contact BCRS on +356 9909 9955 to enable BCRS to provide the necessary guidance as may be required.

BCRS Registration Number - MANDATORY → BCRS Reg No: BCRS/XX/00-123456

Outlet Name
VAT No: MT1234-5678

Still Water 500 ml Bottle	6.000 x	0.60	F	3.60
Subtotal E:				EUR 0.00
Subtotal F:				EUR 3.60
Subtotal M:				EUR 0.60
Total :				EUR 4.20
Cash - Payment				EUR 4.20

Included in your receipt:
BCRS Refundable Deposit @ 10c
6.000 x 0.60

Total Value of BCRS Deposits charged - MANDATORY

Image 1: Example of a typical receipt displaying the Minimum information required at law (as of 14th November '22)

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Outlet Name
VAT No: MT1234-5678

Still Water 500 ml Bottle	6.000 x	0.60	F	3.60
BCRS Refundable Deposit @ 10c	6.000 x	0.10	M	0.60
BCRS Deposit Refund	1.000 x	-0.40	M	-0.40
Subtotal E:				EUR 0.00
Subtotal F:				EUR 3.60
Subtotal M:				EUR 0.20
Total :				EUR 3.80
Cash - Payment				EUR 3.80

Included in your receipt:
BCRS Deposit Refund 1.000 x -0.40
BCRS Refundable Deposit @ 10c 6.000 x 0.60

Total Value of Vouchers Redeemed - OPTIONAL

Total Value of BCRS Deposits charged - MANDATORY

Itemised BCRS Deposit billed for each beverage - OPTIONAL

Image 2: Example of a typical receipt displaying further optional information to enhance customer experience (as of 14th November '22)



3. Display of Prices: on Retail Shelves and Online Websites

According to S.L 549.134, Regulation 26(1), a retailer must, in the price indication for the beverage, indicate:

- the total price for the beverage **inclusive** of the €0.10c refundable deposit, as well as,
- the amount of deposit which has to be paid by the consumer separately clearly labelled '**BCRS Refundable Deposit**'.
 - i.e.: Price + BCRS Refundable Deposit = Final Price
€1.00 + €0.10c BCRS Refundable Deposit = €1.10c

Furthermore, in the case of beverages being offered for sale in single units, the price indication shall indicate the deposit being paid for the beverage container, whilst in the case of beverages being offered for sale in multi-packs, the price indication shall indicate the total value of the deposit being paid for all the beverage containers in the multi-pack.

4. Collection Obligations at law – redemption location

Each retail outlet shall have a system in place for the return of single use containers by consumers.

There are three ways in which a retailer can fulfil its obligations at law as a redemption location.

- a. **Eligible Retailers may host and operate a BCRS Malta Ltd RVM** on its property subject to terms of a hosting agreement. €0.10c vouchers issued from an RVM hosted at a retail outlet may be redeemed only at that retail outlet or its chain of outlets. Refund of deposits paid to consumers by the retailer for the redemption of vouchers issued from hosted RVMs are paid by BCRS Malta Ltd directly to the retailer.
All eligible retailers have been contacted, as determined by a market mapping study identifying such eligible retailers based on throughput criteria.
- b. **Retailers with an active registration may subscribe to the Public Recycling Hub Network** setup and operated by BCRS Malta Ltd. €0.10c vouchers issued from Public Recycling Hubs may be redeemed at any retail outlet with an active registration with BCRS Malta Ltd. Refund of deposits paid to consumers by the retailer for the redemption of vouchers issued from Public Recycling Hubs are paid by BCRS Malta Ltd directly to the retailer.
Contact BCRS to subscribe your outlet to this network.
- c. **The retailer may adopt a manual collection system**
 - I. **Collect and store containers in their original shape and deposit them at the nearest Public Recycling Hub.** Retailers with an active registration may subscribe to the BCRS Malta Ltd card system. Refund of deposits paid to consumers by the retailer for those containers returned by the retailer to a Public Recycling Hub are paid by BCRS Malta Ltd directly to the retailer via a business transaction instead of a voucher when subscribed to the BCRS Malta Ltd card system.
 - II. **Collect and store containers in their original shape using bags and seals provided by BCRS and return them to BCRS Malta Clearing Centre in Hal Far** for counting and processing, using a collection service organised by BCRS Malta Ltd. Refund of



deposits paid to consumers by the retailer for the containers returned via the manual collection system are paid by BCRS Malta Ltd directly to the retailer via a business transaction. With respect to the quantity of containers returned, the count of BCRS Malta Ltd. shall be final. Repeated return of out-of-scope containers will lead to disqualification from the collection service.

Hence, in absence of a retailer having an RVM on site, in order to guarantee adequate consumer service, at a minimum the retailer must operate a manual collection system¹, however this can be supplemented and facilitated by subscribing to the Public Recycling Hub network such that empty containers collected by the retailer may be returned using the Public Hub by the retailer himself using the BCRS card system, and/or consumers may opt to go themselves directly to the Public Hub and then redeem the vouchers issued at a subscribed retail outlet.

Retailers are also hereby reminded that as per the terms and conditions of participation on the BCRS website, retailers operating a manual collection system are paid by BCRS Malta Ltd a handling fee of €0.01 per container collected.

¹The retail outlet is only obliged to accept returns of empty beverage containers subject to the empty containers being

- - registered with BCRS Malta Ltd (you can confirm using the free mobile APP)
 - empty and not squashed
 - with the label and a legible barcode
 - Not contaminated with anything other than traces of the original beverage
 - The retail outlet reserves the right to refuse returns of containers that
 - have barcodes that are not sold at the retail outlet
 - have been purchased over two years ago
 - more than 50 containers at the same time

5. Redemption of Vouchers



Image: Voucher issued from RVMs installed in Public Recycling Hubs as of 14th November 2022
Such vouchers may be redeemed at any retail outlet with an active registration with BCRS Malta Ltd using either an integrated point of sale system or the Free BCRS Mobile App



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In order for a retailer to be able to validate and redeem vouchers, with the subsequent refund of deposit, the retailer needs to **EITHER**:

- a. [integrate the point-of-sale system of each retail outlet to the BCRS RVM servers](#)

For the Point-of-Sale integration, retailers and their Point-of-Sale suppliers are encouraged to get in touch with BCRS so that they are provided with the necessary requirements and integration files.

When integrating the point-of-sale system, apart from automatically and securely validating and redeeming the voucher, the Point of Sale will also automatically deduce the redeemed deposit from the Bill.

The major Point of Sale suppliers in Malta have upgraded their software in line to the above, so if these upgrades have not yet been included in your POS kindly contact your POS supplier.

In case of difficulty with your POS Please contact BCRS on helpline: +356 9909 9955 or by email on info@bcrcsmalta.mt

OR

- b. [download the free BCRS mobile APP.](#)

If a retailer does not have a point-of-sale system (uses cash register) or does not want to integrate the point of sale with the BCRS RVM Servers, Retailers may use the free BCRS Mobile App to validate and redeem vouchers securely. With this method however there is no automatic deduction of the redeemed deposits from the Bill, which has to be done manually by retailer.

Retailers will be able to download the free APP by accessing the Play Store (for Android Smartphones) or App Store (for Apple Smartphones) and search for the 'BCRS' app.

An active BCRS registration number will be required in order to be able to use the BCRS APP. For further guidance on the BCRS Mobile APP please contact BCRS on helpline: +356 9909 9955 or by email on info@bcrcsmalta.mt

In either case where vouchers are redeemed by Point-of-Sale integration or by Mobile App, BCRS Malta Ltd shall refund retailers the full value of the deposit vouchers redeemed directly for the deposits *deducted from the customers' bills*. BCRS Malta shall have the counts gathered from the RVM server of vouchers redeemed and the BCRS IT system will periodically issue self-invoices to the retailers in question. Payment from BCRS to the retailer will be done by bank transfer with a credit term of 90 days. Relevant payment terms are in the participation conditions on <https://bcrcsmalta.mt>

When redeeming vouchers using an integrated POS or the free BCRS App, the retailer does not need to do any reporting of vouchers redeemed to this intent and does not need to return any vouchers, as the BCRS IT System will perform all transactions automatically.

Should the retailer want to keep personal records of vouchers redeemed for reconciliation purposes or otherwise, this is at the retailer's discretion.

More information and scheme participation terms & conditions may be found at www.bcrcsmalta.mt

FAQ section at www.bcrcsmalta.mt/faqs

Contact BCRS on helpline: [+356 9909 9955](tel:+35699099955) or by email on info@bcrcsmalta.mt



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