

SKYWIDE Amateur Radio Club

Repeater Use Policy

If you hear operations on our SKYWIDE club repeaters which you believe do not conform with this policy, please contact SKYWIDE ARC Board of Directors.

1. SKYWIDE ARC repeaters are owned and operated by SKYWIDE Amateur Radio Club, which are operated under an amateur radio club license held by SKYWIDE Amateur Radio Club and its designated Board of Directors. The SKYWIDE ARC Board of Directors will make the final determination regarding usage of its repeaters and acceptable conduct on its repeaters.

2. Operate within the Rules and Regulations as defined in VHF/UHF Repeater Frequency Council.

<https://www.rac.ca/operating/vhfuhf-repeater-frequency-co-ordinators-and-councils/>

3. SKYWIDE ARC sanctioned NETS and amateur radio community enthusiasts shall have priority over all other communication except in the event of an emergency where an individual should use "Break" if you have priority or emergency traffic requiring the use of the repeater.

For local weather, traffic or accident related disruptions the Auxiliary Communication Service and other SKYWIDE ARC Board of Directors approved organizations are permitted to give updates and ask for situation updates at the top of each hour for ten minutes but are not to interfere with the normal operation of the club repeater or the licenced operators enjoying the club repeater. In the event of a local natural disaster or official declared emergency the Board of Directors will decide the protocols and timings that will be appropriate for the club repeater based on the requirements of the emergency.

4. At no time will profanity, lewd language, or distasteful behavior be tolerated. Please remember that children and public officials monitor the repeaters on a regular basis and keep your activities on club repeaters courteous.

5. While discussions such as politics or religion are not prohibited in amateur radio, we must recognize that individual opinions may not be shared by everyone. Please keep all conversations on our repeaters balanced, with controlled discussions, and open to personal opinions.

6. Listen to the repeater for more than a few seconds before initiating a call. The repeater may be busy with someone momentarily standing by.

7. If you hear a station(s) jamming or causing harmful interference, DO NOT ACKNOWLEDGE THE STATION. If you can override the interference, continue with your conversation. If you cannot continue, sign off the repeater in a normal manner.

This activity should be reported to the SKYWIDE Board of Directors via e-mail indicating the time and type of interference and not over the air.

8. Please wait for the repeater to cease transmitting completely before keying your radio and allow a gap should VOIP stations such as those on Echolink or AllStar wish to join the conversation. This allows the timer to reset and other stations to break in. This is especially important if a station is trying to declare an emergency or seeking assistance.

9. Keep transmissions short and thoughtful. Your "monologue" may prevent someone with an emergency from using the repeater.

10. Be considerate and limit conversations to 30 minutes during normally active periods of repeater usage. The repeater is a shared resource for many hams to use. Simply hesitating or asking if anyone else would like to use the repeater is not the same as clearing the frequency.

11. Do not repeatedly "kerchunk" the repeater to test your equipment or see if the repeater is up. If you transmit then you must identify your station.

12.. Simply announce your call sign if you wish to join an on-going conversation.

13. Be sure to identify your station at the start and the end of your conversation. There is no need to say "for ID" when you identify. Simply say your callsign.

14. SKYWIDE repeaters are assembled and maintained at considerable expense and effort. Those who are regular users of a repeater should support the efforts of keeping the repeater on the air through donations or club membership and the payment of club dues