

Band Plan

To get more information on the items in *Italic's* use your favourite search engine

V/Uhf

In Mackay there are several repeaters

For the latest repeater and Club info go to

<http://www.wia.org.au/clubs/vk4/MackayAmateurRadioClub/>

Mackay city	147.000	Has <i>IRLP</i>
Nebo	146.975	Has <i>IRLP</i>
Sarina	146.675	Has <i>Echolink</i>
	439.625	may be off line
Blue Mtns	146.775	
<i>APRS</i> positioning data	145.175	
Simplex Calling Channel	146.500	ch50
National SSB calling Freq	144.100	
	439.100	

Not sure about 439.100 but I think it is being used as a calling channel

147.000 Wia news not being Broadcast at the moment

146.775 Wed Club Controlled net

80M

3.597 Monday Club net 1930

3.613 Rockhampton Club net 19.30

3.618 Central highlands from various venues 20.00hr

Operating procedures.

To make a call on 2 M repeater

VKABC VK4ABC this is VK4ABB on 147.000

This call can be repeated 3 times in about a 5 minute period then should be left for a while and tried again later.

If there is no response then the caller may say

Nothing heard this is VK4ABB clear- indicating that the caller no longer monitoring or

Nothing heard this is VK4ABB listening – indicating that the caller is waiting to be called by any station who may wish to do so.

When the call is answered the call should go as such:

VK4ABB this is VK4ABC (to you from me) then any greeting and conversation as required. The call signs must be used at least every 10 minutes during a conversation. This is generally done when one of the participants ends his over with eg VK4ABB this is VK4ABC (to you from me) and the other participant will start his over with VK4ABC this is VK4ABB (From you to me) (Always put you before me)

To call CQ on a repeater it is generally accepted to announce your call and that you are listening – this opens the communications and asks for any one to answer your call.

This is VK4AAB VK4 alpha alpha bravo listening on 147.000 (assuming that this is the frequency of the repeater), the locals who are listening will then know which repeater you are on as their scan may have restarted before they can get to the radio.

Things like – “I am bi” is not really a reflection on someone’s sexual appetite or preference but a poor way of saying “over”

VK4*** returning to VK3*** is also not good practice because it puts your call first.

The practice of shortening your call to the suffix is not only against regs it is also bad practice.

There seems to be a lot of the new foundation licences who have made a word from the four letters eg VK4FOUR this can be said as this is VK4 Foxtrot Oscar Uniform Romeo. Not VK44

Slow scan TV [SSTV] is now available to all Licences except Foundation This used to be quiet active in Mackay until it was found that Novice operators were not allowed to use it, Requirements are suitable program and soundcard

APRS A system for finding where amateur stations are on a computer map requires to send data *GPS* a radio with interface built in or an external modem like *TinyTRACK3* www.byonics.com I think there is currently 1 for sale in Mackay ask me

WHERE to find people with so many Repeaters and frequencies it may be hard to find where people are.

Myself I like to use local repeater as much as possible others like to listen to a big area repeater while others like simplex contacts Modern scanning radios are good as they can cover all these areas so it is a good idea to ask where a particular callsign can be found as some persons only use HF or 6 metres the magic band

HF operation *SPEECH PROCESSOR* In my early days of Hf operation that was in the days of the Yaesu 101 speech processor operation was frowned on 80 & 40 meter operations I notice the Kenwood 2000 manual says it makes it easier to be heard by distant stations but does *DISTANT* mean the other side of the world for VK4 use I would not recommend its use

There seems to be a lot of newer operators who have no idea what their transmissions sound like especially on the lower bands 160 to 40M, 80M in particular. (How can they, they are transmitting it not listening to it!)

Speech processing is not only not required but can and generally does, turn nice clean audio into harsh distorted rubbish on these lower bands however on the upper bands it can mean the difference between making or not making a contact especially in marginal conditions.

Contrary to popular belief the processor does not help you get over the static and noisy conditions on 80M it just distorts the audio and generates additional noise within the signal.

The mic drive on these bands should be reduced because the audio received by the other stations can be quite awful. This is where the term "LESS IS BETTER" really works. The radios are generally a 160 to 10 M unit and there is very little information given about the fact that if your radio is setup to sound perfect on 10, 15 or even 20M it may sound awful on 80M

The main object to the users of these bands is to get out the cleanest signal and to get above the noise not necessarily the loudest signal. There seems to be a feeling out there that bigger is better but

overdriving and power mic's are not a part of the lower bands requirements all they seem to do is reduce the possible audience you may have as people QSY or turn off when they hear bad audio.

One thing we must be a little more supportive of is the continual asking of the same questions, we may get sick of giving the same old answers but we must remember that the new operators are coming through the system all the time and were not here to have heard the questions and answers given last week or last month.

no DTMF tones should ever be sent without station identification and in the case of IRLP and announcement of intent is considered good manners.

There is NO such thing as a "second operator".

The term existed in amateur regulations over 35 years ago.

A person using an amateur station under the control of an authorised person is not obliged nor should they use the term "second operator"

The supervising person does NOT have to announce callsigns etc. Though it would be polite for the person operating under supervision to announce something like "This is VK2*** with "name" on the microphone.

Any person may use an amateur station provided that the station is under the control of an authorised person. "Control" does not mean that the authorised person need speak over the radio. However the authorised person needs to be present and in control of the station. A Foundation operator may not "supervise" an unqualified person.

The Origin of 73

The traditional expression "73" goes right back to the beginning of the landline telegraph days. It is found in some of the earliest editions of the numerical codes, each with a different definition, but each with the same idea in mind- it indicated that the end, or signature, was coming up. But there are no data to prove that any of these were used.

The first authentic use of 73 is in the publication *The National Telegraphic Review and Operators' Guide*, first published in April 1857. At that time, 73 meant "My love to you"! Succeeding issue of this publication continued to use this definition of the term. Curiously

enough, some of the other numerals used then had the same definition as they have now, but within aq short time. the use of 73 began to change.

In the National Telegraph Convention, the numerals was changed from the Valentine-type sentimentto a vague sign of fraternalism. Here, 73 was a greeting "word" between operators and it was used on all wires.

In 1859, the Western Union Company set up the standard "92 Code." A list of numerals from one to 92 was compiled to indicate a series of prepared phrases for use by the operators on the wires. Here, in the 92 code, 73 changes from a fraternal sign to a very flowery "accept my compliments," which was in keeping with the florid language of that era.

Over the years from 1859 to 1900, the many manuals of telegraphy shows variations of this meaning. Dodge's *The Telegrapg Instructor* shows it merely as "compliments." *The Twentieth Century Manual of Railway and Commercial Telegraphy* defines it two ways, one listing as "my compliments to you"; but in the glossary of abbreviations it is merely "compliments." Theodore A. Edison's *Telegraphy Self-Taugh* shows a return to "accept my compliments." By 1908 however, a later edition of the Dodge Manual gives today's definition of "best regards" with a backward look at the older meaning in another part of the work where it also lists it as "compliments."

"Best regards" has remained ever since as the "put-it-down-in-black-and-white" meaning of 73 but it has acquired overtones of much warmer meaning. Today, amateurs use it more in the manner that James Reid had intended that it be used- a "friendly words between operators." - *Louise Ramsey Moreau, W3WRE*

If you are looking for details of a distant station look in

www.qrz.com

Some antenna sites

<http://perso.wanadoo.fr/f6itv/p2052001.htm>

<http://www.ku4ay.net/antenna.html>

Heaps of antenna designs at Dxzone

<http://www.dxzone.com/catalog/Antennas/index.shtml>

<http://users.belgacom.net/hamradio/homebrew.htm>

STUFF TO ME DONE

FINDU <http://www.findu.com/cgi-bin/find.cgi?call=VK4AJL-7>

FAST CAN TV

DX 2METERS

Noise Bridge using

If there are any links above that don't work let me know

Or some URL's you think should be here.

Email me on this subject at

vk4ajl@wia.org.au