

WEST GIPPSLAND COMMUNITY RADIO INC. (A0028524C)

STATEMENT OF POLICY - PROGRAMMING

RATIONALE:

The aim of West Gippsland Community Radio Inc. is to provide programming which will appeal to a wide spectrum of listeners, while at the same time promoting the work of volunteer bodies within the community, and enhancing the values of family life. A particular focus is on providing styles of music not available on other radio stations in our broadcast area.

Members of the community are invited to share the music they enjoy through presenter training.

MUSIC PROGRAMMING:

Music chosen for airplay must reflect this aim, in that lyrics should reflect a positive attitude to life, and encourage tolerance, moderation and respect for the human condition.

Lyrics which:

- include obscenity, or direct reference to the sexual act;
- present as desirable the use of drugs, including alcohol, narcotics and tobacco;
- extol the benefits of gambling;
- promote discrimination or prejudice against any group on the basis of race, sex, nationality, religion, disability, ethnic background, age or sexual preference;
- encourage promiscuity, violence, or suicide:

clearly are not consistent with this aim, and must be avoided.

SPOKEN CONTENT:

Similarly, respect for the listening audience and other members of West Gippsland Community Radio Inc. will place limits on what may be said on air.

Thus, as a guide to these limits, West Gippsland Community Radio Inc. affirms:

- the right of people to enjoy the music of their choice free of public criticism;
- the right of privacy;
- the right to maintain personal dignity;
- the right to carry out duties for West Gippsland Community Radio Inc. without being subject to derogatory public comment;
- the right of sponsors and community organisations to have their interests promoted in a positive way;
- the right to hold a religious or political belief without fear of ridicule - similarly, the right not to hold such beliefs;
- the right not to be belittled or defamed;
- the right not to be subjected to language which is generally accepted as being outside the bounds of public decency;
- the right of children not to be exposed to encouragement of damaging or anti-social behaviour.

AUSTRALIAN CONTENT:

West Gippsland Community Radio Inc. encourages the programming of Australian composed/ performed music, which should represent at least 25% of our total content, and the promotion of works by local composers, writers and performers.

It is understood that there are styles of music in which target cannot be reached, so presenters who can do so should aim for 30% Australian content in order to compensate.

To assist presenters in meeting this target, all Australian recordings in the 3BBR Music Library which are Australian in origin will be clearly marked.

Regular audits of Australian content will be carried out, and all presenters are expected to comply with the audit process.

COMMUNITY BROADCASTING CODE OF PRACTICE:

West Gippsland Community Radio Inc. endorses the Community Broadcasting Code of Practice.

Any complaints about program content must be referred to the Board, which will then act in accordance with the provisions of the Community Broadcasting Code of Practice.

SOUNDS OF WEST GIPPSLAND:

The revised version of the Sounds of West Gippsland is to be regarded as an Appendix to this Policy.

History:

Adopted July 1999.

Guidelines for Sounds of West Gippsland adopted October 2000.

Reviewed July 2004.

Revised June 2009.

Sounds of West Gippsland reviewed, revised and added as an Appendix to this document March 2010.

Documents Related To This Policy:

Community Broadcasting Codes of Practice

West Gippsland Community Radio Inc. Rules

West Gippsland Community Radio Inc. Standing Orders

West Gippsland Community Radio Guidelines for Sounds of West Gippsland

West Gippsland Community Radio Volunteer Policy

West Gippsland Community Radio Inc. Complaints and Dispute Policy

West Gippsland Community Radio Inc. Discipline Procedure

West Gippsland Community Radio Inc. Duty Statement – President

West Gippsland Community Radio Inc. Duty Statement – Station Management

Convenor

West Gippsland Community Radio Training Manual.

Compliance:

West Gippsland Community Radio Inc. affirms the right of members and listeners to participate in discussions of programming policy, and the responsibility of presenters to accept and implement policy decisions.

Presenters who believe that their rights as defined by this policy have been infringed, have recourse by Complaint to the Board, and access to the Grievance Policy as specified in the Rules (Clause 7B; 1-6)

Presenters who do not comply with the responsibilities defined by this policy are subject to disciplinary action as defined in the Rules (Clause 7A; 1-10).

