



Albury Wodonga Christian Broadcasters Inc

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Albury Wodonga Christian Broadcasters Inc.

Programming Policy

Preamble:

- 1) AWCB Inc. will develop programs and broadcast material consistent with:
 - a) The ACMA Community Radio Broadcasting Codes of Practice,
 - b) AWCB Inc. Objects and Rules of Association, and,
 - c) AWCB Inc.'s Religious – Christian community interest.

- 2) AWCB Inc. will not develop programs or broadcast material that may:
 - a) incite, encourage, or present for its own sake violence or brutality,
 - b) mislead or alarm listeners by simulating news or events,
 - c) present as desirable the use of illegal drugs, the misuse of tobacco or alcohol as well as other harmful substances, and
 - d) glamorise or sensationalise suicide. Broadcast material shall not provide explicit details about the method and/or location of a suicide attempt or death.

- 3) AWCB Inc. will attempt to avoid censorship where possible. However, in our programming decisions we will consider our Religious – Christian community interest, context, degree of explicitness, the possibility of alarming the listener, the potential for distress or shock, prevailing laws or community standards and the social importance of the broadcast.

- 4) AWCB Inc. will not develop programs or broadcast material that is likely to stereotype, incite, vilify, or perpetuate hatred against, or attempt to demean any person or group, on the basis of ethnicity, nationality, race, language, gender, sexuality, religion, age, physical or mental ability, occupation, cultural belief or political affiliation. The requirement is not intended to prevent the broadcast of material which is factual, or the expression of genuinely held opinion in a news or current affairs program or in the legitimate context of a humorous, satirical or dramatic work.

- 5) AWCB Inc. will have programming practices that:
 - a) provide programs to suit the different ages and interests across the community of interest,
 - b) protect children from harmful material.

- 6) AWCB Inc. will follow applicable privacy laws by:
 - a) respecting people's legitimate right to protection from unjustified use of material which is obtained without consent or through an invasion of privacy,
 - b) only broadcasting the words of an identifiable person where:

- i. that person has been told in advance that the words may be broadcast, or
 - ii. it was clearly indicated at the time the recording was made that the material would be broadcast, or
 - iii. in the case of words that have been recorded without the knowledge of a person, that person has indicated his/her agreement prior to broadcast.
- 7) News, current affairs (including news updates and promotions), documentaries, feature programs and interviews shall:
- a) provide access to views which may not adequately be represented by other broadcasting sectors,
 - b) present factual material accurately and ensure that reasonable efforts are made to correct substantial errors of fact as quickly as possible,
 - c) clearly distinguish factual material from commentary and analysis,
 - d) present news in such a way that it does not create public panic or unnecessary distress to listeners, and
 - e) represent viewpoints fairly without having a misleading emphasis, editing out of context or withholding relevant and available material.

Policy:

- 1) Program selection:
- a) Members of the community will be encouraged to suggest programs and/or music to be aired on theLight through on-air announcements and personal contact.
 - b) If a member of the local community suggests a program, the station manager will meet with them and guide them through the program proposal form. The proposed program is then presented to the Program Sub-Committee for assessment.
 - c) New programs to be broadcast on The Light will be reviewed and/or selected by the Program Sub-Committee prior to the program being broadcast.
 - d) Programs approved by the Program Sub-Committee for broadcast shall be scheduled appropriately in the weekly program schedule.
 - e) Programs to be removed from broadcast will be discussed by the Program Sub-Committee prior to removal.
- 2) When a program is proposed to be broadcast, the Program Sub-Committee shall consider the following criteria:
- a) Is the program content consistent with the Purposes of the Association?
 - b) Is the program suitable for our Religious – Christian community interest?
 - c) Is the program content and/or style being addressed by existing programs?
 - d) Is the time at which the program is proposed to be aired, a suitable time for our listening audience?
 - e) If a music program is being proposed, will it assist the station in meeting compliance with Australian content requirements?
 - f) Is the program subject to copyright requirements, and if so, will the relevant copyright requirements be met?

3) Presenter Information

- a) Station presenters must undergo training in station operation as approved from time to time by the Management Committee prior to presenting on-air.
- b) Station presenters may not undertake on-air talk-back on the station unless prior permission of the Program Sub-Committee has been obtained in writing. (The Program Sub-Committee shall not unreasonably withhold such permission; however it is expected that presenters wishing to broadcast talk-back would be trained in interviewing techniques and the technical requirements of the operating panel). It should be noted that talk-back is defined as random callers being put to air and not pre-arranged interviews on the telephone. No talk-back segments shall be broadcast without at least the seven second delay being operational and no talk-back shall be undertaken without an assistant to the presenter being present to assist with incoming telephone calls.
- c) Programs shall start and end at the times published in the daily running schedule produced by station management. However, where news is scheduled, programs shall conclude at the commencement of the news and the next program shall commence following the news. Where news is scheduled within a program, the news shall be broadcast as scheduled.

History:

Reviewed June 2014.

Adopted June 2014.

Reviewed: April 2024

Documents Related to this Policy:

AWCB Program Proposal and Planning Document

Community Radio Code of Practice

Albury Wodonga Christian Broadcasters Inc. Rules of Association.