



WAGGA WAGGA COMMUNITY MEDIA INCORPORATED (WWCMI)

Membership

Introduction

The *Broadcasting Services Act 1992 (the Act)* outlines the legal framework for community broadcasting and explains the role the sector plays in delivering diverse media services that reflect a sense of Australian identity, character, and cultural diversity.

The Act vests responsibility for monitoring all broadcasting services, including community broadcasting services, in the *Australian Communications and Media Authority (ACMA)*. ACMA is responsible for allocating and determining the conditions that apply to broadcasting licences, and for guiding industry groups in developing Codes of Practices.

The *Community Radio Codes of Practice (the Codes)* set out the guiding principles and policies for programming on community broadcasting stations and also outline the operational standards for stations that hold a community broadcasting licence.

This policy complies with the requirements of ACMA and *Codes of Practice* Number 1.4.

Background

Members of WWCMI come from a wide range of backgrounds and become financial members either to;

- simply support the station through their membership fee or,
- to be actively involved as volunteers in station management, programming and general operations.

WWCMI's responsibilities in broadcasting to meet its community interest and community participation obligations include ensuring that there are written policy documents in place that outline:

- the principles of financial membership,
- the rights and responsibilities of financial members within the organisation, and
- the rights and responsibilities of the organisation to financial members.

Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to ensure that members of WWCMI are informed about their rights and responsibilities within the organisation and of the rights and responsibilities of WWCMI towards its members.

Policy

1. Membership is for a calendar year with the membership fee reviewed and recommended by the Board and voted on at the Annual General Meeting.
2. Membership is applied for on the membership application form and lodged with payment of the membership fee.
3. Upon application for membership, applicants will receive relevant documentation outlining their rights and responsibilities as financial members, along with those of WWCMi towards financial members.
4. Membership applications must be approved by the Board at monthly Board meetings.
5. WWCMi will only refuse membership applications based on specific, transparent and reasonable criteria as outlined in the Constitution, these being that:
 - a) the applicant is known to be not of good character or demonstrates unacceptable behaviour;
 - b) the applicant is known to hold a criminal record; or
 - c) the applicant is known to have provided false information in the application.
6. The applicant may appeal a Board decision to refuse membership under terms and conditions set out in the Constitution.
7. Membership and the rights, obligations and entitlements attached to membership, are not transferable to another person and will terminate on cessation of such membership.
8. A person ceases to be a member of WWCMi if the person:
 - a. dies
 - b. resigns membership
 - c. is expelled, or
 - d. fails to pay the annual membership fee with 3 months after the due date.
9. A register of financial members and relevant details is kept and regularly updated.
10. Volunteers engaged in station administration, programming, technical support and general support must be financial members of WWCMi.
11. Volunteers are advised of their rights and responsibilities towards WWCMi and the rights and responsibilities of WWCMi towards volunteers in the Volunteer Rights and Responsibilities Booklet.
12. Members will be advised by the Board of major developments and changes affecting the management and strategic direction of WWCMi.

WWCMi Related Documents

WWCMi Constitution, Membership Application Form, Rights and Responsibilities of Financial Membership Booklet, Volunteer Rights and Responsibilities Booklet.