



WAGGA WAGGA COMMUNITY MEDIA INCORPORATED (WWCMI)

Programming

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.

This policy complies with the requirements of ACMA and *Codes of Practice* Number 2.2

Related WWCMI Documents

Community Participation Policy, Membership Policy, Volunteers Policy.

Background

WWCMI presents a diverse range of community radio programs consistent with its mission statement which is *'to provide a consistently reliable radio broadcast that meets the needs of our community and broader listenership. We provide trustworthy news, promote local & regional events, and offer a diverse mix of music and content,* in our area of community interest. Community members are able to participate in programming through a range of mechanisms.

Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to outline how WWCMI will encourage active participation by its community members to ensure that its programming reflects its community interest and guiding principles and obligations, including a legislated quota of Australian music and the broadcasting of a broad range of musical and spoken content.

Policy

1. The Station Manager has overall responsibility for managing WWCMI's programming in accordance with the Broadcasting Act and the requirements of the Codes of Practice.

2. WWCMI will provide balanced programming to meet community expectations by providing the following program categories:
 - a. Feature programs, outside broadcasts and live performances
 - b. Weekday day-time programs based on upbeat, easy listening music and talk aimed at a broad audience base
 - c. Evening and weekend programs of general or special interest, for example, rock, pop, blues, soul, classical, country, folk and jazz
 - d. Overnight and gap filler programs that are produced through a locally automated system.
3. Community members are encouraged, largely via on-air promotion, to submit items for the community diary segments and/or to become sponsors of WWCMI.
4. Individuals and representatives of community organisations are invited to be guests on the weekly interview programs.
5. Community members can become members of WWCMI and subsequently be involved in decision making around programming by:
 - a. Submitting personal suggestions for new or revised music programs
 - b. Membership of the Program, Music Resources and Training Committee (PMRTC).
6. Producers and presenters are encouraged to broadcast a wide range of musical styles taking into account the aims and objectives of both WWCMI and the individual program.
7. The PMRTC will regularly review music programs and their formats, along with suitability of their time slots.
8. Programs that are considered outdated and no longer relevant will be removed and replaced with another program.
9. All genres of music will be acquired legally and included in the relevant categories according to appropriate selection criteria developed by the PMRTC.
10. WWCMI will not permit the broadcasting of programs which may:
 - a. Incite, encourage or present violence or brutality.
 - b. Simulate news or events in such a way as to mislead or alarm listeners.
 - c. Present as desirable the misuse of alcohol.
 - d. Promote or advertise the use of tobacco.
 - e. Present as desirable the use of drugs or narcotics.
 - f. Incite or perpetuate hatred or vilification against any person or group on the basis of ethnicity, nationality, race, gender, sexual preference, religion, age, mental or physical disability, occupation, cultural belief or political affiliation
 - g. Be harmful to children in any way.

11. WWAMI will adhere to 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: -
 - that person has been told in advance that the words may be broadcast, or
 - it was clearly indicated at the time the recording was made that the material would be broadcast, or
 - in the case of words that have been recorded without the knowledge of a person, that person has indicated their agreement prior to the broadcast.
12. Presenters are encouraged to, within the confines of the sponsorship framework, promote local events, including in-house performances where local musicians or other Australian musicians and artists are featured.
13. WWAMI will not accept any form of cash payment or in-kind, in return for providing air-play or promotion of music, except under standard sponsorship arrangements.
14. In compliance with the broadcasting licence an audio log of every broadcast will be recorded and retained for a period of six weeks (42 days) from the date of broadcast. If a complaint is made against the station, the audio log is to be retained for provision to ACMA for 60 days or until the matter has been resolved or longer in circumstances which ACMA directs.
15. WWAMI reserves the right to broadcast subject matter and language which some people might find offensive if such usage is considered appropriate and justified in context.

Related WWAMI Documents

Nil