



# Deepwater & District Community FM Radio Inc.

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*Glen Innes 105.9MHz, Deepwater 91.1 MHz*

## **PROGRAMMING POLICY (Code 2.2)**

### **Programming Philosophy**

Central to the Programming Philosophy is the need for 2CBD FM to meet the needs and desires of the citizens in our broadcast area within the resources available at any given period. Providing a balanced program that reflects those requirements as well as giving fair and reasonable access and opportunity to community groups must be a priority.

The management committee will include the following considerations when deciding on which programs will go to air;

- Public demand
- Equity related issues
- Compatibility with existing station policy/direction
- Resources - financial and human
- Availability of time
- The extent of content that is of local relevance/significance

### **Review**

The management committee will regularly review the overall program schedule. Our content that we put to air will always require amending as we reflect our ever-changing target audience. For example, we may move certain programs to a time better suited for the target audience, introduce new or remove existing shows in line with our current strategic direction, or change the content or presenters of existing programs.

### **Prohibited Matter**

As licensee 2CBD FM will not permit the broadcasting of program content which may;

- Incite, encourage or present for their own sake violence or brutality;
- Simulate news or events in such a way as to mislead or alarm listeners;

- Present as desirable the misuse of alcoholic liquor, drugs or narcotics;
- Promote or advertise the use of tobacco;
- Incite or perpetuate hatred against; or gratuitously vilify; any person or group on the basis of ethnicity, nationality, race, gender, sexual preference, religion or disability.
- Be harmful to children in any way

### **News Programs**

News programs (including news flashes and ad-hoc news updates) transmitted by 2CBD FM **must**;

- Present news accurately.
- Not present news in such way as to create public panic, or unnecessary distress to listeners.
- Distinguish news from comment.

### **Contests**

All contests transmitted by 2CBD FM **must**;

1. (a) be conducted fairly
- (b) Announce winners on air as soon as practical
- (c) Be restricted to members of the public and exclude;
  - (i) Employees and volunteers of 2CBD FM
  - (ii) Family members of employees or volunteers of 2CBD FM

### **Political Programming / Commentary**

2CBD FM is an apolitical radio broadcaster. Program content of a political nature **MUST** always be clearly identified as such. Presenters and producers must ensure that content presented has been researched and that due consideration has been given to all points of view. Fair and reasonable opportunity must be given to all parties involved in the respective issue or discussion.

### **Legalities**

2CBD FM is responsible for ensuring that all transmitted material meets with ACMA guidelines and the BROADCASTING ACT 1992 legal requirements. The station is responsible for any breaches and is liable for defamatory material even if on-air or production personnel did not write or record the offending material.

**DEFAMATION:** broadcasting a statement that is likely to make 'reasonable people' think worse about a person or group may constitute DEFAMATION.

Expressing what is perceived as the truth for the betterment of the wider community is NOT a safeguard against legal suit. When in doubt volunteers should consult with the management committee.

**OBSCENITY:** It is an offence for 2CBD FM to broadcast indecent or obscene matter.

**Material is obscene if it;**

- (a) Offends, to a substantial degree, the average man or woman in the Australian community;
- (b) Offends, to a substantial degree, the contemporary standards of decency currently accepted by the Australian community.

2CBD FM advises the presenters and producers of the station that, because of the impact that obscene matter may have on listeners, the following considerations must be undertaken prior to going to transmission;

- (i) The added value that the obscenity has to the purpose of the program (ie. context and justification);
- (ii) Pre-transmission warning given to listeners (ie. disclaimer);
- (iii) Age of likely listeners;
- (iv) Time of broadcast.

**Sensitive Material**

No program shall;

- (a) Contain any explanation of techniques of crime in such a way as to invite imitation;
- (b) Describe in detail any form of violence or brutality;
- (c) incite a person to violence;
- (d) Simulate news or events in such a way as to alarm, distress or mislead listeners;
- (e) Denigrate religious faiths or beliefs;
- (f) Present as desirable the abuse of intoxicating liquor;
- (g) Present as desirable the use of illegal drugs or narcotics;
- (h) Include horror for its own sake;
- (i) Encourage children to enter strange places or to converse with strangers for any purpose.

These standards are applicable provided that they do not prohibit the broadcasting - in good faith and at appropriate times, under appropriate circumstances - of;

- (i) Genuine works of artistic or literary merit; and

- (ii) The serious presentation of moral and social issues.

In these circumstances warning of the nature of the program must be given in advance publicity, at its commencement and at appropriate intervals during the program. Prior consultation with the management committee is required before broadcasting such material.

### **Outside Broadcasts**

2CBD may arrange to broadcast from events or locations away from the studio from time-to-time. During the period of time that the Outside Broadcast is occurring the usual program schedule will be suspended.

### **Absences**

If a presenter is unable to attend for their program, they should advise the station as soon as they become aware that they will need to be absent.

For long term absences (of 3 or more scheduled programs) 2CBD will make every effort to accommodate the return of the absent presenter to a regular program however there is no guarantee that this will always be possible or that the presenter will be offered the same timeslot that they occupied prior to their absence.

If a presenter is absent from their usual program without an explanation three times in a row or otherwise demonstrates a pattern of absences, the Management Committee of 2CBD may decide to allocate that presenter's timeslot to another volunteer presenter.