

Sean McQueen

From: Nicholas Brody
Sent: Thursday, 10 September 2020 10:16 AM
To: Mary Stavropoulos
Cc: Sean McQueen
Subject: RE: Recognition and Restoration of Scout and Guide Callsigns - Amateur Radio Callsign Template [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Hi Mary – thanks for following up, your proposal sounds good.

Cheers,

Nicholas Brody
Manager
Spectrum Licensing Policy

Australian Communications and Media Authority
T +61 3 9963 6756
M 0408 678 764
E nicholas.brody@acma.gov.au
www.acma.gov.au



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I would like to acknowledge the traditional custodians of this land on which we meet, work and live. I recognise and respect their continuing connection to the land, waters and communities. I pay my respect to Elders past and present and to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders.

From: Mary Stavropoulos <Mary.Stavropoulos@acma.gov.au>
Sent: Wednesday, 9 September 2020 5:11 PM
To: Nicholas Brody <Nicholas.Brody@acma.gov.au>
Cc: Sean McQueen <Sean.McQueen@acma.gov.au>
Subject: RE: Recognition and Restoration of Scout and Guide Callsigns - Amateur Radio Callsign Template [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Hi Nick

I spoke to [REDACTED] from AMC. Until recently they hadn't received any applications for a call sign within these blocks. They had one the other day and recognised that it used to be on the reserve list for girl guides. [REDACTED] was going to check in with us to confirm if it was ok to issue under the new arrangements. [REDACTED] won't issue it now.

[REDACTED] is happy to remove these 2 blocks from the available call sign blocks on the AMC website and to introduce a process to consider applications for these call signs with an accompanying letter of authorisation from Scouts organisations. There are about 1100 call signs in these blocks. It would not create a shortage of call signs for other amateurs.

I can email [REDACTED] advising that we are updating our policy to remove these blocks from the available call sign template. The AMC can then remove access from the available call signs online and treat applications from girl guides and scouts separately from the reserve list. Also draft email to Scouts Victoria.

Regards,
Mary

From: Nicholas Brody <Nicholas.Brody@acma.gov.au>
Sent: Wednesday, 9 September 2020 9:28 AM
To: Patrick Emery <Patrick.Emery@acma.gov.au>; Sean McQueen <Sean.McQueen@acma.gov.au>; Mary Stavropoulos <Mary.Stavropoulos@acma.gov.au>; Stewart White <Stewart.White@acma.gov.au>
Subject: RE: Recognition and Restoration of Scout and Guide Callsigns - Amateur Radio Callsign Template [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Agreed – this all seems reasonable to me. Mary – can I ask you to follow up with AMC?

Cheers,

Nicholas Brody
Manager
Spectrum Licensing Policy

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From: Patrick Emery <Patrick.Emery@acma.gov.au>
Sent: Wednesday, 9 September 2020 9:26 AM
To: Sean McQueen <Sean.McQueen@acma.gov.au>; Nicholas Brody <Nicholas.Brody@acma.gov.au>; Mary Stavropoulos <Mary.Stavropoulos@acma.gov.au>; Stewart White <Stewart.White@acma.gov.au>
Subject: RE: Recognition and Restoration of Scout and Guide Callsigns - Amateur Radio Callsign Template [SEC=OFFICIAL]

My understanding is that there are/were specific callsigns allocated to Scouts/Guides. But I don't think there's anything in there about requiring an authorising letter (though it seems reasonable enough).

From: Sean McQueen <Sean.McQueen@acma.gov.au>
Sent: Wednesday, 9 September 2020 9:22 AM
To: Patrick Emery <Patrick.Emery@acma.gov.au>; Nicholas Brody <Nicholas.Brody@acma.gov.au>; Mary Stavropoulos <Mary.Stavropoulos@acma.gov.au>; Stewart White <Stewart.White@acma.gov.au>
Subject: FW: Recognition and Restoration of Scout and Guide Callsigns - Amateur Radio Callsign Template [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Might need to call the AMC to see if they've allocated some already to non-scout entities...
Is this the current practice?: "We encourage ACMA and ACM to only allocate the VKnGGA – VKnGGZ and VKnSAA – VKnSDZ blocks to when applications are accompanied by an authorising letter from the relevant Scout or Girl Guide Association(s)."

From: Patrick Emery <Patrick.Emery@acma.gov.au>
Sent: Wednesday, 9 September 2020 8:25 AM
To: Radcoms Licensing <radcomslicensing@acma.gov.au>; Sean McQueen <Sean.McQueen@acma.gov.au>
Cc: Stewart White <Stewart.White@acma.gov.au>
Subject: Re: Recognition and Restoration of Scout and Guide Callsigns - Amateur Radio Callsign Template [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Hi Sean,

I have no in-principle objection to what's being proposed here.

Regards,

Patrick

From: Radcoms Licensing <radcomslicensing@acma.gov.au>
Sent: Tuesday, September 8, 2020 4:52:46 PM
To: Sean McQueen <Sean.McQueen@acma.gov.au>
Cc: Stewart White <Stewart.White@acma.gov.au>; Patrick Emery <Patrick.Emery@acma.gov.au>
Subject: FW: Recognition and Restoration of Scout and Guide Callsigns - Amateur Radio Callsign Template [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Hi Sean,

Email from Scouts Victoria as discussed.

Regards Laureen

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, 24 August 2020 1:17 PM
To: Radcoms Licensing <radcomslicensing@acma.gov.au>
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Recognition and Restoration of Scout and Guide Callsigns - Amateur Radio Callsign Template

Dear Radcoms Licencing Team,

I refer to recent communications between Kent Cochran (Scouts Victoria) and Laureen Harrison (Senior Licensing Officer, Licence Allocation Section), the most recent being 6 August 2020. I also understand several phone calls have been made to both AMC and ACMA offices. Our concern relates to an apparent oversight in administration of the new Amateur Radio Callsign template, administered by Australian Maritime Collage and approved by Australian Communications and Media Authority.

Scouts Australia and Girl Guide Australia have been previously recognised by the ACMA in the form of a special callsign blocks (VKnGGA-VK nGGZ and VKnSAA – VKnSDZ) in the callsign templates. These well-known callsign blocks have historic context dating back to when the Australian Government departments and subsequent agencies (including ACMA's predecessors SMA and DOC) administered and allocated amateur radio callsigns. This recognition specifically identified callsign blocks VKnGGA - VKnGGZ for Girl Guides Australia and VKnSAA – VKnSDZ for Scouts Australia. I have provided two examples of the established callsign template. The first dating back to December 2011 (WIA documentation) and the second as recently as 24 February 2020 (AMC documentation).

This special recognition and related call signs help amateur operators both in Australia and World Wide to recognise the young voices heard are Girl Guides and Scouts undertaking training and activities under the support and

supervision of licenced operators. It should be noted that this amateur radio activity is totally compatible with the established Club Station licence conditions in Australia.

In addition to multiple smaller training and activity events, each year over 10,000 Scout and Guides in Australia join with over a million other Scouts and Girl Guides around the world participate in the international Jamboree on the Air (JOTA) conducted on the 3rd weekend in October. This year will mark the 63rd JOTA and is combined with the 24th Jamboree on the Internet (JOTI).

On behalf of Scouts and Girl Guides around Australia I request the following continuation of previous policy and practices including:

- recognition of the role Scouts and Girl Guides play in amateur radio training and promotion of the hobby
- ongoing recognition that training young people in amateur radio is supportive of Government STEM policies
- callsign block conventions regarding Scout and Girl Guides be retained.

We encourage ACMA and ACM to only allocate the VKnGGA – VKnGGZ and VKnSAA – VKnSDZ blocks to when applications are accompanied by an authorising letter from the relevant Scout or Girl Guide Association(s).

I look forward to your consideration of this matter and response.

Yours sincerely



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