

## REPEATERS USER'S GUIDE

### **Southwest Dallas County Amateur Radio Club**

You are welcome to use the clubs repeaters provided that you adhere to **Part 97 of the FCC Rules and Regulations** and any and all rules and guidelines presented as follows by the club and its net control operators. The repeaters are located in Cedar Hill, TX and are normally available 24 hours per day. During a regular scheduled training net, special events activity or during emergency conditions, the repeaters will be under the direction of a net control operator.

### REPEATERS

- A. The VHF 2 Meter repeater **W5WB** on **147.060** output frequency has a + positive offset. The CTCSS tone (PL Tone) of **110.9** is required to access the repeater. The input frequency is **147.660**.
- B. The UHF 70 cm repeater **W5AUY** on **444.500** output frequency has a + positive offset. No CTCSS tone is needed. The input frequency is **449.500**.
- C. The repeaters are programmed to identify on a regular basis in Morse code. **W5WB** or **W5AUY** as applicable.

### AUTHORIZED USERS

The repeaters are available for access to all licensed amateur radio operators. Malicious interferences with the repeaters is a violation of FCC rules and regulations and are subject to sanctions. The following guidelines are for common courtesy and common procedures. Adhering to these

practices will help make the repeater an enjoyable experience for all ages. Always be courteous and respectful of others. FCC rules apply at all times. **See section 97.205(e) of the FCC rules.**

## **REPEATERS OPERATION PRACTICES**

The following guidelines will assist you in using the repeaters.

- Monitor the repeater (sometime called “the machine”) to become familiar with any peculiarity with the repeater. Listen and listen again before making a call to see if the repeater is in use. Remember repeaters are like party-lines for all to hear.
- To initiate a contact simply verify that you are on frequency. Give your call sign and say “monitoring” will suffice.
- Please don’t “ker-chunk” (key up without identifying yourself) the repeater to see if your radio and/or the repeater is working. That is an illegal transmission per the FCC. To verify it is working and the frequency is clear, give your call sign and say “testing”.
- Identify legally; you must identify at the end of a transmissions or series of transmission and at least once each 10 minutes during communication. Just simply say you’re ID and nothing else.
- Pause between transmissions. Wait until the signal drops (your S-meter will show you when there is no signal from the repeater, sometimes called hang time) before responding. This will keep transmissions clear and not cut off part of what is being said. It will also give opportunity for others to have access to the repeater.

- Should you want access to the repeater say your call sign and wait to be recognized. It is poor etiquette to break into a conversation unless you have an emergency or you can add substance to the conversation.
- Keep transmission short and thoughtful. Your long comments may prevent someone with an emergency from using the repeater. Give other hams an opportunity to use the repeater. Move long conversations to a simplex frequency if possible.
- When you hear “BREAK, BREAK” always yield to emergency communications. See **Emergency Situation below**.
- Use the minimum amount of power necessary to maintain clear communications. This **FCC regulation [97.313(a)]** minimizes the possibility of accessing a distant repeater on the same frequency. Always listen closely for the other ham’s call sign.
- With access to mobile phones we do not offer auto patch.
- For complete details on repeaters etiquette refer to your ARRL Operating Manual for Radio Amateurs.
- Conducting or promoting commercial business is prohibited by FCC **Part 97 of the FCC Rules and Regulations**.
- SWDCARC repeaters are maintained at considerable expense and regular users should contribute to the support, care and upkeep of the

repeaters. You're certainly welcomed to join our club and participate fully in all our amateur radio activities.

## **NETS**

SWDCARC net meet each Monday evening at 8:00PM, except on specific holidays. This net is directed by a control operator who will give specific instructions on how the net is conducted. The purpose of the net is to learn and practice net procedures and to share general items of interest and information to SWDCARC amateur operators. All stations licensed to operate on the 2 meter amateur radio band are welcomed to check into our net.

## **SKYWARN**

During severe weather outbreaks an informal NET may convene to provide urgent weather observation information to the Radio Officer at an Emergency Operation Center of our community who will relay to the National Weather Service. Qualification to participate in the **SKYWARN** program requires National Weather Service Certificate of Training.

<http://www.srh.noaa.gov/fwd/>

"SKYWARN is a registered trade mark of the NWS"

## **EMERGENCY SITUATION**

If you have an emergency situation arise which threatens life or property you can break into a conversation with the words: BREAK, BREAK! At that moment all other QSO's must end to allow for the priority call. During a controlled net operation the net control person will assist in the situation. To provide all the necessary information, remember the acronym H. A. N. D.

H - What do you <b>HAVE</b>	"I Have a _____"
A – Where are you <b>AT</b>	"At _____"
N - What do you <b>NEED</b>	"I Need _____"
D – Other useful <b>DETAILS</b>	"and _____"

## PHONETIC ALPHABET

A – Alpha	N - November
B – Bravo	O - Oscar
C – Charlie	P - Papa
D – Delta	Q - Quebec
E – Echo	R - Romeo
F – Foxtrot	S - Sierra
G – Golf	T - Tango
H – Hotel	U - Uniform
I – India	V - Victor
J – Juliet	W - Whiskey
K – Kilo	X - X-ray
L – Lima	Y - Yankee
M – Mike	Z – Zulu

\*Content from "The ARRL Repeater Directory"