

**NOOSA DISTRICT COMMUNITY RADIO ASSOCIATION INCORPORATED
POLICY STATEMENT 3.12 - OFFENSIVE LANGUAGE ON AIR**

1. This policy has been written to define the station's policy on broadcasting potentially offensive language.
2. Regardless of any provisions of this policy, all presenters must be aware of requirements in the CBAA Codes of Practice that affect the content of broadcast material. Presenters must become and remain familiar with the Codes of Practice in force from time to time.
3. The station will not broadcast words or phrases likely to give gratuitous offence to listeners who represent the mainstream of Australian society.
4. The station will not allow listeners to censor or restrict the station's use of words or phrases that are common in all parts of Australian society.
5. Presenters must not themselves use language likely to offend members of the audience who might reasonably be expected to be listening at the time. While the terms cannot be defined with universal agreement, this includes swearing and profanity.
6. Some recorded material (as opposed to material broadcast live from events) contains language that might reasonably be expected to offend members of the audience who might reasonably be expected to be listening at the time. Such material may only be broadcast between 6 pm and 6 am, and presenters broadcasting such material must
 - a. warn listeners at the start of the programme that some recorded material contains language that may not be to everybody's taste, and that each occurrence will be notified in advance so that a listener who does not wish to hear it may stop listening briefly;
 - b. warn listeners immediately before potentially offensive material is played, using words that are not intended to demean or insult those likely to take offence, or emphases that are similarly intended.
7. The station will not list "unacceptable" or "acceptable" words, either as guidelines for, or as instructions to, presenters. Presenters are personally responsible for understanding their likely audience and its sensitivities, which will vary over the day and the week, and for avoiding offence.
8. Presenters who breach this policy may be subject to restriction or withdrawal of their broadcast privileges.
9. This policy shall not be used to prohibit or restrict presenters from expressing ideas or opinions that are or may be in conflict with commonly-held attitudes, or to question such attitudes, provided that such expression or questioning is not intended to be demeaning or insulting to those who hold or support such attitudes. A presenter who intends to counter or question commonly-held attitudes must make a disclaimer at the start of his/her programme to the effect that opinions expressed in the programme are those of the presenter, not necessarily those of the station or of other presenters.