



The Wireless Institute of Australia

Wireless Institute of Australia

Future of Amateur Radio Program

Poll #1: Callsign Structure - Results

Background

The Wireless Institute of Australia has introduced the “Future of Amateur Radio” program to run a series of polls to gain the views of Australian licenced operators.

These results will be provided to the ACMA in an effort to provide evidence to support changes to the LCD and associated legislation / regulation.

Background

Each poll is preceded with an information paper to provide some color around each topic.

The polls is sent to members of the WIA and any Australian licence holder that chooses to register at <http://poll.wia.org.au>.

The WIA has been marketing subscription to the program since late 2019

Background

The poll is administered by using the ACMA Client Number as the voting key.

Each ACMA client can lodge only one vote (with duplicates being discarded and only the latest vote retained)

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Poll #1: Australian Callsign Structure

Poll #1 is centered on callsign structure there were 5 options proposed:

1. Permit any operator to have a 3 letter callsign
2. Allocate Foundation holders one or more 3 letter blocks (eg: VK?Q??)
3. Allocate Foundation holders a totally separate prefix (ie: not VK)
4. No change - keep the existing F-Call
5. None of the above

Summary

The results of Poll #1 demonstrate a clear preference for Option #1.

- Over 25% of ~13500 unique licence holders in Australia received the opportunity to vote.
- 2294 valid votes were received
- 59.7% of the preferences were for Option 1

Based on these results, and in keeping with the ACMA's desire for evidence based regulation, the WIA, on behalf of Australian Operators calls on the ACMA to swiftly align the callsign structure with this result.

Poll Process

The merged list of unique recipients totalled approximately 4500.

Each recipient was sent, by email, a unique invitation to vote that was stamped with their name, and the ACMA Client ID. The poll was run for 20 days from the 16th of February, 2020, with several “reminders” sent during this process.

At the completion of the poll the results were captured and merged with the RRL to validate the results.

If the ACMA wishes to inspect & validate the detailed results they may do so under strict NDA.

Limitations of Poll

The biggest issue with delivery of invitations related to invalid email addresses in the WIA member database.

The WIA has undertaken to contact those operators who have been identified as having invalid email contacts to ensure they are included in future polls.

The second limitation identified relates to operators who no longer have valid licences (and therefore no longer appear in the RRL). The WIA has contacted operators, where possible, to inform them of this issue and encourage them to renew their licence.



Polling Results (Overall)

Total successful invitations sent:	3424	(25.25% of cohort)
Total votes received:	2294	(17.44% of cohort)
Option 1:	1370	(59.72% of votes received)
Option 2:	422	(18.40% of votes received)
Option 3:	248	(10.81% of votes received)
Option 4:	231	(10.07% of votes received)
Option 5:	23	(1.00% of votes received)

Polling Results (Detail)

	Total Unique Operators In RRL	Total Valid Votes	Option 1	Option 2	Option 3	Option 4	Option 5
Total	13557	2,294.00	1370	422	248	231	23
Advanced	8963	1,705.00	912	361	220	193	19
Standard	2006	273.00	185	43	21	22	2
Foundation	2588	316.00	273	18	7	16	2

Polling Results (% of Total Votes)

	Total Valid Votes	Option 1	Option 2	Option 3	Option 4	Option 5
Total	2,294.00	59.72%	18.40%	10.81%	10.07%	1.00%
Advanced	1,705.00	53.49%	21.17%	12.90%	11.32%	1.11%
Standard	273.00	67.77%	15.75%	7.69%	8.06%	0.73%
Foundation	316.00	86.39%	5.70%	2.22%	5.06%	0.63%

Polling Results (% of Cohort)

	Total Unique Operators In RRL	Option 1	Option 2	Option 3	Option 4	Option 5
Total	13557	10.11%	3.11%	1.83%	1.70%	0.17%
Advanced	8963	10.18%	4.03%	2.45%	2.15%	0.21%
Standard	2006	9.22%	2.14%	1.05%	1.10%	0.10%
Foundation	2588	10.55%	0.70%	0.27%	0.62%	0.08%