

## Sean McQueen

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**From:** Aidan Mountford <aidan@mountford.org>  
**Sent:** Thursday, 9 April 2020 4:40 PM  
**To:** Greg  
**Cc:** Sean McQueen; Nicholas Brody  
**Subject:** Re: Future of Amateur Radio: Poll #1 Results. [SEC=OFFICIAL]

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Completed

**Categories:** Yellow Category

Hey guys,

It is also worthy of note that the comments included with those who voted for option #1 demonstrate that the message was understood by those who were voting (ie allow all classes access to 3 character callsigns)

I can provide these if it adds colour.

A

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**Aidan Mountford**  
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**From:** "Greg" <gregk.altera@gmail.com>  
**To:** "Sean McQueen" <Sean.McQueen@acma.gov.au>  
**Cc:** "Aidan Mountford" <aidan@mountford.org>, "Nicholas Brody" <Nicholas.Brody@acma.gov.au>  
**Sent:** Thursday, 9 April, 2020 15:38:45  
**Subject:** Re: Future of Amateur Radio: Poll #1 Results. [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Hi Sean,

This is to confirm that the information paper (as attached in Aidan's email) covering the feature/benefits and implications of each callsign option **was provided to all who registered for poll**. i.e All respondents had access to this information to assist in completing the poll with knowledge of the feature/benefits and implications of each choice.

Further, Option 1 (the majority option from the poll) was proposed as part of the WIA joint response to last year's (2019) LCD consultation as a co-requisite of allowing digital emission modes for Foundation Licence (FL) holders due to the known limitations of some digital modes restricting access to 6 character callsigns. This consultation response was a joint submission and was ratified by 3 additional substantive representative bodies: ALARA (Australian Ladies Amateur Radio Association), ARNSW (Amateur Radio New South Wales) and ARVIC (Amateur Radio Victoria). The exposure draft consultation response was also provided to the WIA's 100 plus affiliated radio clubs for comment and feedback.

Whilst it is clear that existing Foundation Licence holder may retain their existing callsign at their discretion in the documentation we provided, the intent is that they may retain this and also request a new 3 character callsign. This is inline with existing practice whereby Radio Amateurs (Advanced Licence) hold multiple callsigns, Standard licence holders are also intended to be availed of requesting any 3 letter suffix callsign, It is imperative, of course, that the "any 3 letter suffix callsign" obviously excludes callsigns on the "reserved list" and that 2 character suffix callsigns remain available only to Advanced licence holders as these are in high demand as in many states demand exceeds availability.

**Important Implementation Note:** The WIA would have no objection to the same ruleset of "any licence, any callsign" applying equally to 4 Character suffix callsigns and being available to any licence holders. This would be with no restriction on the character set (i.e no requirement for the first character to be "F"), Hence allowing allowing for vanity calls such as VK6MIKE and may take some of the pressure of the two character callsign allocations. The existing reserved list exclusions should apply to the first 2 or 3 characters of the four characters to avoid unintended consequences, as well as the usual expletive exclusions. Obviously the same digital mode restrictions apply, hence most likely this would be an additional callsign for those deciding to avail themselves of this option. This would free both the 3 character and 4 character suffix allocation blocks of unnecessary restrictions to availability. The effort of including this in business process changes for Option 1 would be minimal for AMC.

Greg Kelly  
WIA President

On Thu, Apr 2, 2020 at 2:37 PM Sean McQueen <[Sean.McQueen@acma.gov.au](mailto:Sean.McQueen@acma.gov.au)> wrote:

Hi Aiden and Greg

As I am sure you are aware, there has been quite a flurry of communication about call signs this week.

We are progressing the matter and have commenced responding to enquiries, indicating that we are considering options presented to us by both the WIA and RASA, and will notify the amateur community when we settle on a decision.

I would just like to confirm that respondents to the survey conducted by the WIA were given the opportunity to view the attached information paper, and were therefore apprised of the implication that option 1 entailed both the facilitation of access to certain digital modes by foundation licensees, as well as the "removal of all "licence class" based callsign allocation".

It was conveyed to me that the attached information paper is the information paper referred to on p. 3 of the attached presentation of results, but I note that the results do not entirely make clear what is fully involved with option 1.

Thanks, and happy to discuss.

**Sean McQueen**  
Senior Policy Advisor

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**From:** Sean McQueen  
**Sent:** Monday, 16 March 2020 10:40 AM  
**To:** 'Aidan Mountford' <[aidan@mountford.org](mailto:aidan@mountford.org)>; Nicholas Brody <[Nicholas.Brody@acma.gov.au](mailto:Nicholas.Brody@acma.gov.au)>  
**Cc:** Greg Kelly <[gregk.altera@gmail.com](mailto:gregk.altera@gmail.com)>  
**Subject:** RE: Future of Amateur Radio: Poll #1 Results. [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Hi Aiden and Greg

Thank you for sending this through, as well as the information paper.

Based on our discussion on Friday, Nicholas and I are satisfied with the description of the methodology and process, and do not require further information.

We'd like to share the attached with the AMC. I trust that is okay?

We'll review these results and be in touch soon.

Kind regards

**Sean McQueen**  
Senior Policy Advisor

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**From:** Aidan Mountford <[aidan@mountford.org](mailto:aidan@mountford.org)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, 12 March 2020 3:08 PM  
**To:** Nicholas Brody <[Nicholas.Brody@acma.gov.au](mailto:Nicholas.Brody@acma.gov.au)>; Sean McQueen <[Sean.McQueen@acma.gov.au](mailto:Sean.McQueen@acma.gov.au)>  
**Cc:** Greg Kelly <[gregk.altera@gmail.com](mailto:gregk.altera@gmail.com)>  
**Subject:** Future of Amateur Radio: Poll #1 Results.

Nicholas,

Please find attached the results of the WIAs poll into callsign structure.

If the ACMA would like to review the detailed results this can be done under strict NDA.

The results demonstrates three things:

- The community would like the callsign structure altered - we request that the ACMA undertake to make whatever changes are required to support making 3 letter callsigns available to all operators prior to the end of March, 2020.
- The process used was well received and withstands scrutiny.
- The community would like their voices heard on other issues of significance to them, specifically, power levels across licence classes, and a new licence model

We look forward to talking with you tomorrow to address any questions you may have regarding this

process and to discuss how the WIA and ACMA can leverage this process to further the Amateur Radio

service in Australia.

Please note: These results are embargoed from public release until Monday next week, the

16th of March, 2020. We respectfully request that they are not distributed to any third parties without

consent.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me on [REDACTED]

Kind regards

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