

Sean McQueen

From: Patrick Emery
Sent: Friday, 6 November 2020 2:32 PM
To: Sean McQueen
Cc: Nicholas Brody
Subject: FW: State/Territory indicators in amateur callsigns [SEC=OFFICIAL]

From: Patrick Emery
Sent: Tuesday, 14 April 2020 9:37 AM
To: Nicole OLoughlin <nicole.oloughlin@acma.gov.au>; Julie Lyons <Julie.Lyons@acma.gov.au>
Cc: Stewart White <Stewart.White@acma.gov.au>; Sean McQueen <Sean.McQueen@acma.gov.au>
Subject: FW: State/Territory indicators in amateur callsigns [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Hi Nicole/Julie,

I hope you both managed to have a decent Easter break.

The enquiry below concerns advice given to an amateur regarding the 'requirement' to obtain a new callsign when an amateur licensee moves interstate. It's been the historical practice that amateurs obtain a new callsign when they move interstate, and I expect it's this practice that's reflected in CSC guidance. But given there's no regulatory requirement for a state-based callsign, we are not insisting up on amateurs getting a new callsign when they move interstate. Basically, it's up to them whether they want a new callsign.

So given that, can you please revise the advice given to amateurs in relation to changing address:

- The previous CSC advice about changing address details remains current.
- The ACMA does not require amateur licensees to obtain a new callsign when they move interstate.

Happy to discuss.

Cheers

Patrick

From: Patrick Emery
Sent: Tuesday, 14 April 2020 9:30 AM
To: 'Glenn Dunstan' [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED] Stewart White <Stewart.White@acma.gov.au>; Nicholas Brody <Nicholas.Brody@acma.gov.au>
Subject: RE: State/Territory indicators in amateur callsigns [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Hi Glenn,

The regulatory requirement is only for the licensee's change of address to be updated. While it has been the historical practice for amateur users to change callsigns after moving interstate, it is not a regulatory requirement to do so. I will convey this to our Customer Service Centre staff to minimise the risk of confusion.

Regards,

Patrick Emery
Manager
Licence Allocation Section

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From: Glenn Dunstan [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, 14 April 2020 8:19 AM
To: Patrick Emery <Patrick.Emery@acma.gov.au>
Cc: [REDACTED] Stewart White
<Stewart.White@acma.gov.au>; Nicholas Brody <Nicholas.Brody@acma.gov.au>
Subject: RE: State/Territory indicators in amateur callsigns [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Hello Patrick

Reference the numeric issue as discussed below, I have received a query from an amateur who wrote to your CSC regarding retaining his callsign when moving interstate.

He was provided with the following advice:

The reasons for changing call signs upon relocating interstate are a consequence of having to update the details on an amateur licence. Under section 10 of the LCD, a licensee must not operate an amateur station (that is not beacon or repeater) at a location not mentioned in the corresponding licence for a continuous period longer than 4 months. Should the licensee permanently move interstate, or relocate temporarily for a period exceeding 4 months, the licensee should ask the ACMA to consider changing the location mentioned in the licence to the new location.

When the licence is updated, this should be reflected in the call sign, with the Deed providing that "When an amateur moves interstate to live, he or she will be issued a new callsign to indicate the new State or Territory of residence."

This appears to be at variance with the advice in your email below.

It seems to me that the crux of the issue is: will ACMA accept an address change to a different State/Territory without a callsign change?

Appreciate if you could clear this up.

Regards
Glenn

From: Patrick Emery <Patrick.Emery@acma.gov.au>
Sent: Tuesday, 17 March 2020 15:44
To: Glenn Dunstan [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED] Stewart White
<Stewart.White@acma.gov.au>; Nicholas Brody <Nicholas.Brody@acma.gov.au>
Subject: RE: State/Territory indicators in amateur callsigns [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Hi Glenn,

Apologies for the late reply. As you may appreciate, it's been a bit topsy-turvy around here. There are a couple of separate issues for amateurs moving interstate:

- (1) Updating the RRL to reflect the change in address (noting that some amateur licensees only provide a PO Box, which is their prerogative)
- (2) Obtaining a new callsign when the licensee moves interstate.

The first issue is a regulatory requirement, as per section 147 of the Radcomms Act and the RRL Determination.

The second issue is a matter of operational policy/amateur radio practice and, to the best of our understanding, not prescribed in any amateur regulatory instrument. Indeed, the detailed syntax of callsigns isn't prescribed. Notwithstanding what's in the Deed, there is no regulatory requirement for an amateur to obtain (and use) a new callsign when they move interstate – the only requirement is that they transmit using a callsign as per the LCD requirement. That said, the current arrangement for callsign policy and procedures is set out in the Deed and on the AMC website. But it's not a regulatory requirement to obtain a new callsign.

Happy to discuss further (apologies for missing your call earlier as well).

Regards,

Patrick Emery

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From: Glenn Dunstan [REDACTED]
Sent: Sunday, 15 March 2020 3:00 PM
To: Patrick Emery <Patrick.Emery@acma.gov.au>
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: State/Territory indicators in amateur callsigns

Hello Patrick,

I write as the AMC advisor.

We have been contacted by amateurs who claim that an amateur moving interstate is only required to notify ACMA of their new address, and a callsign change is not required. Some have stated that this is now ACMA policy.

It has always been my understanding that a callsign change *is* required if an amateur moves interstate permanently.

This is reflected in note 1 to table 1 in appendix 2 of the deed, which states:

Note:

1. State/Territory indicators (\$) are used to indicate a station's licensed location. When an amateur moves interstate to live, he or she will be issued a new callsign to indicate the new State or Territory of residence.

Can you confirm that this policy remains extant?

Regards
Glenn

Glenn Dunstan
Advisor to the AMC

