

Sean McQueen

From: Patrick Emery
Sent: Wednesday, 7 October 2020 10:29 AM
To: Mary Stavropoulos
Cc: Nicholas Brody; Sean McQueen; Stewart White
Subject: RE: Scout and Guide callsign blocks [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Thanks Mary.

Cheers

Patrick

From: Mary Stavropoulos <Mary.Stavropoulos@acma.gov.au>
Sent: Wednesday, 7 October 2020 10:15 AM
To: Patrick Emery <Patrick.Emery@acma.gov.au>
Cc: Nicholas Brody <Nicholas.Brody@acma.gov.au>; Sean McQueen <Sean.McQueen@acma.gov.au>; Stewart White <Stewart.White@acma.gov.au>
Subject: RE: Scout and Guide callsign blocks [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Hi Patrick

Sure I'll follow up and let you know.

Mary

From: Patrick Emery <Patrick.Emery@acma.gov.au>
Sent: Wednesday, 7 October 2020 10:13 AM
To: Stewart White <Stewart.White@acma.gov.au>; Mary Stavropoulos <Mary.Stavropoulos@acma.gov.au>
Cc: Nicholas Brody <Nicholas.Brody@acma.gov.au>; Sean McQueen <Sean.McQueen@acma.gov.au>
Subject: RE: Scout and Guide callsign blocks [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Thanks Mary and Stew.

Mary – do you mind confirming with ACMA (approximately) how many callsigns remain available? If there is 1000 in the Scouts/Guides block, then surely there'd be at least 10x that in other blocks?

Cheers

Patrick

From: Stewart White <Stewart.White@acma.gov.au>
Sent: Wednesday, 7 October 2020 10:00 AM
To: Mary Stavropoulos <Mary.Stavropoulos@acma.gov.au>; Patrick Emery <Patrick.Emery@acma.gov.au>
Cc: Nicholas Brody <Nicholas.Brody@acma.gov.au>; Sean McQueen <Sean.McQueen@acma.gov.au>
Subject: RE: Scout and Guide callsign blocks [SEC=OFFICIAL]

I can confirm this as well, see Mary's email attached. I like your response.

From: Mary Stavropoulos <Mary.Stavropoulos@acma.gov.au>
Sent: Wednesday, 7 October 2020 9:51 AM
To: Patrick Emery <Patrick.Emery@acma.gov.au>
Cc: Stewart White <Stewart.White@acma.gov.au>; Nicholas Brody <Nicholas.Brody@acma.gov.au>; Sean McQueen <Sean.McQueen@acma.gov.au>
Subject: RE: Scout and Guide callsign blocks [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Hi Patrick

Yes [REDACTED] advised that there is not shortage. I'm happy to confirm what is available.

Mary

From: Patrick Emery <Patrick.Emery@acma.gov.au>
Sent: Wednesday, 7 October 2020 9:48 AM
To: Stewart White <Stewart.White@acma.gov.au>; Nicholas Brody <Nicholas.Brody@acma.gov.au>; Sean McQueen <Sean.McQueen@acma.gov.au>; Mary Stavropoulos <Mary.Stavropoulos@acma.gov.au>
Subject: FW: Scout and Guide callsign blocks [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Hi everyone,

My understanding is that we checked with AMC and there is no shortage of available callsign blocks – can someone please confirm that? What (quantitative) order of callsigns remain available?

Assuming that there are sufficient callsigns still available, then my proposed response is along the lines of 'We understand that there are sufficient callsigns still available. In the event that there is an impending shortage, we will consider other amendments to the callsign structure, such as proposed in your email.'

Thoughts?

Cheers

Patrick

From: Glenn Dunstan [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, 2 October 2020 1:50 PM
To: Patrick Emery <Patrick.Emery@acma.gov.au>
Cc: [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] Nicholas Brody <Nicholas.Brody@acma.gov.au>; Sean McQueen <Sean.McQueen@acma.gov.au>; Mary Stavropoulos <Mary.Stavropoulos@acma.gov.au>; Stewart White <Stewart.White@acma.gov.au>
Subject: RE: Scout and Guide callsign blocks [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Hello Patrick

No, I haven't discussed it with the scouts and guides – I don't have any contacts there. However, I imagine their response would be that they want to keep the blocks....

With respect, discussing the template structure with stakeholders is not really AMC's role. May I suggest that you speak to them.

Rgds
Glenn

From: Patrick Emery <Patrick.Emery@acma.gov.au>
Sent: Friday, 2 October 2020 12:13
To: Glenn Dunstan [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] Nicholas Brody <Nicholas.Brody@acma.gov.au>; Sean McQueen <Sean.McQueen@acma.gov.au>; Mary Stavropoulos <Mary.Stavropoulos@acma.gov.au>; Stewart White <Stewart.White@acma.gov.au>
Subject: RE: Scout and Guide callsign blocks [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Hi Glenn,

Thanks. As per Stewart White's suggestion to you the other day, have you discussed this revised approach with the Scouts and Guides? If so, do they have any concerns with it?

Regards,

Patrick

From: Glenn Dunstan [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, 1 October 2020 12:37 PM
To: Patrick Emery <Patrick.Emery@acma.gov.au>
Cc: [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] Nicholas Brody <Nicholas.Brody@acma.gov.au>; Sean McQueen <Sean.McQueen@acma.gov.au>; Mary Stavropoulos <Mary.Stavropoulos@acma.gov.au>
Subject: RE: Scout and Guide callsign blocks [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Hello Patrick

Martin and I have discussed this issue, and we propose the following way forward.

Our view is that the current scout block is too large – as evidenced by the less than 1% take up rate.

We accept that there is a historic precedent for issue of distinctive callsigns to guides and scouts; however this needs to be balanced against the need to streamline the template and maximise the amount of callsigns available to the general amateur populace.

So, as a compromise, we propose that the guide block be unchanged as GGA-GGZ but the scout block be amended to SAA-SAZ – this is the original scout block.

The scouts/guides retain their existing callsigns, they have GGA-GGZ and SAA-SAZ blocks reserved, and are, of course, free to apply for any other callsign.

This arrangement is also equitable – both organisations have the same amount of callsigns reserved.

Given the current very low take up rate, there are more than enough callsigns available from the GGA-GGZ and SAA-SAZ blocks.

Regards
Glenn

Glenn Dunstan
Advisor to the AMC

[REDACTED]

From: Glenn Dunstan
Sent: Thursday, 17 September 2020 10:31
To: Patrick Emery <Patrick.Emery@acma.gov.au>
Cc: [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] Nicholas Brody <Nicholas.Brody@acma.gov.au>; Sean McQueen <Sean.McQueen@acma.gov.au>; Sean McQueen <Sean.McQueen@acma.gov.au>; Mary Stavropoulos <Mary.Stavropoulos@acma.gov.au>
Subject: RE: Scout and Guide callsign blocks [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Thanks Patrick,

Re instituting the reservation means extra work for our limited IT resources, who are already very busy with the current changes.

Prior to proposing simplification of the template, I researched the former Scout and Guide callsign arrangements.

The arrangement for scouts reserves 1040 callsigns nationally. There are currently 40 of these callsigns issued.

There are a further 9 scout callsigns that are outside of their template.

The arrangement for guides reserves 260 callsigns nationally. There are currently 5 of these callsigns issued.

There is negligible growth in scout and guide callsigns.

It is thus very difficult to justify reservation of blocks of callsigns for organisations that have such a low take up rate, and are very unlikely to use even 10% of the blocks.

If the scouts and guides feel the need to reserve blocks, then they could consider purchasing a block of callsigns for their use.

It is an inefficient use of a limited resource to restrict such large blocks of callsigns. The historic precedent is not justified by the low take up rate.

Rgds
Glenn

From: Patrick Emery <Patrick.Emery@acma.gov.au>
Sent: Thursday, 17 September 2020 09:26
To: Glenn Dunstan [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]; Nicholas Brody <Nicholas.Brody@acma.gov.au>; Sean McQueen <Sean.McQueen@acma.gov.au>; Sean McQueen <Sean.McQueen@acma.gov.au>; Mary Stavropoulos <Mary.Stavropoulos@acma.gov.au>
Subject: Re: Scout and Guide callsign blocks [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Hi Glenn,

Thanks for your email. You are correct that the recent revision of the callsign template was intended to simply and streamline the callsign allocation process for AMC staff. However, subsequent to the publication of the revised callsign template, we received a submission on behalf of the Scouts/Guides requesting re-instatement of the previous reservation of the GGA-GGZ and SAA-SDZ callsign ranges, on the basis of the historical reservation and allocation of such callsigns for Scouts/Guides, and that the continuing reservation of such callsigns facilitates recognition and identification of Scout/Guide amateur radio users in club activities. We therefore instructed AMC to amend the callsign template.

Regards,

Patrick Emery
Manager
Licence Allocation Section

Australian Communications and Media Authority
T +61 3 9963 6874
E patrick.emery@acma.gov.au
acma.gov.au

Patrick

From: Glenn Dunstan [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, 15 September 2020 4:20 PM
To: Patrick Emery <Patrick.Emery@acma.gov.au>
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Scout and Guide callsign blocks

Hello Patrick

AMC have been contacted by ACMA and told to revert the GGA-GGZ and SAA-SDZ blocks to Girl Guides and Scouts.

One of the principles underpinning the recent revision of the template was simplification and hence streamlining of the callsign process for AMC staff.

That is, any three letter callsign was available for any licence class. There were to be no more reserved blocks within the three letter structure (apart from Rxx for beacons and repeaters).

Moreover, there has been negligible demand for new allocations from the former guide and scout blocks.

Can you ring me please to discuss.

Thanks
Glenn

Glenn Dunstan
Advisor to the AMC

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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