



Guidelines Governing the Conduct and Use of the KD4ATW Club Repeaters

1. The repeaters will be primarily used for local traffic and is open for ALL Amateur Radio Operators.
2. Control Stations and other users will not discourage anyone from using the repeaters. Those failing to use the repeater systems in accordance to these guidelines and typical Amateur repeater use will be asked politely to do so. The system is otherwise an open system and everyone is welcome (including other clubs and members of those clubs) to use the system and its' features at any time.
3. **Conduct on the repeaters should be governed by common sense and courtesy.** Don't give a bad impression of our service by making thoughtless or off-color remarks. Instead, set an example which others will be proud to follow. After all, this is an **Amateur Radio Repeater**, not a "CB" repeater. Business messages are not permitted on the repeaters.
4. A PL tone of 88.5 will be needed for access of the 70cm repeater at all times.
5. The Repeater Trustee will have the final say on any repeater operation, since they are the final authority as per the FCC.
6. Use of the word "**BREAK**" shall be used to designate a **HIGH PRIORITY** need. In that event, all other stations on the frequency must cease operation **immediately**, or assist the breaking station as required. Stations may resume normal operation only after the emergency has been handled.

7. Time controlled or net traffic will be given priority.
8. All stations will leave a short pause between transmissions for the purpose of allowing other stations to call on the repeater.
9. **Emergency** and **Special Event** communications have priority and any special event for which the repeaters are to be used shall be cleared through the Repeater Trustee. The repeater is always open and available for SkyWarn "storm net" activation, ARES, RACES, and other official emergency use activations.
10. Emergency communications has priority usage and complete control of the repeaters for as long as the emergency exists. A Net Control Station will call up and direct the Net.
11. If you hear stations jamming or interfering do not make any comment. If you can override the interference, continue with your conversation. If you can not continue, sign off the repeater in a normal manner.
12. Identify your station every ten minutes during you QSO and at sign-off, as per FCC regulations. It is not mandatory for you to identify when first coming on the air, however for ease of operation and courtesy to the others on the frequency, please ID when coming on the air.
13. Repeater rules and regulations can be changed by the Marion County Amateur Radio Club (KD4ATW), Repeater Trustee and Repeater Committee at any time. Official changes to these guidelines will be posted here and communicated to club members via email upon there adoption of use.

Additional Autopatch Notes:

- Autopatch users are not to conduct any business communication of any type on the system. The autopatches are there for user convenience and in the event of an emergency, however, it is not to be used in place of a cellphone, payphone, nor is it to be used to evade toll charges for personal matters.
- Limit autopatch use to calls 5 minutes or less in duration, unless it is an emergency.
- When initiating an autopatch call, first ID yourself and ask if the repeater is in use, unless you have been monitoring for a while and KNOW it's not in use.

- If at all possible the person you call on the patch should be familiar with the patch procedures. Remember your radio is half-duplex and phone lines are full-duplex. You may have to volunteer to the person on the other end that you can't hear them while you are talking. In fact, if you are calling a public safety dispatcher or emergency call; it's probably a good idea to start out with something like "I'm calling through an amateur radio repeater system and can't hear you while I'm talking..."
- No business or extremely personal phone calls, (i.e., family disagreements, etc.) should take place while using the autopatch... remember it has a huge RF footprint and the system is listened to by many users and scanner listeners. You would be surprised at just how many places have a scanner listening to the system... Drop a dime, use a pay phone or cell phone instead.
- Use only the English language on the system, remote base and the patch. Control operators are required to listen to the system 24x7 by FCC rules and all users are to assume that they are unable to understand anything else.
- The ability to dial "911" for emergency calls has been disabled due to mobile radio flutter dropping a digit or duplicating a digit from other commands. If you need emergency assistance, you will need to call the full phone number for service you are trying to reach. (i.e., Marion County Sheriff's Office: 942-2525).

**Another reason for this is to avoid having emergency crews show up at the repeater site when there is no actual emergency at that location.*

If you have ANY doubt that any autopatch call would not be legal...

>>> DON'T DO IT <<<