

**Ashton Radio Communications Society Inc.**  
**Repeater Acceptable Use Guidelines**  
**Approved by ARCS BOD September 10, 2013**

This policy has been developed to assist ARCS members and guests who use our repeater systems operate the repeaters in a professional and courteous manner, while at the same time having fun with Amateur Radio. In some cases, the guidelines outlined in this document are more stringent than FCC regulations.

This document has been approved by the ARCS Board of Directors, and the repeater trustee. All stations using the repeater systems are expected to assist us by complying with the guidelines contained herein.

1. **All stations using the repeater systems will identify at the beginning of their initial transmission, regardless of the purpose.** This includes echo tests, and echolink repeater linking. Do not initiate any touch tone sequence without first identifying. This will greatly assist our control operators monitor the systems. After initial identification, FCC regulations further require all stations identify every ten minutes, and at the end of their series of transmissions.
2. **It is expected that all station using the repeater systems will conduct themselves in a courteous manner and comply with FCC regulations and these guidelines.** Stations who refuse to do so may be notified by the repeater trustee that they are not to use the repeater systems. While this has never been needed, such notice carries the force of FCC regulation as the repeater systems are privately owned facilities and your ham license does not convey any right to use the facilities. We operate open repeaters and all are welcome as long as they operate their station within these guidelines.
3. **Use of the Echolink feature of the repeater is restricted to ARCS members and invited guests only.** Incoming connections require that your call sign be entered in the repeater's database before you will be able to connect. Outgoing connections initiated over the air cannot be authenticated, so your cooperation is appreciated restricting this to members and invited guests only. If you need access, contact one of the control operators or the repeater trustee. Abuse of this policy may result in further restrictions being placed on outgoing echolink connections and we don't want to have to do that.
4. **Randomly connecting to overseas echolink repeaters is strongly discouraged.** If you want to work DX, get an HF station. Overseas echolink connections place an additional burden on our control operators monitoring them for third-party agreement compliance, among other things. Overseas repeater linking should have a defined purpose in mind before making the connection.
5. **All echolink connections shall be disconnected when the QSO is complete.** Please do not leave the repeater linked to another repeater,

- especially an overseas repeater, for an extended period of time. Other users on the repeater will not know they are linked elsewhere. Of course for emergencies or special events you can leave it linked as needed.
6. **Overseas echolink QSOs shall be conducted in English, unless other prior arrangements have been made with a control operator, for the same reasons stated above.** We understand there are visitors to the area, and sometimes they will want to QSO with their home country in their native language. If this is the case, contact a control operator (preferably via email) in advance. Unannounced foreign-language overseas echolink QSOs are subject to disconnection by a control operator without warning.
  7. **The order of priority for repeater traffic, as defined in the ARCS by-laws, is:**
    - a. Emergency traffic
    - b. Members use to transact club business (repeater maintenance, DECT events, etc.)
    - c. Auto-patch (not currently enabled)
    - d. Members use for conversation, etc.
    - e. Visitors and other non-members for conversation, etc.

**Control Operators:**

WA3KOK    ldanna at comcast.net  
N3OC        n3oc at wirelessinc.com

**Trustee:**

K3WX        faiola at verizon.net