

## **Guidelines for the Connection Connection Repeaters**

The Colorado Connection repeaters are open to use by any and all licensed amateurs, provided that you abide by Part 97 of the *FCC Rules and Regulations* and the additional rules and guidelines set forth by the Colorado Connection Repeaters Inc Board. See [www.colcon.org](http://www.colcon.org) for system information.

**Rules and guidelines established by repeater organizations and control operators will be considered the same as FCC rules and that habitual violators will be dealt with accordingly.**

### **Operating Guidelines and Policies**

#### **Use plain English and avoid jargon:**

Use plain language on a repeater. There is no need to use slang or jargon. FM repeater communication is essentially as clear as a telephone call. Q-signals, pro signs and phonetics are not necessary for most FM operation.

#### **Content of communications:**

We are all familiar with types of communications, which the FCC rules prohibit, such as music, codes and ciphers, criminal activity, false signals, broadcasting, retransmitting radio signals, and obscenity and indecency. While the repeater owner supports freedom of speech, we need to remember that there are many listeners of all ages who monitor our repeaters. Our language should be courteous and sensitive to the considerations of all listeners. This includes avoiding any subjects that are likely to cause controversy and/or conflict such as politics and religion.

All users are asked to avoid on-the-air conflicts about controversial topics. If the debate starts getting vehement, change the subject, or continue the discussion off the air.

### **Repeater Use Guidelines**

1. The Colorado Connection repeaters are owned and operated by the Colorado Connection Repeaters Inc. (CCRI), are coordinated by the CCARC Repeater Council, and are operated under an amateur radio club license held by the CCRI and its designated Trustee. The CCRI officers and board members will make the final determination regarding usage of its repeaters and acceptable conduct on its repeaters.

2. Operate within the Rules and Regulations as defined in FCC part 97 and guidelines established by the CCRI at all times.

3. Emergency and public service communications shall have priority over all other communications.

4. The Colorado Connection Repeaters Inc operates family-friendly "G" rated repeaters 24 hours a day. At no time will profanity, lewd language, or distasteful behavior be tolerated. Please remember that children and public officials monitor the repeaters on a regular basis and keep your activities on our repeaters courteous.

5. Listen to the repeater for more than a few seconds before initiating a call. The repeater may be busy with someone momentarily standing by.

6. If you hear a station(s) jamming or causing harmful interference, DO NOT ACKNOWLEDGE THE STATION. If you can override the interference, continue with your conversation. If you cannot continue, sign off the repeater in a normal manner. This activity should be reported to the Connection Board of Directors via e-mail and not over the air. The CCRI website at [www.colcon.org](http://www.colcon.org) contains e-mail contact information for all board members.

7. Please wait for the courtesy beep before transmitting. This allows the timer to reset and other stations to break in. This is especially important if a station is trying to declare an EMERGENCY.

8. Keep transmissions short and thoughtful. Your "monologue" may prevent someone with an emergency from using the repeater.

9. Be considerate and ask if anyone else would like to use the repeater.

10. Do not "kerchunk" the repeater to test your equipment or see if the repeater is up. If you transmit then you must identify your station.

11. Use "Break" if you have priority or emergency traffic. Simply announce your call sign if you wish to join an on-going conversation.

12. Be sure to identify your station every 10 minutes and at the end of your conversation. There is no need to say "for ID" when you identify. Simply say your callsign.

13. When declaring yourself on the repeater with just your call sign, one should not expect a response if there is no ongoing conversation.

14. All repeaters are assembled and maintained at considerable expense and effort. Those who are regular users of a repeater should support the efforts of keeping the repeater on the air.

15 If you have questions or comments, please contact the CCRI board by sending an Email to [kb0vjj@colcon.org](mailto:kb0vjj@colcon.org).

**Content:**

While certain topics and vocabulary are not “illegal” for commercial broadcasting, the owner/operator of the repeaters, **DOES** prohibit those communications. These topics are in poor taste and a waste of the repeater facility.

While the following should not be considered all-inclusive, it will establish a baseline for behavior that is **NOT PERMITTED** on the Linked System

Repeaters:

“Off Color” comments, sexual innuendo and ANY double interpretation of words. Any subjects that are likely to cause controversy and/or conflict such as politics and religion.

Remember, use of codes and ciphers is NOT permitted by FCC regulations. If it can't be said in plain English, it should not be transmitted on the repeater.

Commercial communication: you can, certainly, identify your occupation and describe what you do, however, if you are for example, a salesman, you CANNOT try to sell your wares on the repeater.

Derogatory remarks directed at any group (ethnic, racial, religious, sexual etc).

If you wouldn't tell the joke to your ten-year-old child, don't tell it on the repeater.

Any activity in violation of FCC rules and / or any other Federal, state or local laws or ordinances (including, but not limited to: jamming, “stepping on”, broadcasting of music, unidentified carrier, etc.) is prohibited.

**Proper and legal operating etiquette is 95% common sense. While the above limits on content are not all inclusive, they should make clear the type of communication that is NOT appropriate.**

The FCC requires the Control Operators to monitor the repeaters to insure compliance with the rules. We would not like to hear illegal or sloppy operating habits on our repeaters, because such problems could cause FCC actions against us. We should all be mindful of our operating procedures.

Users who violate the above will be warned after the first offense. The policy is to act first and ask question later. In most cases, we will try to contact stations off the air, rather than discuss any difficulties over the repeaters. If the behavior recurs, steps will be taken, including revocation of the person's privilege of using the repeater systems.

The repeater Trustee and Control Operators have the right and the duty to manage our system for the public good. Remember that they have the responsibility of preserving the trustee's license and any activity on the repeater results in the de-facto involvement of the trustee.