



RHEMA FM 106.5

MANNING GREAT LAKES CHRISTIAN BROADCASTERS INC

Shop 5 97 Isabella Street (PO Box 246) Wingham NSW AUSTRALIA 2429

Phone: (02) 6553 0116 Fax: (02) 6553 0117

Email: rhemafm@rhemafm.net Web Site: www.rhemafm.net

ABN: 66 707 642 187

Programming Policy (Code 2.2)

MISSION STATEMENT

To establish and operate a radio station in the Manning Great Lakes area of the New South Wales Mid North Coast; broadcasting the reality of love and hope that is found in Jesus Christ and offering encouragement to all who might listen; broadcasting a balance of Christian music and programs promoting solid Christian and family values. To the glory of God and the expansion of His Kingdom.

CORE VALUES

1. Christian and Community focus
2. Opportunity and Access
3. Team Spirit.

OBJECTS OF THE ASSOCIATION

- To apply for and obtain a radio licence pursuant to the provisions of the Australian Broadcasting Services Act of 1992 to provide radio service to the local community.
- To operate, maintain and conduct the business of proprietors and operators of a radio broadcasting, transmitting and receiving station at a designated site to be known as Rhema FM (Manning Great Lakes Christian Broadcasters Inc).
- To produce and broadcast radio programmes of from a Christian perspective from varying sources and countries including those programmes produced by the Association.
- To provide entertainment, information and access for the local community and the opportunity for the development of professional standards of program production and presentation.
- To provide for community access (particularly in the local community) so that Christian community interest programmes and announcements can be broadcast.
- To cultivate an awareness and appreciation of Australian Christian music with particular emphasis on encouraging local performers.
- To encourage the exposure and development of Christian music with a local emphasis.
- To provide an opportunity for wider and further education in liaison with local education institutions, including seeking and encouraging input from children.
- To provide a focal point for information concerning access to community services and encouraging participation in local government, community and charity projects.
- To experiment and conduct research and training programmes in the artistic and technical aspects of radio and other forms of sound communications with a local community emphasis.
- To produce, transmit, receive, record, reproduce, broadcast or otherwise distribute or facilitate the transmission or reception of all forms of sound and/or visual communication material.
- To assist other groups within the community whose objects are similar to those of the Association.
To monitor community needs and responses and to incorporate community needs and responses into programmes produced by the Association.

PROGRAM PHILOSOPHY

Central to the Programming Philosophy is the need for Rhema FM 106.5 to meet the needs and desires of the citizens of the Manning Great Lakes within the resources available at any given period. Providing a balanced Christian program that reflects those requirements as well as giving fair and reasonable access and opportunity to community groups.

The Board of Management and programming management will adopt a decision making process that will include the following considerations when deciding on which programs will go to air, remain on-air or be taken off air;

- Similar existing programs on other stations
- Public demand
- Equity related issues
- Compatibility with existing station policy/direction
- Resources - financial and human
- Availability of time
- Sponsorship (if applicable)

ON-AIR CRITEREA

The Programming team will regularly review our overall program schedule. Our content that we put to air will always require amending as we reflect our ever-changing target market. For example, we may move certain “shows” to a time better suited for the target audience, introduce new or remove existing shows in line with our current marketing direction, or change the content or presenters of existing shows.

In addition, one of our key organisation’s objectives is to provide a means for aspiring broadcasters from the local community to gain industry experience. We therefore actively encourage members to become announcers and must be able to accommodate these new volunteers into our program.

For the above to occur, we will need to ask from time to time current announcers to give up their slot for a period of time. This is simply to allow others to “have a go” and not necessarily a permanent change. We wish all announcers, current or past, to be active members of the organisation, and announcers that make way for others, and continue to contribute will be given preference when new slots become available.

The decision on who to ask to give up a show should the need arise will be based on (but not limited to) the following criteria (listed in no particular order of importance):

- Compliance of current show to station policies, procedures and guidelines, including but not limited to:
- Preparing and working to a template that has been approved by Programming
- Playing all required pre-recorded segments as per the logs (e.g. sponsor announcements)
- Evidence of continually seeking ways to improve the show, working with Programming or Board where appropriate
- Evidence of prior preparation of the show
- Evidence of involving and promoting community interest in the show
- Organised or attended fund-raising activities and promotions
- Participated in activities of the committee for which member has volunteered
- Compliance to the Community Radio Codes of Practice
- Compliance with Rhema FM 106.5 Standards, Procedures, Policies and Guidelines
- Compliance with administrative procedures

- Organised for a local artist to play live or be interviewed at the studio
- Contributed positively to the Rhema FM 106.5 website
- Read the various notice boards at the station
- Attended required member meetings (e.g. AGM; relevant “shift” meetings, etc)
- Assist in new initiatives as requested by the Board or a committee or sub-committee.
- Implementing new initiatives (as approved by relevant committee or Board) that contribute to the financial success and/or overall objectives of the Organisation.
- Pay membership fees on time.

Put simply, the more an announcer contributes to the organisation “off-air”, the better chance they will remain on-air.

Program Standards

PROHIBITED MATTER

As licensee Rhema FM 106.5 will not permit the broadcasting of program which may;

- Incited, encourage or present for their own sake violence or brutality;
- Simulate news or events in such a way as to mislead or alarm listeners;
- Present as desirable the misuse of alcoholic liquor;
- Promote or advertise the use of tobacco;
- Present as desirable the misuse of drugs or narcotics.
- Incite or perpetuate hatred against; or gratuitously vilify; any person or group on the basis of ethnicity, nationality, race, gender, sexual preference, religion or mental disability. Rhema FM 106.5 recognizes the need for equity and social justice in program content and opportunity.
- Be harmful to children in any way

AUSTRALIAN MUSIC PERFORMANCES

Rhema FM 106.5 will ensure that during the Australian Performance Period;

- (a) Not less than 20% of the total time occupied in the broadcasting of music shall consist of music performed by Australians.
- (b) For the purposes of paragraph (a) where more than one performer is involved in a musical performance, that performance shall be predominantly by Australians.
- (c) Where, at any time during the Australian Performance Period, Rhema FM 106.5 broadcasts music or musical items dictated by listener requests:
 - (i) The time occupied in the broadcasting of music may be reduced by the time occupied by music broadcast as a result of such listener requests;
 - (ii) The total number of musical items broadcast may be reduced by the number of musical items broadcast as a result of such listener requests.
- (d) Paragraph (a) shall not apply if an occasional special program is dedicated to an overseas performer or performance or an overseas music style or theme.
- (e) Paragraph (a) shall not apply if the broadcast period is less than one hour.

NEWS PROGRAMS

News programs transmitted by Rhem FM 106.5 **must**;

- Present news accurately.
- Not present news in such way as to create public panic, or unnecessary distress to listeners.
- Distinguish news from comment.

CONTESTS

All contests transmitted by Rhema FM 106.5 **must**;

1. (a) be conducted fairly
- (b) Announce winners on air immediately

INTERVIEWS

Rhema FM 106.5 will not transmit the words of an identifiable person unless;

- (a) That person has been informed in advance that the words may be transmitted; or
- (b) In the case of words, which have been recorded without the knowledge of the person, that person has subsequently, but prior to the transmission, indicated consent to the transmission of the words.

RHEMA FM 106.5 OBLIGATIONS

- (a) Factual material is presented accurately and that reasonable efforts are made to correct substantial errors of fact at the earliest possible opportunity;
- (b) Factual material is distinguished from commentary and analysis;
- (c) Viewpoints are not misrepresented, and material is not presented in a misleading manner by giving wrong or improper emphasis, by editing out of context, or by withholding relevant available facts;
- (d) Respect is given to each person's legitimate right to protection from unjustifiable use of material which is obtained without an individual's consent or other unwarranted and intrusive invasions of privacy;
- (e) Issues involving children and/or others unable to understand the implications of their comments or actions will be assessed on an individual basis by the management of Rhema FM 106.5 in conjunction with relevant government authorities prior to any transmissions.

POLITICAL PROGRAMMING / COMMENTARY

Rhema FM 106.5 is **not** a political radio broadcaster. Announcers must ensure that content presented has been researched and that due consideration has been given to all points of view. Announcers must have completed the Announcers' Training Course, which will address this area.

All announcers must adhere to the Rhema FM 106.5 Constitutional Objects, Station Policy and the Australian Broadcasting Authority Codes of Practice.