

# OPERATING PROCEDURES & BEHAVIOUR

## WHAT IS BEST?

*By Roger, G3LDI*



# General Operating

- Spend time just listening.
- Spend MORE time listening.
- Spend EVEN MORE time just listening!
- Listen to the HF bands. Good and Bad.
- Model your operating on the Good.
- Don't talk for the sake of it.
- Read some good books.
- RSGB/ARRL Handbooks a good place to start. Expand your world.

# Language or Jargon

- FORGET ALL THE CB JARGON!!!!



The personal here is: personal what?

This is the one that will raise hackles!!!!

How many pounds am I giving you? Pounds of what, apples?

I'm on the side – Side of what?

Break-break! What have you broken?

I had a copy on HF today. A copy of what?

Don't use my name at the end of every over!

# More general comments > **73**

- Voice: "OK, Dan, seven-three and I will talk to you later. (pause) G4SRT."
- Voice: "73 for now John, G0BOF clear."
- CW: "W2EOS de K8JW CUL OM 73 SK."
- CW: "N6xxx de KB6xxx 73 88 SK."
- 73 and 88 do not have plurals!
- Don't use HI on voice modes.

# Language – Moderate it!

- Try to keep your language polite. Profanity and discussions of bodily functions should be off limits - not because of government rules, but because it's the right thing to do.
- Remember there may be others listening, it is not a private line! We have to set an example to the younger generation.

# Identification – Q-codes

- Say your call sign once every ten minutes. Don't say "For I.D., this is G0xxx; saying the call is enough, preferably with phonetics.
- Use Q-codes sparingly on voice. They are designed for CW use or use in nets.
- Try using "location " instead of QTH.

# Let's call CQ!

- CQ CQ CQ THIS IS M0zzzz CALLING CQ AND STANDING BY FOR A CALL.
- M0zzzz THIS IS ZL2BT, Zulu Lima two Boston Tango calling you and listening.
- ZL2BT, this is M0zzzz returning. Thanks for the call. You are 5-7 here in Norwich. (spell phonetically). My name is John (spell phonetically). What's my signal like down under? ZL2BT, M0zzzz standing by.

# HF Bands DX chasing with patience



**I will listen, and listen, and then listen  
again before calling.**







**I will only call if I can copy the DX station properly.**





**I will not trust the DX Cluster and will be sure of the DX station's callsign before calling.**





**I will not interfere with the DX station nor  
anyone calling him**





**I will wait for the DX station to end a contact before calling him.**





**I will always send my full callsign.**





**I will call and then listen for a reasonable interval. I will not call continuously.**







**I will not transmit when the DX operator calls another callsign, not mine.**





**I will not transmit when the DX Operator queries a callsign, not like mine.**







**I will not transmit when the DX operator calls other geographic areas, than mine**





**When the DX operator calls me, I will not repeat my callsign unless I think he has copied it incorrectly.**





**I will be thankful if and when I do make a  
contact**





**I will respect my fellow hams and  
conduct myself so as to earn their  
respect.**



# Check out the DX Code of Conduct Website

[www.dx-code.org](http://www.dx-code.org)

The Code has been translated into over two dozen languages, even Mongolian.

Every amateur can find it in a language he can understand.

Every amateur should strive to maintain a high standard of operating.

# Repeater use

- Repeaters were installed for mobile to mobile or possibly portable stations too.
- Fixed stations should check to see if direct contact can be made and **ALWAYS** choose that route if possible.
- Repeaters on VHF/UHF are not an AOG.
- Join your repeater group if you use them.
- Their footprints are large, Watch your behaviour. Don't have a vibrating thumb!

# Repeater use

- Remember you are not listening to the station you are talking to. 5-9 is meaningless. You are merely reporting the signal strength of the repeater!
- Look up how to report correctly, such as: You are fully quieting here.
- Leave a pause for the timer to reset.
- NEVER transmit without using audio and your call sign.

# Educational

- Ethics and Operating Procedures for the Radio Amateur by ON4UN and ON4WW
- Operating Practice by ON4WW
- These last two are available in many languages
- DOWNLOAD AND READ AND KEEP



# Ethics

Bottom line, ham radio is about ethical standards. If we don't have that, we haven't got much to be proud of.

Most people are polite. Sometimes people aren't, but if those who hold to the highest standards of conduct keep operating correctly, we all will benefit by our behavior.

Those who come after us will learn from our examples, good or bad. Let's give them the good examples.

# Amateur radio is a hobby



But we need to treat it with respect. 73 de Roger, G3LDI