

The Conditions of the Amateur (Sound) Licence

The following extract from the Amateur (Sound) Licence gives the conditions under which an amateur may operate his station:-

I. (1) Licence

of
 (hereinafter called "the Licensee") is hereby licensed, subject to the terms, provisions and limitations herein contained;

(a) to establish an amateur sending and receiving station for wireless telegraphy (hereinafter called "the Station ") at:

(i)

(hereinafter called "the main address"): or

(ii) any premises or location in the United Kingdom (hereinafter called "the temporary alternative address or location") for separate periods none of which shall exceed four consecutive weeks; or

(iii) any premises in the United Kingdom (hereinafter called "the alternative address") provided that the General Post Office Telephone Manager for the area in which the premises are situate is notified in writing in advance by the Licensee of the postal address at which the Station is to be established;

(b) To use the Station for the purpose of sending to, and receiving from, other amateur stations as part of the self-training of the Licensee in communication by wireless telegraphy:

(i) Messages in plain language which are remarks about matters of a personal nature in which the Licensee, or the person with whom he is in communication, has been directly concerned;

(ii) Signals (not being in secret code or cypher) which form part of, or relate to, the transmission of such messages.

(c) to use the Station, as part of the self-training of the Licensee in communication by wireless telegraphy, during disaster relief operations conducted by the British Red Cross Society, the St. John Ambulance Brigade, or any police force in the United Kingdom, or during any exercise relating to such operations for the purpose of sending to other amateur Stations such messages as the Licensee may be requested by the said Society, Brigade or such police force to send, and of receiving from any other amateur station such messages as the person licensed to use such other amateur station may be requested by the said Society Brigade or such police force to send.

(2) Limitations. - The foregoing Licence to establish and use the Station is subject to the following limitations:

(a) The Station shall not be established or used on the sea or within a any estuary, dock, or harbour, or in any moving vehicle, vessel or aircraft.

(b) The Station shall be used only with emissions which are of the classes specified in the Schedule hereto and are within the frequency bands specified in the Schedule in relation to those respective classes of emission, and with a power not exceeding that specified in the Schedule hereto in relation to the class of emission and frequency band in use at the time.

(c) The Station shall be operated only (i) by the Licensee personally, or (ii) in the presence of and under the direct supervision of the Licensee, by any other person who holds a wireless telegraphy licence issued by the Postmaster General to use another amateur station or who holds an Amateur Radio Certificate issued by the Postmaster General.

(d) Messages shall not be broadcast to amateur stations in general, but shall be sent only to amateur stations with which communication is established separately and singly, or to groups of particular amateur stations with which communication is established collectively.

2. International requirement - The Licensee shall observe and comply with the relevant provisions of the Telecommunication Convention.

3. Frequency Control and Measurement

(1) A satisfactory method of frequency stabilisation shall be employed in the sending apparatus.

(2) Equipment for frequency measurement shall be provided capable of verifying that the sending apparatus is operating with emissions within the authorized frequency bands.

4. Non-Interference

(1) The apparatus comprised in the Station shall be so designed, constructed, maintained and used that the use of the Station does not cause (a) any avoidable interference with other amateur stations or (b) any interference with any other wireless telegraphy.

(2) When telegraphy (as distinct from telephony) is being used, arrangements shall be made to ensure that the risk of interference due to key clicks being caused to other wireless telegraphy is eliminated. At all times, every precaution shall be taken to avoid over-modulation, and to keep the radiated energy within the narrowest possible frequency bands having regard to the class of emission in use. In particular, the radiation of harmonics and other spurious emissions shall be suppressed to such a level that they cause no interference with any wireless telegraphy. Tests shall be carried out from time to time to ensure that the requirements of this paragraph are met.

(3) The use of spark sending apparatus is specifically forbidden.

5. Operators and access to Apparatus - The Licensee shall not permit or suffer any unauthorised person to operate the Station or to have access to the apparatus comprised therein. The Licensee shall ensure that persons operating the Station shall observe the terms, provisions and limitations of this Licence at all times.

6. Log

(1) A record shall be kept in a book (not loose-leaf) showing the following:

(a) Date.

(b) Time of commencement of calls made from the Station.

(c) Call signs of the stations from which messages addressed to the Station are received or to which messages are sent, times of establishing and ending communication with each station, and the frequency or frequencies and class or classes of emission in each case.

(d) Time of closing down the Station.

All times shall be stated in G.M.T. No gaps shall be left between entries and all entries shall be made at the time of sending and receiving.

(2) If the Station is at any time operated by a person other than the Licensee (see clause 1 (2) (c)) the log shall be signed by that person with his full name, and the call sign of the station which he is licensed to use or (if there is no such station) the number of his Amateur Radio Certificate shall be shown.

7. Receiver - The Station shall be equipped for the reception of messages sent on the frequency or frequencies, and by means of the class or classes of emission, which are in current use at the Station for the purpose of sending.

8. Retransmission of recorded messages - Messages addressed to the Station from any amateur station with which the Licensee is in communication may be recorded and retransmitted in accordance with this Licence, provided that the retransmission is intended for reception by the originating station only, and that the call sign of that station is not included in the retransmission.

9. Call sign and notification of location

(1) The call sign mentioned on the first page of this Licence shall be used when the Station is operated at the main address or at the alternative address. When the Station is used at the temporary alternative address or location the suffix "/A" shall be added to the call sign. No abbreviated form of a call sign may be used.

(2) The call sign, which may be sent either by morse telegraphy at a speed not greater than 12 words per minute or by telephony if the Station is authorised to use telephony, shall be sent for identification purposes at the beginning and at the end of each period of sending, and whenever the sending frequency is changed.

(3) When telephony is used, the letters of the call signs may be confirmed by the pronouncement of well-known words of which the initial letters are the same as those in the call signs; but words used in this manner shall not be of a facetious or objectionable character.

(4) When the Station is used at the temporary alternative address or location, particulars of the address or location shall be sent at the beginning and end of the establishment of communication with each separate amateur station, or at intervals of half an hour, whichever is the more frequent.

10. Inspection - The Station, Licence, and Log shall be available for inspection at all reasonable time by duly authorised officers of the Post Office.

11. Station to close down The Station shall be closed down at any time on the demand of an officer of the Post Office.

12. Period of Licence, Renewal, Revocation, and Variation - This Licence shall continue in force for one year from the date of issue, and thereafter so long as the Licensee pays to the Postmaster-General in advance in each year on or before the anniversary of the date of issue the renewal fee prescribed by or under the regulations for the time being in force under section 2(1) of the Wireless Telegraphy Act, 1949; provided that the Postmaster-General may at any time after the date of issue (i) revoke this Licence or vary the terms, provisions or limitations thereof by a notice in writing served on the Licensee.

or by a general notice published in the London, Edinburgh, and Belfast Gazettes, or in a newspaper published in London a newspaper published in Edinburgh and a newspaper published in Belfast addressed to all holders of Amateur (Sound) Licences (ii) revoke this Licence by a general notice published by being broadcast by the British Broadcasting Corporation addressed to all holders of Amateur (Sound) Licences. Any notice given under this clause may take effect either forthwith or on such subsequent date as may be specified in the notice.

13. This Licence is not transferable.

14. Return of Licence - This License shall be returned to the Postmaster General when it has expired or been revoked.

15. Previous Licences Revoked - Any licence, however described, which the Postmaster General has previously granted to the Licensee in respect of the Station is hereby revoked.

16. Interpretation

(1) In this Licence;

the expressions "messages" and "signals" do not include visual images sent by television, facsimile transmission, or other means; the expression "remarks about matters of a personal nature" does not include messages about business affairs;

the expression "the Telecommunication Convention" means the International Telecommunication Convention signed at Buenos Aires on the 22nd day of December, 1952, and the Radio Regulations and Additional Radio Regulations in force thereunder, and includes any Convention and Regulations which may from time to time be in force in substitution for or in amendment of the said Convention or the said Regulations;

the expression "the United Kingdom" means the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the Isle of Man and the Channel Islands;

and, except where the context otherwise requires, other words and expressions have the same meaning as they have in the Wireless Telegraphy Act, 1949, or in the Regulations made under Part I thereof.

(2) Nothing in this Licence shall be deemed to authorise the use of the station for business, advertisement, or propaganda purposes or (except as provided by clause 1(1)(c) hereof) for the sending of news or messages of or on behalf of, or for the benefit or information of, any social, political, religious or commercial organisation, or anyone other than the Licensee or the person with whom he is in communication.

The following notes appear on the back of the licence for the guidance and information of licensees:-

(a) The Postmaster-General should be notified promptly of any change in the address of the Licensee. Except as provided below, correspondence should be sent to the Postmaster-General, Radio Services Department, General Post Office, London, E.C.1.

(b) Remittances and correspondence about payments to the Postmaster-General required under this Licence should be sent to the Accountant General's Department, General Post Office, London, E.C.1. It is unnecessary to send the Licence when making remittances.

(c) If the Station is situated within half a mile of the boundary of any aerodrome, the height of the aerial or any mast supporting it must not exceed 50 feet above the ground level. An aerial which crosses above or is liable to fall or to be blown on to any overhead power wire (including electric

lighting and tramway wires) or power apparatus must be guarded to the reasonable satisfaction of the owner of the power wire or power apparatus concerned.

(d) This Licence does not authorize the Licensee to do any act which is an infringement of any copyright which may exist in the matter sent or received.

(e) For the reception of broadcast programmes a separate broadcast receiving licence is necessary.

(f) If power for the working of the Station is taken from a public electricity supply, no direct connection should be made between the supply mains and the aerial.

(g) Demands for closing down (see clause 11) can be expected to be received, inter alia, in connection with national emergencies or when interference is being caused to a Government wireless station or other important services.

(h) Under section 1 of the Wireless Telegraphy Act, 1949, it is an offence to use any station or apparatus for wireless telegraphy except under and in accordance with a licence granted by the Postmaster-General. Breach of this provision may result in this Licence being revoked and the offender being prosecuted.

(j) If any message, the receipt of which is not authorised by this Licence, is received by means of the Station, neither the Licensee nor any person using the Station should make known the contents of any such message, its origin or destination, its existence or the fact of its receipt to any person except a duly authorised officer of Her Majesty's Government or a competent legal tribunal, and should not retain any copy or make any use of any such message, or allow it to be reproduced in writing, copied or made use of. It is an offence under section 5 of the Wireless Telegraphy Act, 1949, deliberately to receive messages the receipt of which is unauthorized or (except in the special circumstances mentioned in that section of the Act) to disclose any information as to the contents, sender or addressee of any such message.

(k) It is an offence under section 5 of the Wireless Telegraphy Act, 1949, to send by wireless telegraphy certain misleading messages.

(l) The Postmaster-General regards himself as free to publish the licensee's name and address at his discretion unless the licensee specifically asks that this should not be done.

(m) The expression "wireless telegraphy" used in this Licence has the meaning assigned to it in the Wireless Telegraph Act, 1949, and includes, inter alia, radiotelephony.