

## Ham 25 - Repeater etiquette

Lt.Col. Dan & Dr. Marc © 241214

Always identify yourself according to the regulations. This means every ten (10) minutes and at the end of your communications. This is not only ECG's policy; it is also required by our license. It never hurts to give your station's call sign more than less. It helps other users know you are there if they are listening. When checking into a net or making an initial call, it is helpful to use phonetics.

Avoid lengthy conversations without pausing occasionally between transmissions. This in no way means keep the repeater quiet. On the contrary, the repeater is on the air to be used and we are very happy when it is busy. It does, however, mean that we all should remember to leave pauses so others can get in if they need to use the repeater.

Always yield the frequency to a breaking station (any station with emergency traffic). The pro sign "break" has a very specific meaning on ham radio. So if you hear it, then give them the frequency. If you use it, remember the importance of its use. Ham radio has saved many lives and you never know when it may need to save yours.

Yield existing conversations to recognized activities: Weekly Nets, ARES, public service events, etc.

Do not engage in political soap boxing. These subjects are very personal to others listening and should be avoided. Do not engage in any personal antagonisms. Keep in mind that some conversations are best held in private. Hate speech or derogatory remarks directed at any person or group (political, ethnic, racial, sexual orientation, etc.) are never allowed on the ECG related repeater. Please keep that stuff to yourself, nobody wants to hear your personal rants over the airwaves.

Selling items OTHER than ham related equipment is not allowed, nor is conducting any business. This is not only our policy; the FCC prohibits it. As Amateur Radio operators, we are prohibited from gaining any pecuniary benefit from our operation of our amateur radio stations. When in doubt take it off the air.

Playing music is expressly prohibited by amateur stations. That is reserved for commercial frequencies.

The Repeater is "G-Rated" 24 hours a day. Watch your language. Sometimes slips happen. That being said, there is a complete difference between an inadvertent slip and an intentional act. Avoid adult subjects. Many hams have children in the home and amateur radio is open to all ages.

If you hear stations jamming or interfering do not make any comments, ignore them! Do not antagonize those interfering! This is not going to make them stop. Contact the trustee/owner via email or telephone to inform them of what is happening with dates, time, and nature of interference.

Relax.  
Use genteel decorum.  
You are talking to your friends, some new, some old.

Life is good. Enjoy!

