

K6RIA, The Rialto Amateur Radio Club Station

Club Call sign use, per ARRL interpretation of the FCC rules.

October 6, 2009

The call sign Trustee may authorize use of the Club call sign.

Therefore I, Joe - NJ6OE, authorize use for operation at station 201, Monday night net, and other events, including emergencies as documented below.

- ID per FCC rules part 97.119, ID *at least* every 10 minutes per communication.
- *Only* the NCS, Net Control, may use the call sign as long as they identify themselves *only* at the beginning of the net *and* end of the net as the NCS for the Rialto Amateur Radio Club net. All other ID's may be used as K6RIA.
- Example when opening and closing the net: this is/has been Joe, NJ6OE NCS for K6RIA.
- Offsite events: Use K6RIA and only the privileges assigned to your own call sign.
- Multiple location use of the club call, K6RIA, is not authorized at this time.

Operation at station 201, operating privileges.

- Each operator may use the call K6RIA, OR their own call sign, when operating from the EOC/ station 201. This makes you the control operator of station K6RIA when using either call.
- As the control operator you may use the privileges assigned to your call sign and still use K6RIA as the call.

Escalation of privileges, special circumstances.

- *IF* a higher privilege license is *present*, they may assume control operator responsibilities and this would elevate privileges to the station when using the club stations call, K6RIA.
- Example: You are a tech, *BUT* an extra is present and accepts control operator duties of station K6RIA. The tech now may operate under the station/control operator's privileges. This ceases when the extra/higher class license leaves the control room or elects to cease control op duties.
- Under the above scenario using call K6RIA would give you the station privileges, BUT you must use the station call sign.
- Example: Val extra assumes control op of station K6RIA. Anne tech uses her tech call and has her tech privileges. OR Anne tech uses the station call, K6RIA and has the privileges of an extra until Val extra leaves the site, OR ceases to accept control op responsibilities for station K6RIA.
- You may also use your own call sign instead of K6RIA. This would not elevate privileges but would allow you the level of privilege assigned to your own call.

Non ham visitors wishing to operate.

Non licensed visitors may operate only under the immediate supervision of the on-site control operator. This would give them the privilege of the control operator's assigned call.

Only under this circumstance may visitors be allowed to use the station. The duty to operate and control the station remains with the licensed control op.

The control op may use their call or the club call as described in this document above.

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Q. My call is being used for Field Day, but I can't be at the station for the duration of the contest. (I like sleeping in my air-conditioned house, even during Field Day.) Do we have to take the transmitter off the air when I am not present?

A. No, because your appointed control operator or operators should fulfill your duties as the station licensee. In fact, you don't have to be there at all, but you must make sure that your appointed control operator(s) is capable of carrying out your wishes (97.103(b) and 97.105).

Q. Can KA1UFZ, a Novice, operate the station of N1KB, an Extra Class operator, during Field Day? Can she operate in the Extra Class segment even though she holds a Novice class license?

A. The answer is "yes" to both of these questions, but a control operator must be on duty whenever she operates outside of her Novice class privileges using the call of N1KB. FCC rules state that "A control operator must ensure the immediate proper operation of the station..." (97.105(a)). The rules go on to say, "A station may only be operated in the manner and to the extent permitted by the privileges authorized for the class of operator license held by the control operator" (97.105(b)).

Q. I am an Extra Class licensee, but I am going to use a Novice class operator's station and call sign during Field Day. Can I legally operate her station and use her call outside the Novice subbands?

A. You, the Extra, can be designated as the control operator. If you are authorized by the licensee, you may use the call sign of the Novice class licensee and operate only within the Novice class privileges. However, if an Extra Class control operator wants to operate outside the Novice class operator privileges, he may do so, but he must identify by appending his call to that of the Novice, such as signing "KA1UFZ/N1KB" on CW or separating the calls by the word "stroke" on Phone (97.105(a) and (b), 97.119(d)). True, this is a long identification procedure, but it is the only way to identify in this case. Why would an Extra want to use a Novice call, you ask. Well, that may not always be the case, but it clearly illustrates the point.

Q. What is the identification procedure for a club station license during Field Day?

A. A club *station* license carries no operator privileges. The person operating the station must use his or her own privileges. If operation takes place in the Extra class part of the band, a Technician, for example, can use the station, but only if an Extra class control operator is present at the control point monitoring and supervising the operation. This does not necessitate the use of the supplementary station ID as mentioned in Section 97.119(e).

Q. Are there any exceptions to the FCC rules for Field Day?

A. No, all FCC rules apply 365 days a year. Of course, Field Day participants must also observe additional Field Day rules as set forth by the ARRL.

Q. During Field Day, members of the public wander through as we operate. Many times, these unlicensed individuals want to operate. Can they legally operate our Field Day station?

A. Only a licensed amateur is eligible to be the control operator, and obviously an unlicensed person can't be the control operator of an amateur station. **However they may participate under the direction of a control operator.** In cases when a third party is participating, the control operator must be present at the control point and must be continuously monitoring and supervising the third party's participation. Third parties may only communicate directly with countries with which the US has signed third-party agreements (97.115(a) and (b)). The FCC doesn't expect us to carry The FCC Rule Book along on Field Day, but they do expect us all to abide by the rules at all times. It is the hope of the ARRL that everyone will do lots of operating during Field Day,

What do FCC rules say about station license responsibilities?

Part 97 says:

§97.103 Station licensee responsibilities.

(a) The station licensee is responsible for the proper operation of the station in accordance with the FCC Rules. When the control operator is a different amateur operator than the station licensee, both persons are equally responsible for proper operation of the station.

(b) The station licensee must designate the station control operator. The FCC will presume that the station licensee is also the control operator, unless documentation to the contrary is in the station records.

(c) The station licensee must make the station and the station records available for inspection upon request by an FCC representative. When deemed necessary by an EIC to assure compliance with FCC Rules, the station licensee must maintain a record of station operations containing such items of information as the EIC may require in accord with §0.314(x) of the FCC Rules.

What does the FCC say about control operator duties?

Part 97 says:

§97.105 Control operator duties.

(a) The control operator must ensure the immediate proper operation of the station, regardless of the type of control.

(b) A station may only be operated in the manner and to the extent permitted by the privileges authorized for the class of operator license held by the control operator.

Where can I find more information on station control?

See "[Who's in Control of Your Station](#)"

What is the difference between a club *trustee* and a *licensee*?

It depends on what type station is being used. If the repeater is operating under the auspices of, and using the call sign of an individual amateur's personal station license, then the owner is the "licensee" of the station, not the "trustee."

If it is operating under the auspices of an FCC-issued club station license, and using the FCC-issued club call sign, then the person whose name appears on the club license is the "trustee," not the "licensee."

Our club license trustee died. What is the process that we use to notify the FCC of a new trustee?

The FCC has privatized the Club Station Call Sign Assignment System. This means that the FCC does not accept club station modification applications directly. Applications must go through a Club Station Call Sign Administrator of which the ARRL VEC in Newington is one. There is no fee. The form MUST carry two signatures, the new trustee and another officer in the club. When going through the ARRL VEC, use the [ARRL VEC Form 605-C](#).

Is there a time limit in which the FCC must be notified of the death of an amateur?

A club station license must always have a trustee who insures that all FCC rules are being followed by the club station. If the trustee is unable or unwilling to fulfill his obligations, the club must take immediate action, either changing the trustee or taking the club station off the air. The call of a deceased amateur may not remain as the ID of a station.

What is the procedure for canceling the license of an amateur who has died?

Notify the FCC of the amateurs passing by sending the FCC an obituary or copy of a death certificate along with a request to cancel the license. Send it to FCC, 1270 Fairfield Road, Gettysburg, PA 17325.

FCC may take 5-10 days to cancel it (sometimes less). To verify that the license was canceled look to the FCC web site at <http://wireless.fcc.gov/uls/> and do a search for LICENSE, continue, enter the call then hit submit, click on the highlighted call sign then at the top see the call sign status (ACTIVE means it was not yet canceled, CANCELED speaks for itself).

Also, send a notice to ARRL for a Silent Key listing, but this alone won't cause any action at FCC.

FCC can be reached at:

FCC
1270 Fairfield Rd
Gettysburg PA 17325-7245
Fax: 717-338-2696

How can we change the trustee of our club license?

To change the club trustee, the club must complete an ARRL VEC Form 605-C. Send it to the ARRL VEC at ARRL HQ. There is no charge. The form MUST have two signatures, the new trustee and another officer in the club. The form is the [ARRL VEC Form 605-C](#).

Are there any other groups that we must notify of the change of trustees?

You should notify the area Frequency Coordinator if the club station repeater call changes and if there are any other changes to the club station, especially to the physical facilities, e.g. increased power and/or increased/decreased tower height. If your club station antenna is co-located with the antennas of non-amateur services, it is a good idea to notify the station owners.

Who determines who can use the club station license and the club physical facilities?

The Club Station Trustee determines who can use the club license. Other permission from other club officials may be required to use the club physical property.

Can the club station license be used at multiple locations on the same band at the same time?

It is up to the Trustee, but there is no FCC rule against this, in fact, WIAW has operated simultaneously from Newington on those rare occasions when it is operated from ARRL national conventions.

(f) When the control operator who is exercising the rights and privileges authorized by §97.9(b) of this Part, an indicator must be included after the call sign as follows:

(1) For a control operator who has requested a license modification from Novice to Technician Class: KT;

(2) For a control operator who has requested a license modification from Novice, Technician or Technician Plus Class to General Class: AG;

(3) For a control operator who has requested a license modification from Novice, Technician, Technician Plus, General, or Advanced Class operator to Amateur Extra Class: AE.

(g) When the station is transmitting under the authority of §97.107 of this part, an indicator consisting of the appropriate letter-numeral designating the station location must be included before the call sign that was issued to the station by the country granting the license. For an amateur service license granted by the Government of Canada, however, the indicator must be included after the call sign. At least once during each intercommunication, the identification announcement must include the geographical location as nearly as possible by city and state, commonwealth or possession.