

From the WIA Board Table

Official News from the WIA Board of Directors.

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Editorial

This month's Board meeting focussed on the three significant events that will take place during 2015. These are the WIA AGM, the ANZAC Commemoration and the WIA working with ACMA toward a new Amateur Radio Licence Conditions Determination (LCD).

This news letter will provide a brief overview of the identified WIA Board's priority areas.

For more information on any of these issues check the WIA web site www.wia.org.au or email the WIA Office. nationaloffice@wia.org.au

Phil Wait WIA President



1. 3.4 GHz Change

3.4 GHz change in the draft LCD remake. Simply put, the ACMA proposes that, for Advanced licensees, access to 3400-3410 MHz and 3492.5-3542.5 MHz, will be proscribed in areas where Apparatus licences will be issued to NBN Co for broadband wireless access into customers premises. This is most likely to be required in metro fringe and hard to access areas

It is expected the areas likely to be prohibited for amateur

use will be quite small, certainly not country-wide.

The NBN Co Fixed Wireless and Satellite Review (Final Report) of May 2014 identified that at least 80,000 premises in the metro fringe and hard to service areas of the mainland major cities will require an NBN fixed wireless service. This is the reason for the ACMA's proposal to restrict access to 3400-3410 MHz and 3492.5-3542.5MHz.

2. LCD Remake

WIA Board members met with ACMA in Melbourne last week to continue discussions in relation to the remake of the LCD. This meeting was in conjunction with the advice on the 3.4GHz discussions. The AR LCD will sunset in October 2015. It is likely that an interim LCD will be put in place to allow the Amateur Service to continue in Australia past the sunset date, followed by a more comprehensive review which will consider the WIA's proposals. Two of the main objectives of the WIA are digital modes for Foundation Licence holders and an LCD that will accommodate technology changes. Discussions are ongoing.

3. AGM registrations

At the time of the Board meeting there had been 23 registrations for this year's WIA AGM in Canberra.

Registrations are on line at the WIA web site. This year at the AGM the WIA is celebrating 10 years since the introduction of the Foundation Licence, a significant milestone in Australian Amateur Radio.

4. ANZAC Commemoration

ANZAC commemoration planning and registrations continue. Please note that no 2015 ANZAC Commemoration call sign recommendations will be accepted after 31st March 2015 for the current year.

5. Membership

It was reported by the treasurer that late membership renewals are costing the WIA a significant amount of time and money. This year is typical, and about 2500 reminders have been sent out followed by 538 final notices. It would be of great assistance if members would settle their membership account when they receive their renewal.

Please note that Memnet is operational and we encourage all members to log onto the system. If you have any difficulty please call the WIA Office.

Your digital version of AR is also available for members of the WIA. Call the WIA Office to find out how to access a copy.