

4RR Charleville

Broadcasting advertisements, sponsorship limits per hour

The complaint

The ABA received a written complaint concerning material broadcast during general programming on temporary community radio service 4RR FM Charleville which represents the local and surrounding Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities of Charleville.

The complainant alleged that the licensee had breached its temporary licence conditions by:

- · playing untagged advertisements and
- broadcasting advertisements for more than the 5 minutes per hour permitted for proper sponsorship announcements

which were interspersed with a number of community service announcements, sponsorship announcements, news, music and station identifications.

Decision

The ABA determined that the licensee of tem-

porary community radio service 4RR Charleville, Bidjara Media and Broadcasting Company Ltd, breached the licence condition at paragraph 9(1)(b) of Schedule 2 to the Act when it broadcast advertisements on 22 and 25 November 2002. Given the finding that the announcements themselves were not compliant, the question of whether they fell within the five minute time limit does not arise as a matter for further adjudication.

Action taken

The licensee stated that the seriousness of the breach has been brought to the attention of all staff and that it has fully addressed the issue to ensure that all sponsorship announcements are correctly tagged.

In the light of this, the ABA will take no further action in relation to this matter but will monitor the temporary licensee's compliance.

3MDR Melbourne

Policy and procedures for volunteer principles and responsibilities and for internal conflict resolution

Complaint

The ABA received a complaint from a member of the Mountain District Radio Association Incorporation (3MDR) alleging that:

- the licensee did not resolve an internal complaint satisfactorily under the codes of practice:
- the rules of the 3MDR Association do not include dispute handling, conflict resolution or complaints handling procedures; and
- the licensee does not have any documented guidelines setting out the rights and responsibilities of volunteers.

Decision

The ABA determined that the licensee of 3MDR breached:

- clause 5.1 of the Community Radio Broadcasting Code of Practice (2002) in that it did not demonstrate it had guidelines in place outlining the principles of volunteering or the rights and responsibilities of volunteers within the organisation; and
- clause 6.2 of the code because it did not demonstrate that it had a written policy and procedure in place outlining mechanisms to facilitate internal conflict resolution within the organisation.

Action taken

The ABA is currently considering what further action it may take in relation to this matter.

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