

JOHNSON COUNTY RADIO AMATEUR CLUB

Repeater Usage Guidelines

The JCRAC club owns several repeaters that offer new types of digital communications and linking capabilities. This has prompted the need for guidelines on the recommended use of these new modes. Since each repeater has its own unique capabilities, the guidelines will be presented for each individual repeater.

145.290 W0ERH and 145.210 WB0HAC Analog/DMR

- These repeaters are mixed mode Analog and Digital (DMR) repeaters.
- The mode in use during a transmission has priority (and cannot be interrupted until the repeater carrier drops).
- These repeaters are not linked to any other repeaters or networks.
- These repeaters requires a tone of 151.4 Hz to access the repeater and transmits a tone of 151.4 Hz for activating your receiver tone squelch mode (CTCSS).
- When using CTCSS or Tone squelch be sure to monitor the “S” meter or received signal light to make sure the channel is clear before transmitting.
- These repeaters ID after 10 minutes of combined analog and digital transmissions.

442.600 W0ERH Yaesu System Fusion Wires-X capable Repeater:

- This repeater is a System Fusion mode only (no analog mode).
- You do not have to be a club member to use it. The default Wires-X room is the “Kansas-City” room.
- If you wish to change to another Wires-X room make an announcement on the repeater. This is to alert anyone currently on the repeater that it is no longer connected to the Kansas City room.
- Taking the repeater to another room removes that repeater from the rest of the linked repeaters.
- Note that the repeater carrier must drop before you can change rooms. This is because the repeater is connected to the network via a remote node “simplex” radio.
- If you have changed to another room to place a call or talk with another ham change

back to the Kansas-City room when you are finished. Do not leave the repeater connected to a room other than the Kansas-City room if you are not actively using it.

- There is a 5 minute timer on rooms other than the Kansas-City room. If you forget to change back to the Kansas-City room when you are done, it will change back automatically after 5 minutes. If the timer expires while you are using it, simply reconnect to the room you were using.

443.725 W0ERH Yaesu System Fusion AMS

- This repeater operates in either the System Fusion Digital or Analog mode using automatic mode select.
- In the Fusion Digital mode this repeater is linked to the Kansas City Room with Wires-X. In the Fusion Digital mode this repeater operates the same as the 442.600 repeater
- When using the Analog mode this repeater is a stand alone device and is not linked to any other repeaters and does not have a squelch tail.
- Because the Digital and Analog modes cannot hear each other monitor your radios received signal indicator so as to not interfere with conversations in progress.

223.940 W0ERH

- This repeater operates as a standard analog repeater with a 1.6Mhz minus offset.
- This repeater is not linked to any other repeaters.

All of the repeaters have a 3-minute time out timer. The timer is reset when the repeater carrier drops.

Remember 3rd party traffic is not allowed on the repeater unless there is a repeater control operator on duty.

In addition to the specific operating procedures for the repeaters listed above the following operating practices apply to most repeaters in general.

- The main purpose of the repeater is to support emergency and public service use. Normal transmissions should be short to allow emergency or public service traffic to access the repeater.
- During morning and evening “drive time” and nets keep your transmissions short (both analog and digital) to allow everyone access to the repeater.
- Repeaters are intended primarily to facilitate mobile and portable operations.
- Monitor the repeater to become familiar with its operation.
- Use “clear speech” questions and responses instead of “Q” signals or “10 codes.”
- Identify your station at the end of a transmission or series of transmissions and at least once every 10 minutes during the transmissions.
- Keep transmissions short as long transmissions will time out the repeater.
- It takes a little time for the repeater receiver to key up the transmitter. Key the microphone and pause a moment before talking.
- The repeater covers a large area and is monitored by many licensed and unlicensed listeners of all ages. Please refrain from discussions, opinions and language that might be disturbing to others.
- Please do not try to communicate with persons engaging in unidentified transmissions. Either ignore the transmissions or sign off and move to another frequency.
- Do not engage in repeated transmitter keying, unidentified transmissions, playing music, strange sounds or any other illegal activities.
- Do not use the word “break” to get into an existing conversation unless it is an emergency.
- Do not join into an ongoing conversation unless you have something to add. Interrupting is no more polite on the air than it is in person.
- To request a contact simply give your call sign and indicate you are listening or monitoring. No response to your call may indicate that you didn’t make the repeater clear enough to be understood or that no one was available or able to return your call.
- All the clubs repeaters have a 3 minute time-out-timer to comply with the FCC’s requirement for automatic operation. Timing out the repeater may require a control operator to turn the repeater back on.

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