

MODEL AERONAUTICAL ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA



27 MHz EQUIPMENT POLICY

MOP048

APPROVED: M.A.A.A. PRESIDENT

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This Policy and/or Procedure forms part of the M.A.A.A. Manual of Procedures. This entire document is for the use of all classes of members of the M.A.A.A. in the conduct of activities associated with the M.A.A.A. and is not be used for any other purpose, in whole or in part, without the written approval of the M.A.A.A. Executive.

27 MHz EQUIPMENT POLICY

1. INTRODUCTION

The MAAA requires that any user of frequencies in the 27 MHz band complies with the requirements of the Australian Communications Authority (ACA) and the relevant Class licence, Radio communications (Low Interference Potential Devices) Class Licence 2000. This is available from the ACA and is posted on their web site <http://www.aca.gov.au/>

2. REQUIREMENTS

- (a) This approval only applies to model aircraft that are electric powered weighing no more than 500g and having a power source of no more than 9 volts.
- (b) The only approved model frequencies are those that are not used by CB radio. These are:-

Model Channel No	Frequency MHz
Channel 1	26.995
Channel 2	27.045
Channel 3	27.095
Channel 4	27.145
Channel 5	27.195

The following is not be permitted because it is on a frequency used by CB radio

Model Channel No	Frequency MHz
Channel 6	27.255

- (c) The radio equipment used shall be capable of interoperating at 50kHz frequency spacing.
- (d) All normal M.A.A.A. disciplines including club membership, flight line, frequency control, and flying areas apply.
- (e) Acceptance of the use of 27 MHz is not automatic and clubs have final discretion as to whether to allow it at their flying fields.
- (f) Clubs that agree to the use of 27 MHz are required to have a frequency control system. A Silvertone© type system is preferred but, as there is no requirement for a bandwidth sensitive system, an alternative of a board with a peg for each frequency, which is removed and placed on the antenna of the transmitter when in use, would be acceptable.

3. GUIDANCE

Whilst not part of the M.A.A.A. Requirements, the following information is provided to assist users of this class of equipment.

- (a) The 27 MHz Band is also used by CB Radio and by remote control equipment for the control of cars and other vehicles in the same way that the 29 MHz frequencies are used for cars and boats.

- (b) Whilst the frequencies allowed are not those allocated for CB it is possible that, when operated near to model flying fields, high power CB equipment might cause interference to model aircraft operating on the allowed frequencies.
- (c) Model aircraft operating on the allowed frequencies may be subject to interference from individuals using 27 MHz to control cars and other toys nearby.
- (d) When considering whether to allow the use of 27 MHz at any particular location clubs and individuals should consider the likelihood of interference being generated by either CB radios or other users of the 27 MHz Band.
- (e) Clubs should review the operation of 27 MHz equipment from time to time, and if found to be subject to interference should reconsider its use at the field.
- (f) Operators using 27 MHz should be aware of possible range limitations of the equipment compared to 29 MHz and 36 MHz transmitters, which have a minimum power level specified in the Australian Communications Authority Licence for those bands.
- (g) Given that, realistically, the equipment will not be certified, the M.A.A.A. would like to be advised if specific radios might have a bandwidth wider than 50 kHz. It will then investigate and if justified advise users that the equipment is not recommended for use under this Policy.