



## POLICY

Drafted by	Jude Briscoe	Approved by Board on	May 2014
Date Drafted	28 April 2014	Last reviewed date	March 2018
		Scheduled review date	April 2021

## Community Participation

### Purpose

The main purpose of Valley FM Broadcasters Association Inc. is to provide a service to the Tuggeranong Valley community, not only through entertainment, but to build community spirit through the promotion of local community organisations and their activities on radio station Valley FM 89.5. This involves making the studio open to participation by members of the community, both as individuals and as representatives of other organisations.

### Principles

In any community, musical tastes vary widely. Over the course of any week Valley FM (VFM) provides a wide spectrum of music-based programs to cater for divergent listener tastes regardless of time of day.

VFM accepts that there is limited provision for the over 55 age group in local radio services so endeavours to provide a mix of music during the day to cater for the variety of tastes in music that this age group represents.

Programming content will not at any time express prejudice on the basis of ethnicity, race, language, gender, sexuality, age, physical or mental ability, occupation, religious, cultural or political beliefs.

### Policy

Valley FM views itself as an active part of the Tuggeranong Valley Community it serves. The participation is two-way and occurs:

- Through open days and invitations when members of the community are welcome to visit the studio at any time and may observe programs going to air and receive a guided tour. They will be encouraged to volunteer their services to VFM in whatever role is appropriate to their skills and interests
- Membership will be open to all who apply. There will be no discrimination against persons on grounds of ethnicity, race, language, gender, sexuality, age, physical or mental ability, occupation, religious, cultural or political beliefs
- Training for a variety of roles in Valley FM will be offered, and provided, free of charge

- Not-for-profit organisations will have access to free programming, whether of community service announcements, interviews or regular programs
- Listeners and members will have the right to query policy and comment upon program quality and content and receive a positive response
- VFM will take an active part in local events such as festivals and expos
- VFM will join local groups such as business groups and use their contacts within other not-for-profit organisations to expand membership, participation and service provision
- VFM will provide volunteers for local events, and
- VFM will continue to explore and use a variety of ways to encourage participation in overall station operations.

### **Valley FM Compliance Obligations**

The Board is responsible for the development, operationalisation and review of this policy. Compliance with the policy is the responsibility of all Board Members, Presenters and Members.

### **Legislation Framework**

Commonwealth Broadcasting Services Act (1992) available at [Commonwealth Broadcasting Services Act 1992](#)

### **References**

Community Radio Code of Practice 2008

Australian Communications and Media Authority (ACMA). Community Radio Broadcasting Codes of Practice, 23 October 2008 and 2016 available at [CBAA Broadcasting Codes of Practice 2008/2016](#)