



Summerland Amateur Radio Club

Regulations exam study guide

Amateur bands

Regulations exam extract

Amateur Bands

The regulations exam paper is likely to have questions related to amateur radio frequency allocations and restrictions. The definitive document is the 34 page document Radiocommunications (Amateur Stations) Class Licence 2023. located on the Australian Government Register of Legislation web site <https://legislation.gov.au/Details/F2023L01648> There are approximately 30 bands available to amateur radio operators in Australia. Each has a number of parameters including; licence type usage, frequency limits, power limits, emission mode restrictions, and user status.

The WIA Band Plan is not a legal document but presents the information in an easy to read format. <https://www.wia.org.au/members/bandplans/data/>

A candidate could be examined on the details for any of these bands. The key bands SARC Education recommend that candidates concentrate on are:

All the HF bands from 3.5 to 29.7 MHz (80, 40, 30, 20, 17, 15, 12, 10 metre bands)

The 2m VHF band 144 to 148 MHz

The 70cm UHF band 430 to 450 MHz

For each band:

User type: Foundation, Standard, or Advanced. Each higher qualification makes more bands available. No bands are lost when moving to higher qualifications.

Band limits: Particularly important if a mode of operation would place all or part of your transmission out of band.

Power limits: Maximum transmitter power level varies with qualification level, mode and the band itself.

Emission mode: Some bands have mode restrictions. These are usually due to the prohibited mode requiring more bandwidth than reasonable.

User status: Radio bands are often shared. Primary users have priority and Secondary users can only operate if they do not cause interference with Primary users. All Secondary users operate equally on a no interference basis.