



Programming Policy

Purpose

To facilitate programming that reflects and promotes Adelaide Hills communities with particular focus on culture and the demographics of the region as the guiding principles.

Hills Radio's Programming Policy relates to Code 5 of the Community Radio Broadcasting Codes of Practice and aims to encourage programming that reflects our community interest and outline guiding principles.

Programming Committee

The Programming Committee is responsible for the selection, appointment and review of all programs and will consist of up to six (6) people:

- up to four full financial members
- one community representative with no voting rights
- one Board member

The Committee will elect a Chairperson from the financial members. The Chairperson will have the casting vote whenever there is an equality of votes.

Members of the Programming Committee are elected for a term of one year. Candidates may submit their expression of interest in writing to the Board of Management and receive approval based on their merits. Requests for Programming Committee members will be advertised as necessary by email, in the newsletter or at the Annual General Meeting. Programming Committee members may be re-elected at the end of each year if deemed necessary.

The Programming Committee will meet regularly (at least monthly) and keep minutes of the meetings which will be freely available to the General Manager, the Board and the rest of the membership. The Board representative will report monthly to the Board of Management.

Sponsorship will have no influence over decisions made for Programming at the Station.

Background

All broadcast material shall support the objectives, philosophy, vision and mission statement of Hills Radio Inc. and in particular -

- comply with governing legislation
- not detract from the values of Hills Radio
- avoid partisan political bias or influence

All broadcast material shall be of the highest standard possible.

An appointed member of Hills Radio with appropriate qualifications and understanding of the Station and community needs, will undertake training of presenters. Hills Radio will establish a baseline of skill within the Station, and maintain, improve, and review this level of skill. Content used by presenters will be at the discretion of the Programming Committee, subject to Board approval.



Community Involvement

Hills Radio will continually encourage the local community to participate in programming. Community members will be invited to provide feedback to the station about current format and make programming suggestions. This will be done via -

- regular live announcements by live-to-air presenters and a pre-recorded announcement
- the Hills Radio column in the local weekly community newspaper
- the Hills Radio Facebook page
- community engagement at outside broadcasts

Members of the community may submit programming feedback and suggestions via -

- email, letter and telephone calls to the station
- personal visits to the station during office hours
- personal visits to outside broadcasts
- the 'Contact Us' page of the Hills Radio website
- the Hills Radio Facebook page

Programming Generally

Hills Radio will constantly review how our programming meets community needs.

As part of the program approval process, the Programming Committee will engage with the community on how their needs are being met.

All programs are subject to regular review by the Programming Committee to ensure programs fulfil community expectations.

Hills Radio will maintain a record of all programming proposals and submission as times dictate and community needs change or require the delivery of such programming,

Programming shall be such that the Station is appealing to the community of interest and the specific audience targets as determined by the Programming Committee from time to time.

The Programming Committee will ensure that programming is consistent with the target audience, the objectives of the Station and the strategies agreed upon with the Board.

Hills Radio Inc will not broadcast material that may -

- incite, encourage, or present for its own sake, violence or brutality
- mislead or alarm listeners by simulating news or event,
- present as desirable the use of illegal drugs, the misuse of tobacco, alcohol and other harmful substances
- glamorise, sensationalise, or present suicide as a solution to life problems

In particular, broadcast material should not provide explicit details about the method and/or location of a suicide attempt or death.



Hills Radio will attempt to avoid censorship where possible. However, programming decisions will take into consideration community interest, context, degree of explicitness, and the possibility of alarming the listener, the potential for distress or shock, prevailing Indigenous laws or community standards and the social importance of the broadcast.

Hills Radio will not broadcast material that is likely to stereotype, incite, vilify, or perpetuate hatred against, or attempt to demean any person or group, on the basis of ethnicity, nationality, race, language, gender, sexuality, religion, age, physical or mental ability, occupation, cultural belief or political affiliation.

This requirement is not intended to prevent the broadcast of material which is factual, or the expression of genuinely held opinion in a news or current affairs program or in the legitimate context of a humorous, satirical or dramatic work.

Hills Radio will have programming practices that protect children from harmful material.

Hills Radio will follow applicable privacy laws by -

- respecting people's legitimate right to protection from unjustified use of material which is obtained without consent or through an invasion of privacy
- only broadcasting the words of an identifiable person where -
 - that person has been told in advance that the words may be broadcast, or
 - it was clearly indicated at the time the recording was made that the material would be broadcast, or in the case of words that have been recorded without the knowledge of a person, that person has indicated his/her agreement prior to broadcast

Talk Programming

Talk programming and spoken word content shall not conflict with the values of Hills Radio and should promote values consistent with universal beliefs.

The values to be reflected in talk programming; including interviews, current affairs and listener call in programs shall -

- contain integrity, honesty and justice
- offer balanced comment
- be affirming and encouraging
- avoid partisan political bias or influence

Talk content should be selected to target the largest listening audience which conforms to the objectives agreed to by the Programming Committee, subject to Board approval.

Emergency Broadcasts

Hills Radio will maintain communication with emergency services such as the CFS, SES, Red Cross and SAPOL for the provision of emergency broadcasts and ongoing support announcements after an emergency.



Hills Radio will announce information provided by the appropriate emergency and essential service organisations in a timely and accurate manner, for the benefit of our community.

Indigenous Programming

Hills Radio will seek to involve and take advice from Indigenous Australians in the production of programs focusing on Indigenous Australians and issues. Where possible, there will be consultation with the appropriate Indigenous media organisation broadcaster on appropriate forms of communication.

When reporting on Indigenous people and issues, care will be taken to verify and observe the best way to respect culture and customs by –

- considering regional differences, that is, be mindful of differences between Indigenous local groups
- using appropriate words and phrases in referring to Indigenous peoples and their regional groups
- seeking proper advice on how best to respect Indigenous bereavement customs when reporting on people who are deceased, and using suitable words and phrases when reporting on the social and emotional well-being of Indigenous people.

Other Community Groups

Hills Radio will include appropriate programming that is presented and / or produced by minority groups, seniors , youth , LGBTIQ+ , people with disabilities, and ethnic communities.

Music Generally

Music broadcast shall not conflict with the values of the community.

Music shall be selected to target the largest listening audience which conforms to the objectives agreed upon by the Programming Committee and approved by the Board.

Australian Music

Hills Radio Inc is committed to working with local artists to develop Australian music and provide opportunities for performers to have their work regularly broadcast.

Of all music programming Hills Radio will broadcast at least 25 per cent of Australian music.

Hills Radio shall participate in the Australian Music Radio Airplay Project (AMRAP). The Station will also promote South Australian bands and musicians in particular by playing their music on air, inviting live performances in the studio and promoting their public appearances via the Gig Guide.

‘Codes of Practice’ Announcement

As required by the Community Radio Broadcasting Codes of Practice - Code 1.7, Hills Radio will broadcast at least one announcement each week that contains information about the Codes and how listeners can access a copy.

The following script is an example of the community service announcement that Hills Radio Inc plays daily in order to meet the requirements of Code 1.7



PO Box 380
Mt Barker SA 5251
8391 3885
info@hillsradio.com.au
www.hillsradio.com.au
ABN 38 899 599 809

“This station subscribes to the Community Broadcasting Code of Practice. The Code of Practice outlines matters relating to program content such as news and current affairs, Australian music, sponsorship and complaints about program material. If you would like a copy of the Code of Practice, call us on 8391 3885”.