GUIDELINES FOR AREA REPEATERS - BASIC OPERATION

1. Monitor the Repeater for at least 15 Seconds before keying up to see if it is use.

2. To initiate a contact, simply indicate you are on frequency. For example, just transmit: "this is (your call) listening." DO NOT simply key up to hear the machine; this is an unidentified transmission and is illegal! DO NOT use Break or Break-Break Unless you have Priority Traffic or Emergency Traffic and must interrupt an ongoing conversation with a report such as an Accident or Storm Report. This phraseology is normally only used during Emergency Nets.

3. Identify legally; you must identify at the end of your transmission as well as at least once every 10 minutes during the communication.

4. Pause between transmissions, wait for the Courtesy Tone. This will allow for a station with an emergency to access the Repeater. Also for this reason, try to keep all transmissions as short and thoughtful as possible. Remember that many people may be monitoring you, including non-hams with scanners. We need to leave them with a good impression of our service and hobby.

5. If you are close enough to your calling station to Go Direct, or if you are using high enough power, Simplex Operation should be used. This will open the Repeater up for those lower power stations that need it.

6. Use the MINIMUM amount of power necessary to maintain communications. Transmitting with Minimum Power will reduce the possibility of interfering with Adjacent Repeaters, (Columbus, OH and Uniontown, PA.)

7. The 145.230 Repeater is the Primary Repeater for Coshocton County ARES and Skywarn. The 147.045 Repeater is the CCARA Club Repeater. As such, there are times when the Repeaters are in use for Nets. Stations that are not involved in such activities are requested to NOT use the involved Repeaters when a Net is in progress unless the Net is in a "Standby" condition. Again, it is important to listen before you talk!

8. Repeaters are by no means "self-sustaining"; they require a considerable time, labor and expense to operate and maintain. If you find the Repeater Systems to be a valuable service, then you are encouraged to consider actively participating in club activities. This includes attending Club Meetings, helping out with Projects, Fund Raising, Club Dues etc., and encouraging your fellow amateurs to join our organization to ensure that the Repeaters that they enjoy today will be on the air tomorrow.

Simplex Operation

After you have made a contact on a repeater, move the conversation to a *simplex* frequency if possible. The repeater is not a soapbox. You may like to listen to yourself, but others, who may need to use the repeater, will not appreciate your tying up the repeater unnecessarily. The easiest way to determine if you are able to communicate with the other station on simplex is to listen to the *repeater input frequency*. Since this is the frequency the other station uses to transmit to the repeater, if you can hear his signals there, you should be able to use simplex. If you want to perform an

on-the-air test of a pair of hand-held radios, you should select an unoccupied simplex frequency.

The function of a repeater is to provide communications between stations that can't otherwise communicate because of terrain, equipment limitations or both. It follows that stations able to communicate without a repeater should not use one. That way, the repeater is available for stations that need it. (Besides, communication on simplex offers a degree of privacy impossible to achieve on a repeater. On simplex you can usually have extensive conversations without interruption.) Select a frequency designated for FM simplex operation. Otherwise, you may interfere with stations operating in other modes without realizing it. (The reason for this is simple: Changing to a simplex frequency is far easier than changing the frequencies a repeater uses.) To see if you and the other station can communicate on a simplex frequency, listen on the repeater input frequency. If you can clearly hear what's going into the repeater, you don't need the repeater to communicate.