

# OPERATING PRACTICES

## BVARC Consortium 3/2/2020

- **Regardless of what mode you are using, try to always be aware of what's happening around you.**
- **Always consider the width of your signal, especially when near band edges or another station.**
- **Feel free to ask questions of experienced hams. But be sure that advice is correct by checking with known references such as the ARRL Operating Manual or the ARRL Handbook.**
- **Always be courteous and respectful of other Amateurs who might be on a nearby frequency.**
- **Use proper phonetics to give your call when band conditions are poor. It's your responsibility to be sure that the call in the other station's log is correctly yours.**
- **When needing to test transmitter output, ALWAYS use a dummy load. Just sliding up to a "clear frequency" to tune up is not good practice. Someone may be using that frequency who you cannot hear because of skip or propagation conditions. You might be tuning your KW right in someone's lap. Would you like that?**
- **When using a band that uses upper sideband, be careful if you simply switch to lower sideband to avoid QRM. Your lower**

sideband is someone else's upper sideband. ALWAYS be respectful of another Amateur's rights. He/she has as much right to operate as you have.

- Holding an Extra license does not grant you special privileges that override Generals and Technicians. Within the stipulations of what is legal for our license, we ALL should have equal expectations to be treated with respect.
- Familiarize yourself with the criteria necessary to earn membership in the A-1 Operator's Club. A-1 Op members exemplify best operating practices, at least are supposed to.
- Familiarize yourself with the practices recommended on <http://www.on4ww.be/OperatingPracticeEnglish.html> and especially if chasing DX, the DX Code of Conduct at <https://hamwaves.com/dx-code/en/index.html>