

# VARC W5DSC Repeaters' Use Policy

(SEP 1st, 2025)

***The Victoria Amateur Radio Club's (VARC) mission is to promote the Amateur Radio Service. As part of its mission, VARC sponsors amateur radio communications infrastructure via the W5DSC repeaters, operating under the rules and regulations of the national governing authority of the FCC.***

VARC repeaters are in Victoria County and operate on 145.130, 145.190, 443.350, 443.800, and 444.325 MHz, and all frequencies have been coordinated with the Texas VHF/UHF Society. They provide Victoria County wide coverage that overlaps in varying degrees into the surrounding counties and are open to all licensed hams for:

- General ham communications (QSO's) as defined by the FCC
- Individual priority or emergency communications, such health and welfare traffic
- Public service events, such as Bike races, Family Day Fun, and Water Safari
- VARC related nets, such as Monday Night Net
- Weather reporting events, such as activated SkyWarn nets
- Emergency/Disaster communications events, such as those handled by RACES and ARES

Courteous hams prepare and operate with the understanding that no one owns a frequency. VARC encourages all area hams to program their radios for all local frequencies, and to enjoy their ham privileges without conflict.

**The following repeater use policy's provides guidance on VARC repeater use assignments to eliminate rare occasions of conflict and confusion of different operating groups.**

***Individual General Ham Communications*** (QSO's) can use any ham frequency not in use, but defer the frequency to Priority / Emergency traffic, and activated nets.

***VARC related nets*** will Primarily use 145.190 (analog) and for Backup use linked repeaters 443.350 (analog) and 145.130 (digitally). Exception for Special Events: VARC will determine which repeater(s) to use based on what best meets the event's needs. VARC related nets will use their Backup frequencies during RACES, ARES, and SkyWarn, activated emergency nets.

***RACES, ARES, and SkyWarn Approved Activated Training and Emergency nets*** will use 145.190 as Primary (analog) and 444.325 as backup (analog). The VARC President and License Trustee will be provided with advance notice of planned time and duration of training/drill nets, or notice of Net Activation time for emergency nets.

**The VARC W5DSC 145.190 repeater** is analog only and provides the widest area of coverage and is the primary frequency for most nets.

**The VARC W5DSC 444.325 repeater** is analog only and is the backup frequency for RACES, ARES, SkyWarn, and other non-VARC related nets.

**The VARC W5DSC 145.130 repeater digitally** hosts the W5DSC WIRES-X room 45155 and has a dedicated connection with the **W5DSC 443.350 analog only repeater**. The repeaters will be used as backup frequencies for VARC-related nets.

**The VARC W5DSC 443.800 repeater** is digitally linked via WIRES-X to TX FUSION SADRC wide area network and is not to be used for nets without approval from the 443.800 repeater's Caretaker.

The **National VHF Simplex frequency of 146.520** is always available.