

CHAPTER 305**BROADCASTING****BROADCASTING RULES, 1992***S.I. 46/1992***(SECTION 18)***[Commencement 17th June, 1992]*

1. These Rules may be cited as the Broadcasting Rules, 1992. Citation.

**PART I
PRELIMINARY**

2. (1) In these Rules — Interpretation.

“Council” means the Electoral Broadcasting Council established under the Parliamentary Elections Act, 1992; Ch. 7.

“election advertising” means broadcasting time for spot advertisements designed to support and promote the election of members of a political party who are nominated candidates for election, or the election of other individuals who are nominated candidates for election, limited to the purposes and extent specified in these Rules;

“election broadcast” means a political broadcast whether by television or radio which is to take place or takes place between the issue of a writ of election and polling day;

“election period” means in relation to —

- (a) a general election, the period commencing with the date of dissolution of Parliament;
- (b) a bye-election, the period commencing with the date of the issue of the respective writ,

and ending with the respective close of poll;

“the Leader of a political party” means the individual who has been elected or otherwise acclaimed as the Leader (by whatever name called) of a political party;

“political broadcast” means a broadcast whether by television or radio designed to promote or reduce the popularity of a political party or a candidate for an election;

“political party” means a political party which —

- (a) has policies on a wide range of national issues;
- (b) has an elected leader;
- (c) holds a national conference of members of the party at least once in any period of eighteen months; and
- (d) nominates candidates for not less than one sixth of the seats of the House of Assembly at the current general election.

“spot announcement” means an announcement on radio or television advertising an event which —

- (a) is in a form approved by the general manager;
- (b) is made by a member of the staff of the broadcasting station in the voice of that member;
- (c) is paid for by or on behalf of the person making the broadcast; and
- (d) does not exceed fifteen seconds in duration;

“text” includes any script whether written or recorded.

Ch. 7.

(2) Unless otherwise stated in these Rules or any other written law, words and expressions used in these Rules shall have the same respective meanings as in the Parliamentary Elections Act, 1992.

PART II GENERAL PROVISIONS

Control of
programmes.

3. (1) Subject to the provisions of rule 30 the material content of all programmes shall at all times be subject to approval by the general manager or assistant manager under such instructions as may from time to time be issued to them by the Corporation.

- (2) Live talent shall not be broadcast without being auditioned and approved by the general manager or the assistant manager.

(3) No advertisement for spirits shall be accepted for broadcast, but advertisements may be accepted for beer and wines.

(4) In no case, whether the full air time rate has been paid or not, shall any solicitation for funds be made in any religious programme, except the customary announcement of the offering during a church service.

4. The proportion of time which may be devoted to advertising in any one programme shall be as follows —

Advertising time allowed per programme.

- (a) eight minutes in any one hour programme (not exceeding eight announcements);
- (b) six minutes in a half hour programme (not exceeding six announcements);
- (c) three minutes in a quarter hour programme (not exceeding three announcements).

5. The general manager shall have the supervision and control of the staff of the broadcasting station, and may employ and dismiss junior staff drawing less than \$7,500 per annum subject to confirmation at the next meeting of the Corporation.

Control of staff.

6. The officers and servants of the Corporation shall not accept other employment without the approval of the Corporation.

Acceptance of other employment.

7. The Corporation may appoint such advisory council or councils and for such periods as they may deem necessary.

Advisory councils.

8. (1) Air time may be sold only by staff members or official sales representatives of the Corporation as appointed by them.

Contracts for air time.

(2) Contracts for air time may be entered into by the general manager acting on behalf of the Corporation or in the case of contracts for international accounts the contracts may be signed by the official agents of the Corporation abroad.

9. It shall not be lawful for any person who has purchased air time to sell or transfer the benefit of the same or any portion of the same for the purposes of political broadcasting or advertising.

Re-sale of air time.

Making
recordings.

10. (1) Studio and other facilities may be afforded to any person for the purpose of making recordings provided such work is carried out by the officers or the Corporation.

(2) The charges for such facilities shall be determined by the Corporation in each case.

(3) Playback facilities may be made available without charge at the discretion of the general manager as a courtesy to accredited representatives of other broadcasting stations visiting The Bahamas.

Emergency
messages.

11. (1) Emergency messages may be accepted for broadcast to Family Island settlements not adequately served by a telegraph or radio telephone station.

(2) Such messages shall be limited to fifty words each and the fee fixed in the schedule of rates of the Corporation shall be payable for each message:

Provided that in the case of messages concerning illness or death confirmed by a doctor or the hospital the messages may be accepted free of charge:

Provided also that the general manager may in his discretion waive the charge in exceptional cases which shall be reported to the Corporation at their next monthly meeting.

(3) Public emergency broadcasts and broadcasts regarding missing vessels or aircraft shall be made free of charge.

Charges for
outside
broadcasts.

12. Programmes originating outside the studio shall be subject to special service charges for line rental, services of engineer and other related services, at special rates to be determined by the Corporation in each case.

Church services.

13. (1) The Corporation shall keep a roster of churches accepted for free religious broadcasts as prepared by the general manager each quarter.

(2) No charge shall be made for air time for one broadcast per Sunday per month from churches listed on the roster.

Cancellation of
broadcasts.

14. It shall be lawful for the Corporation to cancel broadcast time or to substitute another period to accommodate broadcasts of national interest or importance.