

# Yahoo over 55s Bush Walking club – Procedure for use of Radios on Bush walks -November 2019

*(Extracted from Uniden UH750 Owners Manual)*

**1. “Preset” settings** To make the operation of radios as easy and trouble free as possible the Yahoo radios will be handed to users with all settings already entered e.g. channel, volume, power, squelch (*for noise rejection*) and channel sub tone [*to prevent interference from other users on the same channel*]

Users are only required to operate the “Press to Talk Button” and wait a few seconds before speaking.

**2. Obtaining Radios on Bush Walks.** –One of the Rockingham members will hand over the radios (charged and preset) to the bush walk’s Walk Leader and Tail end Charlie.

During handover the radios will be turned on, the preset positions of volume and noise elimination shown and the call protocols (listed in 3) briefly covered.

All other radio buttons will be locked out to prevent inadvertent operation. *A key symbol shows up on the display.*

### **3) Radio use and protocols.**

**3.1) Call names.** Radios are labelled (by stickers). Yahoo1 would be typically used by the Walk leader and Yahoo 2 by the Tail end Charlie.

### **3.2) Important operational use.**

**Wait before speaking.** Always wait a couple of seconds after pressing PTT button. When replying, always wait 4/5 seconds before pressing PTT button.

**Optimum position to hold radio -when speaking.** The best position for clear transmission over long distance is to hold the radio vertically in front --about 5cm to 10cm from the mouth.

**Speak slowly and briefly** - do not include too much information in one transmission.

### **3.3 Radio communication protocols – name, over, out**

Check the display does not show a busy symbol and then in turn, press the “Push to talk” key (upper LHS). Use your call name first e.g. “Yahoo 1 calling Yahoo 2 –Are you receiving? – Over”.

*Note. Use “Over” when you have finished transmitting to let the other person know that they can respond. (Radios will not work if both radios have the talk buttons depressed). Busy call lock (BCL) has been set in the radios. This means the radios will not transmit if anyone else, anywhere, is transmitting on the channel.*

Use "Over and Out" protocol when completely finished to inform no further communication is required.

**4. During walk** – Frequent routine checks during the walk is not required.

Tail end Charlie or Walk leader would normally only initiate a few routine radio call checks on a walk - typically at the start of walk and just prior to morning tea and lunch break.

Should any radio problems arise they can then be discussed with the member who handed over the radio.

**5. Walk completion** - Turn off power and hand radios to the member who brought the radios.

## **Appendix -Pre set radio settings and basic radio features**

*(Tried and tested -November 2019)*

### **1.Channel selected – 57,**

*(Note -The higher number channels above 40 are most unlikely to be used by others)*

### **2. CTSSS Selected ( CTCSS )- Yes- Tone 27 chosen- “CTCSS” displayed .**

*(Note -Continuous Tone Coded Squelch System Tone-adds another signal condition -on top of the channel frequency and squelch setting –that must exist before a radio passes transmission through to speaker. This almost ensures that club walkers will never hear from any other radio users outside of the club.*

### **3. Power selected - 5 watt (High power)**

*(Note –In a bush environment the 5W power would normally cover a range over 3km - whereas the lower 1 watt may be limited to 1.5km.*

*The purpose for selecting low power is to “conserve battery power” --should the radios be used a lot to transmit/talk. Given this is not our requirement we will operate on the higher 5W power.*

*The display does not show when on high power but indicates “Low” if placed on low power.*

### **4. Volume setting –turned to 3 o clock - approximately 75%**

### **5. Squelch setting –turned to 9 o clock –approx.25%\*- opposite to volume setting.**

*(Stops background noise being heard. **Important note\*** -If squelch set too high can also stop normal transmission being heard. This setting has been tested on walks but can be demonstrated as correct by temporarily switching to channel 56 -using the arrow button with key lock off)*

### **6. Busy Call Lock out selected - Yes – “BCL” displayed. (see Note in 7)**

### **7. Lock out of key pushbuttons- Yes -“Key symbol” displayed.**

*Note- Push button double functions -Four the six alpha coded pushbutton also perform a further function to be set–as indicated by a nearby adjacent alpha code. These additional functions are always selected /cancelled by holding the button in for 1.5 seconds.*

*Example The 1/5W pushbutton when pushed temporarily changes transmission power between low and high. If the button is maintained depressed for 1.5 secs it enables/cancels “Key lock “*

### **8. Features not used –all via front pushbuttons**

#### **Monitor (Mon), Memory (Mem), Scan, OS/GS (Open and Group Scan)**

*All these are associated with “Scanning channels for signals”.*

**VOX -Voice activated transmission.**

#### **Duplex (DUP)**

*This activates duplex operation on those channels that have that option. Duplex transmission is used to transmit over large buildings /hills utilising station repeaters.*