

Amateur Radio Club

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by Mike MacKinnon.

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This is a good way of meeting people with similar interest, and it is also a hobby that blind people can enjoy because the equipment can be adjusted to their needs.

You acquire skill as an operator and in some cases this has been utilized by members as assets to future career goals.

The system can be operated mobility in much the same manner as a CB. Amateur radio is more flexible however and there are a greater number of channels to choose from as there is a lot more space and power.

As expected there are laws regulating the operation of amateur radios. The regulatory body is the Department of Communication. In order to get a license you are required to pass a written test. There are three classes of certificates.

One is Amateur License which allows the operator to use morse code with full privileges and some voice privileges. The second class is advanced amateur which allows full voice privileges. Both certificates require a test in morse code.

The third requires no code test and allows limited voice privileges and is a different branch than the other two.

Each station has a call sign and the language use is different than that of the CB lingo. The language is more formal in nature and can be abbreviated in morse code.

The club can handle emergency messages and the equivalence of long-distance phone calls.

Each station has QSL cards which they exchange with the station they have contacted. Stations contacted include one from Rabat, Morocco who is a former UNB student, Trinidad Island off South American and previously there was one in Uganda. Surprisingly contact with the Soviet Union is common.

If you would like to contact the club they are located in room 209 at Head Hall, phone number is 454-6790.

One last note, King Hussien is a Ham.

