

The Radio Amateur Invalid and Blind Club
Registered Charity No. 802348



Patron

Lord Rix, Kt, CBE, DL, G2DQU

PLEASE READ BEFORE COMPLETEING APPLICATION FORM
LOAN EQUIPMENT
JUNE 2010

Eligibility and application for equipment.

The following is a summary of who may be eligible for loan equipment, how to apply for such equipment, and the terms and conditions of loaning equipment.

RAIBC ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA
FOR CONSIDERATION BEFORE LOANING EQUIPMENT

1. Proof of disability.

The Member must be in receipt of Disability Living Allowance, Attendance Allowance, War Pension, or registered blind/partially sighted. In case of a dispute the committee may give a person full membership status on the presentation of additional evidence from a reputable medical source.

2. Savings

Assistance will not normally be given where the Member's savings exceed £8000.

3. Existing radio equipment

Due to the high cost of purchasing and loaning Amateur equipment, it is important to target the resources of the Charity to where it will have most impact. On this basis, an applicant is asked to inventory their currently owned equipment. The Charity will endeavour to supply equipment for a Member's specialist interest, but the Charity's main objective is to assist Members with little or no equipment to get on the air both locally and nationally, and cannot guarantee to provide equipment to allow operation on every band and mode.

4. Ability

To qualify for transmitting equipment the member must provide a copy of their license. Through discussions with the member the Equipment Manager must

establish to his/her satisfaction that the member is competent enough to use the equipment and that their interest in amateur radio is not transitory.

5. Sponsorship

Each piece of equipment loaned must be sponsored by an individual known to the member but not living at the same address. The sponsor should ideally be an Amateur.

6. Insurance

Equipment on loan from the RAIBC must be insured by the member. This can be done through the house contents insurance or through specialist insurance companies. The Equipment Manager will give advice if required. The member is responsible for any damage to or loss of the equipment, including packaging.

7. Membership

To retain loaned equipment the individual must remain a member of the RAIBC. To assist the committee each member with loaned equipment must pay their annual subscription by standing order. If there is a genuine difficulty in doing this the committee make make alternative arrangements at their discretion.

8. Refusal to supply equipment.

The committee has the right to refuse to loan equipment to any member. If a decision is made not to loan equipment a letter will be sent to the member outlining the reasons for that decision. The member may then appeal this decision in writing to the Chairman of the RAIBC within 30 days. The application will be looked at again at the subsequent committee meeting. The decision made at that meeting will be final and will be communicated to the member in writing.

9. Only individuals who are full, that is disabled, members of the RAIBC are eligible for loaned equipment. Anyone who is in receipt of Disability Living Allowance, Attendance Allowance, War Pension or who is registered Blind/Visually Impaired will be automatically considered disabled and therefore eligible for consideration for loaned equipment. Anyone who does not fit into this category will have to provide alternative and compelling evidence of their disability.

10. We will consider every case on its merits but no one is guaranteed loan equipment.

11. If you wish to apply to the RAIBC for loan equipment then please contact the Equipment Manager. (Contact details below). We can discuss your situation and your needs and then proceed with your application. This will consist of a form on which you will put your request into writing. You will be able to tell the committee of your disabilities and if you need any modifications made to your equipment. This will also be the stage at which you would supply evidence of your disability. This would ideally be a photocopy of your entitlement to the benefits mentioned above. Disabled parking badges or photocopies of bank statements showing benefits will not suffice. If you are asking for loan of a

transceiver then a photocopy of your Amateur Radio License must also be supplied.

12. The Equipment Manager will put your case to the committee and the committee as a whole will make a decision about loaning you equipment.

Type of equipment supplied.

13. We will supply suitable receivers to SWL's to enable them to listen in to radio amateurs. Licensed amateurs will be supplied with suitable transceivers. The equipment we supply may be modified to allow ease of use. For example voice chips to enable the visually impaired to use radios. Equipment supplied may be brand new or used. It will be in good working and cosmetic order. We are not able to supply specific radios to "order" so to speak. If you feel a specific radio may suit your needs for health reasons than we will take this into consideration. However we are experienced in this area and know what radios are generally suitable.

14. If you are successful or not in your application for loan equipment you will be notified by telephone, email, or if required by post. You will then be sent a form to complete in triplicate agreeing to the terms and conditions of the loan of the equipment. At this point you will also be required to provide the name, address, telephone number and signature of another individual who will act as your sponsor and witness. This individual would ideally be another amateur and must live at a different address to you. If another amateur is not available then another individual who is willing to act in this capacity will suffice. This person will be our second contact if we have any problems getting hold of you, and will take joint responsibility for the loaned equipment with you. They can also assist you in returning equipment to us if needed. You keep one copy of the form, the sponsor has one copy, and the other copy goes to the loan equipment manager. Once this form has been completed and received by the Equipment Manager your equipment will be sent to you at the earliest opportunity. When the equipment arrives you will receive another form, which will require you to confirm receipt of the equipment and the serial number(s) of the equipment. This form must also then be returned to the Equipment Manager. We appreciate this is a lot of forms but it is necessary to ensure the safety of the RAIBC's equipment.

15. We do of course insist that the equipment we loan you be insured. This can be done on your house contents insurance although you will need to specify it on your policy. Alternatively there are companies who specialise in insuring amateur radio equipment. We have no doubt that you will treat your loaned equipment with great care just as though it was your own.

16. If at any time you no longer require the equipment then we ask you to return it to us so we can pass it on to other members. Please use the return form that will be provided with your equipment in this event. If you are unable to arrange the safe return of the equipment then the RAIBC will arrange to have the equipment collected.

17. In order to retain your equipment you must remain a member of the RAIBC. This obviously means that you will pay your subscription on time each year. Individuals with loan equipment are required to set up a Standing Order / Direct Debit to the RAIBC to ensure this does not get forgotten. If you do not pay your subscription then you must return the equipment to us immediately. Failure to do so will result in legal action to recover the equipment.

18. You must also of course keep the club informed of any change in address. The membership secretary and the equipment manager must be informed as soon as possible.

19. We would also ask that, if at all possible, you pay for the cost of posting your loaned radio to you. It is not expensive and of course to us as a charity every penny counts.

20. We will from time to time contact you to ensure that the supplied equipment is still giving good service. This contact may be in the form of a letter, questionnaire, email or telephone call. You are required to respond to such contact as part of your loan agreement. Failure to do so will result in your being required to return your loaned equipment.

21. You acknowledge that the equipment remains the property of the RAIBC at all times and may not be lent or sold to other individuals.

22. The RAIBC reserves the right to alter these regulations at any time. The RAIBC may at any time request the return of any loaned equipment.

23. In this instance thirty days notice will be given.

We hope that you are successful in your application and have many years pleasure from the equipment we supply.

If you have any questions on this or wish to apply for equipment please contact:
Brendan Sykes 2E0BDS, 1 Lenton Lane, Friskney, Boston, Lincolnshire, PE22 8RR
Telephone: 01754 820204