

# Satellite Phones for SKCWA Club Supported Trips

Document prepared by Andrew Munyard Jan 2016

## Background

The club no longer has its own satellite phone. The phone (which was getting on to 10 years old and requiring some significant maintenance) was owned by Les Allen who did not want to make the investment needed to bring the phone up to spec. Like mobile phones (but a lot more expensive) staying on the network is very expensive.

As a satellite phone is a 'last line of defence', it is important that it be in first class working order. The previous phone could not offer this guarantee, however a hired phone ensures this.

It was decided by the committee in 2015 to not buy a club phone and the associated costs of maintaining network connectivity, but to hire a phone when needed for club trips.

If a satellite phone is required for a club supported expedition / trip the phone will be hired. Some providers are listed at the bottom of this document.

## Guidelines

- A club supported trip is one that is advertised and open to all club members of appropriate skill level, and all participants are current financial club members.
- If the trip / expedition is a club supported trip, then the club will pay for the hire costs of the phone and any calls made which relate to the safety of the trip. Private call costs will be the responsibility of the caller. (Phone bills are fully itemised)
- The hired phone will need to have insurance cover for phone damage. This cost will be met by the club.
- The phone will need to be picked up and returned to the hirer by a trip participant, the club will not meet courier costs.
- As at January 2016, Satellite phones cost around \$140 per week or \$20 per day. Call costs are around \$6 per minute

## Where to Hire a Sat-phone

Google 'sat phone hire', there are many providers

Landwide Satellite Solutions.

(They offer insurance for the phone at \$2 per day)

The phone came in a waterproof Pelican case.

<http://www.landwide.com.au>

Ph 1800 45 45 87

Suite 13 Level 1

420 Bagot Rd,

Subiaco WA 6008

Fastwave Communications(They did not have any insurance)

<http://www.fastwave.com.au>

Satellite Equipment & Services

Global Mobile Communications,

60 Coghlan Rd, Subiaco WA 6008

***Please ensure that Insurance is available from a provider as a damaged phone may be billed to you until it is repaired ,or worst, meeting the cost of replacement.***