

ZS6SSC BULLETIN 8 OCTOBER 2017

Good morning, this is the Monthly Bulletin for ZS6SSC the Southern Suburbs Amateur Radio Club, today – 10 December 2017, presented by ZR6AUI – Christo Greyling and compiled by ZS6WC – Willie Wright

This bulletin is transmitted on 145.7875 MHz, with the kind permission of ZS6HVB, The Highveld Club.

There is also a relay on 439.125 MHz with a 88.5 tone, Please be aware that a time out timer is active,

In the Bulletin today:

Once again spring has sprung and summer is close behind, Which means lightening, rain, static and thunder.

Now is the time to set up a routine that needs to be faithfully followed when leaving the shack.

Now let me start by saying **THERE IS NO RELIABLY KNOWN LIGHTENING PROTECTION”**

But we can reduce the risk

1. disconnect your radio station completely from the 220 volt ac power source

2. disconnect all your antenna coaxial cables from your radio station

3 .do not ever rely on household 3 pin plug earth to offer any lightening protection.

4 make sure that your antenna support structure and antennas are either at dc ground or at least grounded at the feed point by grounding the shield . (static bleed off)

Best practice would be to have reliably grounded polyphasers (protection units) at the antenna system feed point .

In my case where I have a control box mounted at the mast head antenna feed point and protection is needed for the remote equipment.

The antenna should enter the radio room via a bulkhead panel

Remove a small pane of glass and replace it with a same size piece of square aluminium that has been drilled to accept bulk head (long threaded barrel connectors.

Once the coaxial cables are connected to this grounding panel the potential difference that would or might be generated is equalised

This bulkhead panel must now be grounded to the same grounding point as your tower earth. (earth spikes etc)

Over the years metal copper pipes have been replaced by plastic pipe thus earth continuity has been lost so do not rely on water pipes as any form of earth unless you have the time to check the water pipe system in your shack.

Rather drive in three earth rods into the ground ,use heavy duty earthing cable and have one common ground system for your shack.

Some amateurs follow the “non grounded system” where no radio equipment is grounded only antenna systems and coaxial cable screens are grounded at the bulkhead panel

I favour this system and only ground at the bulkhead panel, this includes my power supplies are disconnected from the 220 ac supply.

End of part 1 of 3

More on this during our next bulletin and wednesday night net.

Please listen on Wednesday for our technical net.

You have been listening to the official bulletin of the Southern Suburbs Amateur Radio Club,
transmitted on the second Sunday of each month. This bulletin is also available for download on our website.

If you require any information regarding the Southern Suburbs Amateur Radio Club or if there is any
news or content you would like to be included in the next bulletin please sent this to

The Secretary: zs6wc@vodamail.co.za

Also visit our website for membership application form and Club information www.zs6ssc.co.za

This brings our bulletin to an end and we hope you enjoyed good reception and thank you for listening

2. Call-in on 2m and 70cm

2m Call-ins

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70cm Call-ins

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This brings an end to the post bulletin net, thank you for joining us

We release these frequencies now for general use

Good bye