Mzansi FM

News policy

An important element of Mzansi FM programming is the news department, it is of great importance for the Mzansi FM news department to function at a very high and competitive level. Our news needs to tell a great majority of local stories from within our communities, under the guidance of the head of news; the news department must ensure that it is continuously striving to achieve the goals of telling stories reflecting our diverse communities.

Below are points to govern the news department:

1. The news department shall be under the guidance of the head of news.
2. The head of news is accountable to the station manager.
3. The head of news is to provide a monthly report to the station manager.
4. The head of news is to be in direct and continuous consultation with the head of programming.
5. As the news department is directly involved in the on-air programming of the station, the head of programming can intervene in matters that affect on-air delivery.
6. The head of news is responsible for recommending personnel he/she would like to hire, this information he/she is to share with the head of programming regarding the person’s abilities, the decision is to be ratified by the station manager.
7. Personnel hired for the news department should be residents within the Ekurhuleni Metropolitan region.
8. The head of news shall establish and maintain healthy relations with different news sources, agencies and any other structure that has an interest in providing content for the department.
9. The following points are also important to note regarding Mzansi FM news:
10. Mzansi FM news is to be delivered in 3 predominant languages namely IsiZulu, SeSotho and English.
11. Open-door policy remains maintained for any other language to be used as long as it will be broadly understand by the listener.
12. News bulletins are to be carried seven days a week and the total hours of news in a week should not be less than those contained within the licence conditions.
13. News bulletins shall be carried from 06h00 until 18h00 weekdays and 06h00 until 12h00 weekends. (Inclusive of news headlines)
14. All news bulletins shall reflect 60% of local (Ekurhuleni) news, 30% of South African news and 10% of world news.
15. There is to be a minimum of two recorded clips for each bulletin.
16. The head of news shall facilitate diary meetings.
17. The head of news is to approve all stories meant for broadcast and is to ensure all is in order; this is to avoid wrong content being broadcast and the wrong pronunciation.
18. There is to be an adequate substitute for each news anchor for each language.
19. Recorders and any other equipment used in preparing for broadcasts are to be the responsibility of the head of news but should be easily available to all news anchors and reporters for the purpose of preparing their work adequately.
20. A news anchor cannot leave their work station until the next anchor has arrived.
21. The sports division falls under the news department and all points mentioned in the running of the news department apply to the sports division.
22. Traffic updates are to be run from the news department; all points mentioned in the running of the news department apply in terms of traffic updates.
23. Should there be any breaking news then the news department is allowed to interfere with normal programming through reasonable consultation with the head of programming and the presenter/producer on duty.
24. Should there be any major events that require special attention then news personnel can be asked to work extra hours to cover those events i.e. elections, disasters, etc.

Offences

1. It shall be deemed an offence for any person not to carry the work entrusted with them.