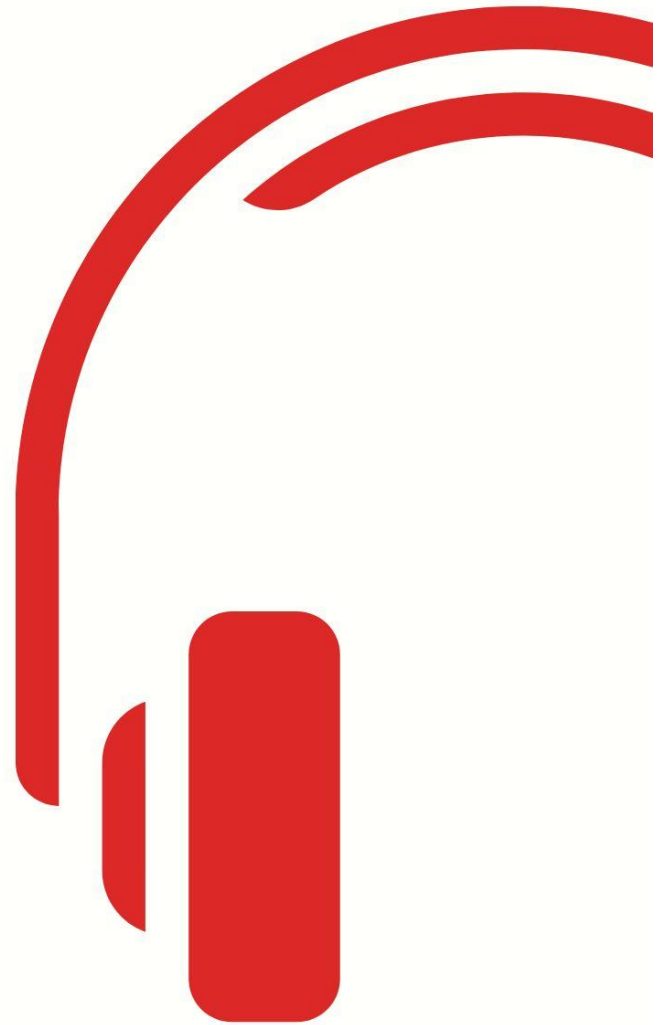


**ARIA**  
**CHARTS**



# **CODE OF PRACTICE**

**11 DECEMBER 2025**

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## **1 OVERVIEW OF THE ARIA CHARTS CODE OF PRACTICE**

- 1.1.** The purpose of the ARIA Charts is to accurately report on music consumption in Australia at certain periods of time. In the past, the ARIA Charts predominantly tracked physical product sales. The ARIA Charts encompass physical, digital and streaming activity.
- 1.2.** The ARIA Charts Code of Practice has been developed to help ensure that there is a clear, consistent and fair approach to the operation of the ARIA Charts. This includes Eligibility Rules, Data Rules and other rules designed to facilitate the efficient production of the ARIA Charts and to minimise the chance of uncertainty and disputes. The system and processes used to compile the ARIA Charts have been designed to maximise the integrity, credibility and accuracy of the ARIA Charts by excluding ineligible and inaccurate data.
- 1.3.** The ARIA Charts Code of Practice ensures that all participants in the ARIA Charts - spanning data suppliers, record companies, artists and consumers, are aware of the basis upon which the ARIA Charts and Accreditations are calculated.
- 1.4.** Defined terms used in this ARIA Charts Code of Practice are set out in Schedule 1.

### **ARIA Club Chart Code of Conduct**

- 1.5.** In addition to this ARIA Charts Code of Practice, participants in the ARIA Club Chart are also bound by the ARIA Club Chart Code of Conduct, which has been established in conjunction with the ARIA Charts Code of Practice. The ARIA Club Chart Code of Conduct is set out in Appendix A of this Code.

## **2 WHAT ARE THE ARIA CHARTS?**

### **2.1 Description of the ARIA Charts**

- (a) The ARIA Charts rank the popularity of recorded music in Australia. The ARIA Charts are published weekly and end of year charts may be published following the conclusion of the calendar year. The various ARIA Charts that are compiled by ARIA are set out in Schedule 2.
- (b) ARIA Charts are reviewed from time to time to ensure continued relevance. Consideration of the introduction of new charts, or the discontinuation of others, is managed by the ARIA Chart & Marketing Committee.

### **2.2 Definitions and Eligibility Rules for specific charts**

Specific Eligibility Rules for each ARIA Chart are set out in Schedule 3 and defined terms are set out in Schedule 1.

## **3 ADMINISTRATION OF THE ARIA CHARTS**

- 3.1** The ARIA Charts Department is responsible for the day-to-day management of the ARIA Charts, including the interpretation and application of the Eligibility Rules and the Data Rules, the collation of data and the production of all of the ARIA Charts.
- 3.2** The ARIA Charts Department operates under the general direction of the ARIA Chart & Marketing Committee. The ARIA Chart & Marketing Committee may consult independent relevant industry experts as it sees fit in order to assist in ensuring the relevance and accuracy of various ARIA Charts. Any changes to this ARIA Charts Code of Practice are at the direction of that Committee.

## **ARIA Charts Data**

**3.3** The ARIA Charts (excluding the ARIA Club Chart) are compiled using data supplied to ARIA by Record Suppliers and Data Providers. ARIA maintains a database of product releases from information supplied by such Record Suppliers and Data Providers. Information supplied by Record Suppliers and Data Providers is regulated by this Code, including the Data Rules.

**3.4** The ARIA Charts reflect a wide range of consumer preferences at the time the relevant information is collected. Although the ARIA Charts calculation process is designed to ensure accuracy of all data, as chart calculations are based on sample data (i.e. not all stores / services across the country) it is important to note that the results published remain an approximation of activity during the relevant period.

### **3.5 Record Suppliers**

The Record Suppliers include but are not limited to ARIA Members. Most of the ARIA Charts (see Schedule 3 for specifics) require that the Record Suppliers provide ARIA with a request that the product releases be surveyed in the ARIA Charts (see section 4).

### **3.6 Data Providers**

- (a) Physical and digital retailers that supply sales information to ARIA and streaming services that provide streaming data to ARIA are called Data Providers.
- (b) Physical retail sales information about the Titles surveyed in the ARIA Charts is supplied by a sample of Recorded Music Retailers throughout Australia from their computerised point-of-sale tracking equipment.
- (c) Digital sales and streaming information about the Titles surveyed in the ARIA Charts is supplied by various Digital Service Providers and Streaming Service Providers via electronic file submissions which include information about sales and/or stream counts for Titles within Australia.
- (d) The full list of Data Providers is available on the ARIA website at this link: <https://www.aria.com.au/charts/stores/>.

### **3.7 Prospective Data Providers**

- (a) Entities that want to become Data Providers should contact ARIA via the methods set out in section 14. Data file structure, transmission protocols and other relevant information are available from ARIA upon request.
- (b) The prospective entity's data reporting capability will be tested until ARIA is satisfied with the data and process. ARIA will not enter into an agreement with a Data Provider or otherwise allow the entity to provide data for the purpose of the calculation of the ARIA Charts unless the results of this testing are satisfactory to ARIA.
- (c) Not all applications from prospective data suppliers will necessarily be successful, and this may depend on the existing sample size and the potential for the additional data to improve the accuracy of the ARIA Charts.

### **3.8 ARIA Club Chart Data**

- (a) The ARIA Club Chart is compiled from reports submitted by a panel of active Club DJs in clubs across Australia. The DJ panel is administered by a committee of dance music specialists. Further details on the composition of the ARIA Club Chart is set out in Appendix A of this Code.

- (b) Club DJs and touring DJs working regularly in clubs in Australia may be considered as a contributor to the ARIA Club Chart, by completing an application form. The application will be considered by the ARIA Club Chart Committee.

### **3.9 Express Agreements and Implied Agreements by participating in an ARIA Chart**

- (a) Entities that are qualified and accepted by ARIA to participate in the supply of data for the ARIA Charts are required to enter into an agreement with ARIA for the supply of the data.
- (b) Record Suppliers and Data Providers must comply with the ARIA Charts Code of Practice as a condition of contributing data to any ARIA Chart. Participation by any Record Supplier or Data Provider in the ARIA Charts is deemed as full acceptance of and willingness to comply with all provisions of this Code, including the Eligibility Rules, the Data Rules and the rules relating to the consequences of non-compliance with the Code.
- (c) Any Record Supplier that participates in the ARIA Charts by requesting that a Title be surveyed in the ARIA Charts is taken to authorise ARIA to use any and all information supplied by the Record Supplier for the purpose of, or in connection with, the preparation, promotion or publication of the ARIA Charts and related data and statistics.
- (d) Any Data Provider that participates in the ARIA Charts by supplying data about its retail sales or streaming play information is deemed to authorise ARIA to use any and all information supplied for the purpose of, or in connection with, the preparation, promotion or publication of the ARIA Charts and related data and statistics.

## **4 SURVEYS**

### **4.1 ARIA Charts Survey Request**

As set out in section 6.4, in order for a Title to be included within the calculation of the ARIA Charts, Record Suppliers must advise ARIA of the details of the product released, and the items they wish to be surveyed on particular charts (e.g. Singles chart, Country or Classical album charts). This notification must be provided to ARIA via a Chart Survey Request from a Record Supplier. Once ARIA receives this form, ARIA will process the request and confirm to the Record Supplier that the Titles will be surveyed as requested and will do so in accordance with the Timetable. Independent artists and record labels can request that their Titles be surveyed via ARIA's online Chart Survey Request form.

### **4.2 Survey Reports**

- (a) ARIA undertakes to provide Record Suppliers that have significant active survey Titles with a weekly Survey Report via email which includes confirmation of:
  - (i) All new entries added to survey in the current week; and
  - (ii) A detailed list of all Titles belonging to the Record Supplier on all ARIA Chart surveys.
- (b) The Survey Reports show the Record Supplier all the identifiers in the ARIA database that are linked to each surveyed Title.
- (c) Sales of products reported by contributing Data Providers with identifiers that accord with the survey request information submitted by Record Suppliers will be aggregated for chart calculation purposes. As a result, it is critical that identifiers communicated via the Chart Survey Request form are those utilised by contributing Data Providers.
- (d) Record Suppliers are encouraged to carefully and diligently monitor the Survey Report to ensure that all required Titles and product identifiers are correctly listed in the ARIA database and on the appropriate survey.

### **4.3 ARIA Charts Survey Request – assistance from ARIA**

ARIA will assist Record Suppliers to check information about a Title included or to be included in an ARIA Chart survey upon receiving a reasonable request for access to the relevant information held by ARIA and which is not subject to any conflicting confidentiality obligation.

### **4.4 Amendments and withdrawals of surveys**

- (a) A Record Supplier may withdraw any of their Titles from any surveyed ARIA Chart by submitting an amended written Chart Survey Request to the ARIA Charts Department in accordance with the Timetable. Such amendment will only be reflected in charts calculated after receipt of the notice.
- (b) Record Suppliers may amend survey information (e.g. designated Lead Track) by submitting a further Chart Survey Request using the appropriate Chart Survey Request form (see Schedule 4). Such amendment will only be reflected in charts calculated after receipt by ARIA of the notice.

## 5 PREPARATION OF THE ARIA CHARTS

### 5.1 Overview of the preparation of the ARIA Charts

Set out below is a high level overview of how the consumption based ARIA Charts are prepared.



#### Step 1: Record Suppliers advise ARIA of Products and Titles

Record Suppliers advise ARIA of product released, and the Titles they wish to have tracked on specific charts (e.g. Singles chart or Country Albums chart) via their Chart Survey Request.

Record Suppliers also advise ARIA of:

- all relevant identifiers for each product (catalogue numbers, barcodes, ISRCs etc) so that, where appropriate, the sales or streams for those products can be aggregated for chart calculation purposes;



**Example:**

*An example of aggregation is combining sales of the standard version with an eligible limited edition tour release.*



and

- any specific promotional activity and the Data Provider(s) that will be conducting and reporting the activity.



**Example:**

*In-store promotional appearances by an artist that might be happening in a specific store or group of stores or any pre-sales. The Record Supplier will need to submit to ARIA the Special Event Notification Form which sets out the details of the promotional activity.*



#### Step 2: Data Providers submit their data

ARIA receives electronic file submissions from participating Data Providers covering the chart week. Data Providers can supply files either daily or weekly. If weekly, the files need to match ARIA's chart week (see the Timetable).

Except in exceptional circumstances, all files must be received by ARIA no later than 10:30am (AEST) on the Friday after the end of the chart sales week. Files received after that time will not be used in the charts.

#### Step 3: Data diagnostics testing

ARIA performs diagnostic tests on the data it has received:

- to isolate any anomalies and identify any potentially corrupted data;

- to check that any abnormal sales patterns that are observed in relation to a single retailer or series of retailers can be clarified (e.g. resulting from a notified promotion or in-store appearance); and
- to check that significant selling Titles have not been omitted from survey.

Where necessary, ARIA contacts the relevant Data Provider or Record Supplier for further information, clarification, or supply of data, as the case may be.

If an abnormal pattern of sales within a file submission cannot be adequately explained, either the abnormal data or the whole file will be discarded at ARIA's discretion, depending on the nature of the error or abnormality.

#### **Step 4A: Weighting and Scaling of Data**

##### ***Weighting for physical album sales data***

- ARIA undertakes a weighting process on the physical Album sales data. The weighting process seeks to represent, as closely as possible, the total Australian physical product retail sales for each Album product each week.
- This weighting process is based on the wholesale sales shipments by major record companies to all music retailers in Australia. Weighting factors are adjusted from week to week to reflect the final store sample size of each given week.
- If a file contains sales for particular Titles which were the subject of specific promotional activity (e.g. an in-store appearance) through any Data Provider during that week, the sales relating to that particular activity are flagged to ensure they are not 'weighted' during the chart calculation process.

##### ***Scaling of streaming data***

- Digital sales and streaming data are not subject to this weighting process. However, as some of the Streaming Service Providers are currently unable to supply all of the week's play data according to the Timetable, their data is scaled up on a pro-rata basis for any days of data not received in time for the weekly chart calculation deadline.

#### **Step 4B: Streaming Conversions**

##### ***Streaming data conversions***

Streaming data is subject to "Conversion Factors" which convert plays into the equivalent value of sales. These factors are reviewed quarterly and adjusted as necessary.

From October 2018 there are separate Conversion Factors for the streaming activity reported by:

- (a) Premium / Subscription Streaming Services; and
- (b) Ad Supported Streaming Services.

## **5.2 ARIA Charts Week for Calculation Purposes**

ARIA will produce the weekly ARIA Charts in accordance with the Timetable as set out in Schedule 6.

## **6 ARIA CHARTS – GENERAL ELIGIBILITY**

### **6.1 Eligibility Rules**

Only Eligible Sales and Eligible Streams within Australia may be considered for inclusion in the ARIA Charts. Giveaways or promotional copies provided free of charge are ineligible for inclusion in the ARIA Charts. Specific Eligibility Rules for each Chart are set out in Schedule 3.

### **6.2 ARIA Membership is not a requirement for inclusion in the ARIA Charts**

ARIA membership is not a prerequisite for the inclusion of Titles in the ARIA Charts, but it is encouraged.

### **6.3 ARIA must be advised about new releases and product details**

#### **(a) Provision of New Release Titles via Chart Survey Request**

All recorded music product offered for sale within Australia is eligible for inclusion in the ARIA Charts, subject to this Code. Record Suppliers in Australia are encouraged to advise ARIA of new recorded music releases as they occur and use the Chart Survey Request in order for the Title to be included in any of the surveyed ARIA Charts.

#### **(b) Provision of Product Information for Identification Purposes**

Data Providers report products by barcode, ISRC and/or catalogue numbers. Product sales risk being unidentified unless ARIA receives advance notification of all relevant product details, including barcode and catalogue number information. Record Suppliers wishing to advise ARIA of their releases or catalogue titles can contact ARIA via email at [releases@aria.com.au](mailto:releases@aria.com.au) for information or use the Chart Survey Request as set out in Schedule 4.

### **6.4 Titles need to be surveyed to be eligible**

A Title is not eligible for inclusion in a surveyed ARIA Chart unless the Record Supplier makes a written request (including via a standard Chart Survey Request form – see Schedule 4) to ARIA in accordance with the Data Rules. The request will specify the date from which the chart survey is to commence. Sales prior to that date or outside any charting period will not be included in the calculation of charts in that period and cannot be carried forward or transferred into any other charting period.

### **6.5 Genre Charts Eligibility**

- (a) In order to be added to the survey for a particular Genre Chart, the Title must meet the specific Eligibility Rules for that chart.
- (b) A Title can only be surveyed in one Genre Chart at a time, except for the Crossover Classical chart which will automatically include Titles that are also eligible for the Core Classical chart.

### **6.6 Titles cannot appear in the Albums Chart and Compilations Album Chart**

A Title cannot simultaneously appear in both the Albums Chart and the Compilation Albums Chart.

### **6.7 Value Adding Offers**

Where the consumer can access or purchase a Product as a part of a bundle offer which includes non-music elements, then the sales of the Product associated with the offer will only be eligible for inclusion in the chart calculations if the following conditions are met:

- (a) Music and merchandise components of the bundle must be available separately except in the case of, and for the duration of, pre-orders where this requirement is relaxed for the merchandise component;



**Example:**

*An Album Title is scheduled for release, and its distributor elects to offer pre-order customers a bonus band T-Shirt and cap with each album pre-order purchase. These sales will be eligible, after purchase, once the product Title has been fulfilled.*

*If the distributor continues to offer the bundle after the Title has been released those sales of the Title will be **ineligible**, unless the Album Title is also available individually, at a lower price to the Title/T-shirt/Cap bundle.*



- (b) All elements of the bundle must be related to the Title's artist(s);
- (c) Bundles must always be sold at a premium to each of their component parts (i.e. the bundle must be priced higher than its most expensive individual component);
- (d) When tickets and recorded music products are bundled, they must also be available separately and the bundle be sold at a premium to the cost of the individual components (i.e. at a price higher than the most expensive individual component);
- (e) Where there is no price differential or the consumer is obliged to take the music product in order to obtain the ticket, the sales will not be eligible. Furthermore, should the transaction of the bundle offer result in a voucher for the purchaser to redeem the recorded music product, the sale will only be counted on / for the date the product is redeemed;



**Example:**

*Buckingham St Records is promoting Ace Artist's album, which is being surveyed on the ARIA Album Chart and the Country Album Chart. Ace Artist will be performing at a series of shows and tickets are now on sale. As part of its pre-release build up it is offering consumers the opportunity to purchase a copy of the album on its release, together with a ticket to a show. Fans can purchase a show ticket for \$50, or a ticket + album bundle for \$60.*

*The album sales will be eligible in this instance, but only once:*

*(a) the purchase has been made, AND*

*(b) the product purchase has been fulfilled.*

*If, for example, the product cannot be fulfilled on the release date (e.g. delay in physical product supply) it may only be reported to ARIA for inclusion in the chart calculation data once it has been provided to the purchaser.*



- (f) Certain items are allowed to be included with recorded music without invoking the bundling restrictions:

- (i) Multimedia related to the artist (e.g. games, screensavers or video material if that material relates to the artist or the music contained on the same physical Product);
  - (ii) Nominal or low value items (buttons, badges, posters, postcards, unstapled printed material etc); and
  - (iii) Competitions where the chance of winning is low.
- (g) Bundles of separately released Albums will be eligible to chart in their own right and cannot be aggregated with either or any of the contributing Albums.

## **6.8 Queries or disputes about eligibility**

In the event of doubt regarding the eligibility of any Title, a Record Supplier may make a written request and ask for a ruling on eligibility by ARIA. ARIA will make a ruling and communicate the decision to the applicant. If the applicant is dissatisfied with the ruling, the provisions of section 11 of this Code will apply.

## 7 DATA RULES

### 7.1 Record Suppliers and Data Providers to assist ARIA

ARIA may request the assistance of any Record Supplier or Data Provider in checking or confirming any information held by them and which is relevant to the accuracy or integrity of the ARIA Charts. Failure to provide such assistance may result in the exclusion of the relevant Product or Title from an ARIA chart or charts.

### 7.2 Only completed Chart Survey Request Forms will be considered

- (a) A Title may not be included in any surveyed ARIA Chart unless a Record Supplier makes a Chart Survey Request within the timeframe set out in the Timetable.
- (b) Chart Survey Requests cannot operate or be applied retrospectively.
- (c) A Chart Survey Request will not be considered by ARIA unless all the information specified on the prescribed form is supplied and the request complies in all other respects with this Code.



**Example:**

*Buckingham St Records has a new album scheduled for release on Friday 10<sup>th</sup> of the month. Instead of advising ARIA prior to its release, the record company doesn't submit the Chart Survey Request form until part way through the week of release. In such circumstances, ARIA will endeavour to have the title listed in time for its first week sales to be counted, but takes no responsibility if this is not possible.*



### 7.3 Special Event Notification Forms must be submitted

- (a) A Record Supplier or Data Provider must notify the ARIA Charts Department in writing using the Special Event Notification Form of any in-store, pre-order or other promotion likely to have a significant effect on the sales level of any Product at any retail outlet or by that service.
- (b) Notification must be given at least five days before the event or promotion by completing Part A of the Special Event Notification Form. After the promotion or event, Part B of the Special Event Notification Form must be fully and accurately completed and submitted to ARIA in accordance with section 7.3(c) below.



**Note:**

*Special events can include but are not limited to a range of activities or promotions such as pre-sales, artists appearing, signing products, or performing in or near the store. In short, any activity that would result in significant sales that the record company needs ARIA to be aware of before the charts are calculated.*



**Example:**

*Ace Artist has a new album in the market from Friday 10<sup>th</sup>. To promote the album a series of in-store appearances at 3 suburban retail stores has been scheduled the 10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup>. ARIA must be advised of this activity, using Part A of the Special Event Notification Form, by no later than the 5<sup>th</sup>. If necessary, separate forms may be submitted for each event, in which case they will be due by the 5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> (i.e. all pre-release in this instance).*

*After each event has concluded, but by no later than close of business on the 16<sup>th</sup>, Part B of the form must be completed and submitted to ARIA setting out the results and evidence of each event.*



- (c) At either:
- (i) the conclusion of the promotion; or
  - (ii) by no later than close of business (AEST) on the day prior to the Chart calculation day(s) (including where the promotion spans multiple chart weeks),
- the Record Supplier and/or Data Supplier must notify the ARIA Charts Department of the sales achieved, by Title, as a result of the promotion using Part B of the Special Event Notification Form. Notification must be made to ARIA in accordance with the Timetable.
- (d) The purpose of these notifications is to enable the ARIA Charts Department to:
- (i) understand the pattern of retail sales when checking for anomalies;
  - (ii) correctly apply the weighting methodology used in preparing the ARIA Charts; and
  - (iii) check relevant sales reports against Part B in the Special Event Notification Form.

#### **Unexplained Abnormal Sales Patterns**

- (e) If an abnormal pattern of sales within a Data Provider or Record Supplier file submission cannot be adequately explained, the anomalous sales will be removed, or if this is not possible, all the sales data for that particular entity will be discarded and not included in the Charts calculation for that week.
- (f) Failure to inform ARIA of the activity may result in exclusion of the particular sales or even the Record Supplier or Data Provider's whole file from the chart calculation for that chart period.

#### **7.4 Record Suppliers must provide data on time**

Record Suppliers who do not supply the notifications and information required in accordance with the Timetable run the risk that:

- (a) Titles or Products are omitted or excluded; or
- (b) Titles are incorrectly included (e.g. where survey amendment requests are not submitted in line with the Timetable) in the Chart.

## 7.5 Limitations on data from Record Companies, Record Suppliers, Artists or Fan Clubs

- (a) Sales or streaming activity submissions will not be accepted from artists or fan clubs or from websites owned or operated by artists, Record Companies, Record Suppliers or fan clubs unless the provider of the information:
  - (i) can demonstrate to ARIA's satisfaction that they are owned and operated independently of the artist, fan club, Record Company or Record Supplier; or
  - (ii) is prepared to submit regular external audit certifications to ARIA demonstrating that their processes and resulting reports are both legitimate and accurate.
- (b) Service providers owned or managed by artists, fans or Record Suppliers who wish to become Data Providers must provide to ARIA:
  - (i) audit certification regarding their systems and processes prior to commencing as a Data Provider; and
  - (ii) updated external audit certification annually to ARIA.

## 7.6 Multiple sales exclusions

Where multiple copies of a Product are purchased in a single transaction, ARIA will, whenever possible only count one sale of the product.



### **Example:**

*On Thursday, a fan visits their local music retail store and purchases 4 vinyl copies of the same version of the tour edition of Ace Artist's new album. The retail store follows ARIA's recommended reporting protocol and reports 1 unique customer / 4 product sales for this transaction. ARIA will count this as 1 unit (i.e. unique customer) towards the chart result for this Title.*



## 7.7 Data is not carried forward

Sales and/or stream counts cannot be carried over from the week in which they are made into a subsequent week or any other reporting period. Any breach of this rule will result in the exclusion of all data from that Data Provider for that week. A common ARIA Chart week applies to all ARIA Charts. The ARIA Chart week is set out in the Timetable, but this is subject to change at the discretion of ARIA.



### **Example:**

*Ace Artist has a new album scheduled for release on Friday 10<sup>th</sup> and has placed it on survey with ARIA from that date. To ensure it is in stores ready for sale when they open, they make sure they ship the product well in advance, with sales embargoed until the 10<sup>th</sup> (i.e. date of release). One store opens its shipment and displays the product on the 8<sup>th</sup>, and sells a number of the albums. Those sales must be reported to ARIA as part of the stores submission for the chart week ending Thursday 9<sup>th</sup>, and will not contribute the chart calculation that week because the survey does not commence until Friday 10<sup>th</sup>. The sales cannot be held over and included in activity for the week commencing Friday 10<sup>th</sup>.*





**Example:**

*Ace Artist's new album is scheduled for release on Friday 10<sup>th</sup>. Fans are eagerly anticipating the release and a significant number of pre-orders have been made and paid for.*

*Unfortunately the vinyl shipment does not arrive in Australia until the 18<sup>th</sup>. So, even though these products have been ordered and paid for they cannot be reported to ARIA as sales for the week ending the 17<sup>th</sup>, and will instead be reported once they are dispatched to customers.*

*Ace Artist had no issues with the supply of CDs and was able to dispatch those pre-orders on the date of release. These CD sales will be reported to ARIA during the week of release, and contribute to that week's chart result.*



## 7.8 ARIA Charts calculation errors and publication

- (a) ARIA will republish an ARIA Chart if or when necessary to correct any significant error made by ARIA.
- (b) ARIA may republish an ARIA Chart if or when necessary or desirable if it becomes aware of a significant error or action made by a party to the detriment of a third party. Record Suppliers and Data Providers are asked to draw ARIA's attention to any error or suspected error in a Chart by no later than midday of the day following publication of the Chart wherever possible. ARIA will not republish any Chart due to a failure by a Record Supplier to submit, in accordance with the Timetable, either:
  - (i) release information; or
  - (ii) Chart Survey Requests.
- (c) ARIA is not obliged to recalculate or republish any Chart if:
  - (i) the error is not brought to ARIA's attention by midday (AEST) of the day following publication of the relevant Chart; or
  - (ii) the error was not made by ARIA.

## 7.9 Rulings on Data Rules

In the event of doubt regarding the interpretation or application of any Data Rule, a Record Supplier or Data Provider may make a written request for a ruling by ARIA. ARIA will then make a ruling and communicate the decision to the applicant. If the applicant is dissatisfied with the ruling, the provisions under section 11 of this Code will apply.

## 7.10 Confidentiality

- (a) All data supplied by Record Suppliers to ARIA is strictly confidential (unless it is in the public domain) and will not be disclosed or used in any way except to the extent necessary for ARIA to prepare and publish the ARIA Charts, analysis and statistics or as may be required by law. ARIA will not distribute or publish data supplied by a Record Supplier in any way that allows the data supplied by the Record Supplier to be identifiable separately from third party data, without obtaining the prior approval of the Record Supplier.

- (b) Data supplied by Data Providers to ARIA is the subject of confidentiality obligations under the agreement between ARIA and each Data Provider and will not be disclosed or used in any way except to the extent necessary for ARIA to prepare and publish the ARIA Charts, analysis and statistics or as may be required by law. ARIA will not distribute or publish data supplied by a Data Provider in any way that allows the data supplied by the Data Provider to be identifiable separately from third party data, without obtaining the prior approval of the Data Provider.

## 8 ARIA CHARTS PARTICIPANTS OBLIGATIONS

### 8.1 Duties of Record Suppliers and Data Providers

In relation to any information given to ARIA in connection with the ARIA Charts or otherwise relevant to the operation of the ARIA Charts, ARIA requires all Record Suppliers and Data Providers to:

- (a) comply with this Code (including the Data Rules);
- (b) act honestly and lawfully;
- (c) avoid any conduct that is likely to be misleading or deceptive;
- (d) exercise reasonable care to ensure all information supplied is accurate;
- (e) co-operate with ARIA by promptly answering requests by ARIA for further relevant information, including requests made for the purpose of auditing compliance with the Code; and
- (f) avoid attempting to seek any Collateral Advantage from the fact of participation in the ARIA Charts.

ARIA has designed its systems and procedures to minimise or avoid the possible impact of any breaches of the above obligations on the integrity and accuracy of the ARIA Charts.

### 8.2 Data Provider obligations

#### (a) Recorded Music Retailers

To qualify and remain qualified as a Data Provider, a Recorded Music Retailer must:

- (i) be capable of monitoring and recording **all** of their eligible sales (genuine sales to actual consumers) through a robust computerised point of sale; and
- (ii) electronically track all their relevant product sales to consumers and transmit the data to ARIA preferably daily, but no less frequently than weekly, in accordance with the Timetable.

#### (b) Streaming Service Providers and Digital Service Providers

To qualify and remain qualified as a Data Provider, a Digital Service Provider or Streaming Service Provider must:

- (i) be capable of monitoring and recording all of their eligible activity (for example, eligible streams or track download sales delivered to Australian users) via a robust computerised system; and
- (ii) track and transmit information on all relevant activity to ARIA preferably daily, but no less frequently than weekly, in accordance with the Timetable.

### 8.3 Failure to provide data to ARIA

#### (a) Recorded Music Retailers

Failure to scan and transmit all recorded music sales will result in the Recorded Music Retailer being suspended from participation in the ARIA Charts until it satisfies ARIA that it is tracking every sale electronically and in compliance with section 8.2(a).

(b) **Streaming Service Providers and Digital Service Providers**

Failure to capture and transmit all eligible activity (e.g. Eligible Streams) will result in the Streaming Service Provider or Digital Service Provider being suspended from participation in the ARIA Charts until it satisfies ARIA that it is tracking and transmitting every transaction electronically and in compliance with section 8.2(b).

(c) **Data Providers**

If a Data Provider fails to transmit data for a period of 10 consecutive weeks or more, it will be deemed to be inactive, and may for example, have its agreement with ARIA for the supply of the data and/or participation in the ARIA Charts suspended or terminated at ARIA's discretion. Such termination or suspension will result in loss of rights (e.g. access to the ARIA Charts and statistics on ARIA's website) and removal from the published list of Data Providers. Data Providers who are unable to submit files for any period should contact the ARIA Charts Department as set out in section 14.

#### **8.4 Data Provider Data Compliance**

- (a) Data requirements and technical specifications are available from ARIA upon request and Data Providers should contact ARIA about those requirements as set out in section 14.
- (b) Data Providers must provide data only from their Point of Sale / Service Delivery systems and ensure that the data for activity within the relevant chart period reaches ARIA in the required format by Chart calculation day as set out in the Timetable.

#### **8.5 ARIA obligations**

ARIA is responsible for:

- (a) collating information from Record Suppliers about Titles to be considered for Chart survey;
- (b) collecting retail sale or streaming count information from Data Providers;
- (c) processing, analysing and weighting the information collected for the purpose of preparing the ARIA Charts;
- (d) calculating and publishing the ARIA Charts and associated statistics;
- (e) administering the Eligibility Rules and the Data Rules; and
- (f) managing any third-party assistance with the collection, processing or weighting of data.

## **9 ARIA REPORT AND ARIA CHART STATISTICS**

### **9.1 Data Providers**

A Data Provider is entitled to:

- (a) a complimentary subscription to the ARIA Chart Report (delivered via email); and
- (b) complimentary access to various ARIA Chart statistics on a secure ARIA website, provided that it enters into a standard form confidentiality agreement issued by ARIA.

### **9.2 ARIA Members**

Each ARIA Member is entitled to a complimentary subscription to the ARIA Chart Report (delivered via email).

### **9.3 Subscribers**

- (a) The ARIA Chart Report is available to anyone by subscription (contact ARIA for details, as set out in section 14).
- (b) Any organisation may become a subscriber to the ARIA Chart statistics on ARIA's secure website, subject to paying a fee and executing a confidentiality agreement issued by ARIA. Any interested parties should contact ARIA for details, as set out in section 14.

## **10 ARIA ACCREDITATION AWARDS**

### **10.1 Purpose of Accreditations**

ARIA's accreditations recognise significant aggregated sales and streaming equivalent sales of Titles released by ARIA Members.

### **10.2 Accreditation determinations**

- (a) The physical product component for accreditations is based on net wholesale shipments to stores.
- (b) The wholesale shipments to stores measure as set out above, is not applicable in the case of digital or streaming equivalent sales. Therefore, the distributing ARIA Member is required to aggregate physical product shipments with certified (or certifiable) reports of:
  - (i) sales from Digital Service Providers; and
  - (ii) streams of Streaming Service Providers,in their accreditation calculations.

### **10.3 Variants of Releases**

Variants of releases may be aggregated for the purpose of accreditation providing the variants meet the applicable chart aggregation criteria (see Schedule 3 of this Code).

### **10.4 Declaration required for Accreditation**

Accreditations are issued based on a declaration received from the principal financial officer of the ARIA Member using the relevant form (see section 14), certifying that the net Australian sales total to date (across all formats) and stream equivalents of a particular release has reached the required accreditation threshold.

### **10.5 Issuing Accreditations and Accreditation Seals**

- (a) Following receipt of an appropriately completed declaration (as set out in section 10.4), ARIA then logs the accreditation against the release information held in the ARIA database, issues a certification letter and forwards it to the ARIA Member with the requested number (up to a maximum of 5 per release) of ARIA Accreditation seals.
- (b) Accreditation seals may only be affixed to, or incorporated into the artwork of, ARIA accredited product.
- (c) The accreditation takes effect from the date designated in the ARIA confirmation letter.

### **10.6 Display of Accreditations on ARIA Charts**

- (a) The accreditation level of a particular release will be displayed on any relevant ARIA Chart published after the effective accreditation date.
- (b) Accreditations are not displayed on ARIA's format charts. Currently those are charts including sales of only digital or physical formats (for example, Digital Track Chart, Physical Album Chart, and the Streaming Track Chart).

## 10.7 Streaming contribution to Accreditation

- (a) From 1 July 2015, Eligible Streams are eligible to contribute to the accreditation of Singles. Those eligible streams are to be factored at the conversion rate applicable at the time that the streams occurred.
- (b) From May 2017, Stream Equivalent Albums (**SEA**) are eligible to contribute to the accreditation of Albums.
- (c) From March 2022, official content streams on YouTube may be included in Eligible Streams for accreditation calculation purposes only.

## 10.8 Gold and Platinum Accreditation

- (a) The current Gold and Platinum accreditation levels are:

<b>Singles and Albums</b>	Gold	35,000 sales equivalent units
	Platinum	70,000 sales equivalent units
<b>Audiovisual</b>	Gold	7,500 sales equivalent units
	Platinum	15,000 sales equivalent units

- (b) ARIA will note in its database and publish on its charts details of multi-platinum achievement. ARIA Members must submit an accreditation application form updating sales levels for this to occur. Additional seals will not be issued for multi-platinum achievements.
- (c) The introduction or amendment of accreditation levels will be at the discretion of the ARIA Board, generally following recommendations from the ARIA Chart & Marketing Committee.

## 10.9 Silver Accreditation for Australian Artists

Silver accreditation is available for Album releases by Australian artists only, achieving 20,000 units within 3 years of a Title's release date, applicable to Titles released from 1 January 2021 only.

## 10.10 ARIA Diamond Award

The Diamond Award was introduced in 2015 to recognise significant achievement for Titles released from 1 July 2014.

- (a) The threshold for a Diamond Award is 500,000 sales within Australia. From 1 May 2024 ARIA Diamond Awards are based on Album sales only.
- (b) The Diamond Award is considered a separate award. Thus, Platinum levels are maintained (and incremented as applicable) even if a Diamond Award has been awarded to a Title.



### Example:

*Lou Legend has achieved Diamond Award status for the album release "I Can Sell Heaps", as a result of sales of 500,000 units. The Title will now carry accreditation of a Diamond Award and 7 x Platinum. Some months later, having achieved a further 60,000 album sales and reached 560,000 sales, the Title will be eligible for additional Platinum accreditation. Its status will then be Diamond and 8 x Platinum.*



### **10.11 Conversion Tool**

- (a) To assist ARIA Members to navigate the increased complexity of determining converted stream counts for Accreditation calculations, ARIA has developed a simple tool incorporating the relevant conversion factors. This tool is available on this link: <https://www.aria.com.au/charts/accreditation-stream-calculator>
- (b) It is the ARIA Member's responsibility to accurately enter the relevant streaming counts, based on their records, as set out in the calculation tool against the appropriate date ranges. ARIA Members can then use the resulting converted stream number in the accreditation calculation to be certified by the ARIA Member's principal financial officer.

### **10.12 Inadequate Record Keeping or inability to source information for Accreditation**

In circumstances where ARIA Members do not have access to the relevant records and cannot provide the necessary certification for a particular Title, they may approach the ARIA Charts Department for confirmation as to whether ARIA's chart records indicate that the Title has achieved the relevant activity threshold. This option is only recommended in circumstances where the ARIA Member does not have access to release to date information as it is expected that ARIA's chart records will understate the accreditation eligible activity for the Title. Such discrepancies may be due to, for example, the differences in criteria for chart eligible versus accreditation eligible activity and periods when the Title may not have been the subject of a chart survey or achieved a position on relevant charts.

## **11 REVIEW OF ARIA CHARTS DEPARTMENT DECISIONS AND DISPUTE RESOLUTION PROCEDURE**

### **11.1 ARIA Chart & Marketing Committee's Role**

The ARIA Chart & Marketing Committee is responsible for considering appropriate changes to this Code, adjudicating on disputes and overseeing the proper operation of the ARIA Charts. The members of the ARIA Chart & Marketing Committee are appointed by the ARIA Board.

### **11.2 Disputes between Record Supplier and the ARIA Charts Department**

- (a) A dispute between a Record Supplier and the ARIA Charts Department concerning the interpretation or application of the Eligibility Rules or Data Rules will be referred to the ARIA Chart & Marketing Committee for resolution as soon as reasonably possible. An ARIA executive (other than a member of the ARIA Charts Department) will act as facilitator.
- (b) If the person seeking resolution of the dispute is from an ARIA Member, no person employed by that ARIA Member may participate in the consideration or resolution of the dispute beyond stating the position of that ARIA Member in the dispute.
- (c) Information about the dispute will be circulated to all members of the ARIA Chart & Marketing Committee, and a copy will be provided to the applicant. This information will include the nature of the dispute, the ARIA Charts Department's position, a statement of position by the person seeking resolution of the dispute, and a recommendation by the facilitator.
- (d) Upon request, the Record Supplier will supply sufficient examples of the Title or Product in question for review by each member of the ARIA Chart & Marketing Committee. Where the Product is yet to be produced, sufficient examples of a mock-up of the proposed Product should be supplied. If at all possible, the facilitator will provide each ARIA Chart & Marketing Committee member (including any member of the Committee who is ineligible to vote) with a document setting out the key questions in a form that requires a "Yes" or "No" answer.
- (e) Members of the ARIA Chart & Marketing Committee will have a maximum of 48 hours to communicate their decision to the facilitator, but may be required to respond more urgently if circumstances dictate. In such cases the facilitator will advise the timeframe when circulating the relevant document (see section 11.2(d) above).
- (f) The ARIA Chart & Marketing Committee will decide how the dispute is to be resolved. The quorum will be set at a level of at least two Committee members. ARIA Chart & Marketing Committee members are encouraged to appoint 'alternates', who are empowered to respond in the absence of their Committee member. ARIA Chart & Marketing Committee members must advise ARIA of such appointments, and any variations to the same. If ARIA cannot contact the ARIA Chart & Marketing Committee member they will then approach the alternate.
- (g) Decision is by a majority, and a failure to respond within the specified timeframe will indicate acceptance of the recommendation. In the event of a tied decision, the decision will be made by the Chairperson of the ARIA Chart & Marketing Committee. If the Chairperson is disqualified from participation, the Deputy Chairperson will make the decision. The ARIA Chart & Marketing Committee's decision will be final.

### **11.3 Confidentiality of Disputes and Decisions**

Disputes, and any decisions made by the ARIA Chart & Marketing Committee in relation to a dispute, are strictly confidential unless and until disclosure is authorised by ARIA.

## **12 BREACHES OF THE ARIA CODE OF PRACTICE**

- (a) Any suspected breach of the Code may be referred to ARIA for inquiry and determination.
- (b) ARIA will decide the nature and extent of any inquiry into the suspected breach.
- (c) After inquiring into the suspected breach, ARIA will determine, on the balance of probability, whether the suspected breach or any other breach of the Code has occurred. When it is considered that a breach has occurred, the matter will be referred to the ARIA Chart & Marketing Committee.
- (d) If the ARIA Chart & Marketing Committee determines that a breach of the Code has occurred, the ARIA Chart & Marketing Committee will consider and determine whether or not any remedy is, in its opinion, necessary to guard against repetition of the breach and/or to safeguard the reputation or integrity of the ARIA Charts. The ARIA Chart & Marketing Committee may take the following action:
  - (i) issue a request requiring the party in breach to report in detail what particular corrective action it proposes to take to guard against repetition of the breach and later to provide a report detailing, to the satisfaction of the ARIA Chart & Marketing Committee, that it has taken effective corrective action to guard against repetition of the breach;
  - (ii) in the case of a Record Supplier, suspend any Chart Survey Requests by that Record Supplier and remove the offending Chart Survey Requests unless and until the Record Supplier provides a report detailing to the satisfaction of the ARIA Chart & Marketing Committee that it has taken effective corrective action to guard against repetition of the breach;
  - (iii) in the case of a Data Provider, suspend the inclusion of any data submission from that Data Provider unless and until that Data Provider provides a report detailing to the satisfaction of the ARIA Chart & Marketing Committee that it has taken effective corrective action to guard against repetition of the breach. Note that whilst under suspension, complimentary access to the ARIA Report and ARIA Chart statistics will be withdrawn; or
  - (iv) in the case of serious breaches or repeated breaches, exclude participation in the ARIA Charts until such time that it is shown upon application that the applicant is fit and proper to participate in the ARIA Charts.

## **13 REVIEW AND AMENDMENT OF ARIA CHARTS CODE OF PRACTICE**

This Code will be reviewed by ARIA from time to time and amended at ARIA's sole discretion. Comments and suggestions for the progressive improvement of this Code are welcome. Amendments will take effect from the date of first publication on ARIA's website.

## 14 ARIA LINKS AND CONTACT DETAILS

If you want further information about any aspect of this Code, or if you have a question for ARIA, you can contact us by one of the following methods:

### ARIA Charts Enquiries:



**Telephone:**

+ 61 2 8569 1155

(during business hours in Sydney)



**Email:**

*General:*  
[charts.mail@aria.com.au](mailto:charts.mail@aria.com.au)

*Release & Surveys:*  
[survey@aria.com.au](mailto:survey@aria.com.au)



**Post:**

ARIA Charts Department  
PO Box Q20  
Queen Victoria Building  
NSW 1230



### ARIA Charts Links to Forms:

<b>Accreditation Conversion Tool:</b>	<a href="https://www.aria.com.au/charts/accreditation-stream-calculator">https://www.aria.com.au/charts/accreditation-stream-calculator</a>
<b>Accreditation Forms:</b>	<p><b>Gold &amp; Platinum:</b> <a href="https://content.aria.com.au/documents/aria-accreditation-application-form---gold-and-platinum.pdf">https://content.aria.com.au/documents/aria-accreditation-application-form---gold-and-platinum.pdf</a></p> <p><b>Silver:</b> <a href="https://content.aria.com.au/documents/aria-accreditation-application-form---silver.pdf">https://content.aria.com.au/documents/aria-accreditation-application-form---silver.pdf</a></p> <p><b>Diamond:</b> <a href="https://content.aria.com.au/documents/ariaaccreditationapplicationform-diamond.pdf">https://content.aria.com.au/documents/ariaaccreditationapplicationform-diamond.pdf</a></p>
<b>Application to be a contributing DJ to the ARIA Club Chart:</b>	<a href="https://www.aria.com.au/dj/apply">https://www.aria.com.au/dj/apply</a>
<b>Data Provider Specifications:</b>	<a href="https://www.aria.com.au/specifications">https://www.aria.com.au/specifications</a>
<b>Online Survey Form:</b>	<a href="https://www.aria.com.au/charts/release-survey-form">https://www.aria.com.au/charts/release-survey-form</a>
<b>Special Event Notification Form:</b>	<a href="https://www.aria.com.au/charts/special-event-form">https://www.aria.com.au/charts/special-event-form</a>

### ARIA Membership Enquiries:



**Telephone:**

+ 61 2 8569 1144

(during business hours in Sydney)



**Email:**

[aria.mail@aria.com.au](mailto:aria.mail@aria.com.au)



**Post:**

ARIA Memberships  
PO Box Q20  
Queen Victoria Building  
NSW 1230

### ARIA ISRC Enquiries:



**Telephone:**

+ 61 2 8569 1144

(during business hours in Sydney)



**Email:**

[isrc@aria.com.au](mailto:isrc@aria.com.au)



**Post:**

ISRC  
ARIA  
PO Box Q20  
Queen Victoria Building  
NSW 1230

## SCHEDULE 1: DEFINITIONS

**Accreditations** means the process of certifying that a particular Title has sold or streamed a certain number of units as set out in section 10.

**Album** means a Title in any format (e.g. physical, digital, streamed or any combination thereof) which does not qualify as a Single and which satisfies the following criteria:

- (a) a recording performed by a single (or common) artist, act or orchestra (including “Best Of” compilations of material by the same artist); or
- (b) an original movie or TV soundtrack or cast recording where at least 80% of the tracks were included in that program or film; or
- (c) a concept album featuring at least 80% of new recordings where the songs have been specifically recorded for the project (whether or not the recording is by various artists).

Variants of an Album are eligible for aggregation provided:

- (a) that one variant is identified as the benchmark product (**Standard Album**); and
- (b) that at least 90% of the tracks from the Standard Album are included in each variant; and
- (c) the additional material is not eligible to chart on the Albums Chart in its own right. However, the additional material sold independently of the deluxe release will remain eligible to chart as a separate title on other charts for which it is eligible.
- (d) but excludes product packages comprised of two or more Album Titles that are separately available. Such packages may be eligible to chart as a separate Title (providing they meet other relevant eligibility criteria) and, as such, will generate their own chart history.

There is no limit on the number of eligible album variants which may be aggregated for chart calculation purposes.

From 1 September 2025, streams will only be eligible to contribute to the original Album on which they appear, with the exception of full Album releases where tracks previously appeared on EPs with Album classification. This applies to all Album chart calculations in which streaming is included. Information on which tracks will contribute to the chart result of a release is conveyed to Record Suppliers in the Survey Reports which are provided to them each week.



**Example:**

*Lee Longevity released a track titled “I Can Sing Forever”. The track originally appeared on the Album titled “Lee #1”, and subsequently appeared in a soundtrack recording of a movie and then on a “Best of Lee” album compilation. From 1 September 2025, streams for the track contribute to the chart result for the Title “Lee #1” only and not either of the other two releases.*



**ARIA Chart & Marketing Committee** means the committee comprising of senior executives from various ARIA Members.

**ARIA Member** means an Australian business/corporation or a citizen/resident of Australia that has been accepted by ARIA as a member and whose membership is current and has not been terminated, not renewed or otherwise lapsed.

**ARIA Report** means the report published weekly by ARIA comprising of various charts and associated information and which is issued on a subscription basis.

**ARIA website** means [www.aria.com.au](http://www.aria.com.au)

**Audiovisual** means a Title or Product that contains both audio (music) and visual (video) components. For example, Music DVDs or Digital music video clips.

**Chain Store** means a specialist recorded music retailer with five or more outlets in Australia.

**Chart Cycle** means the cycle for preparing and publishing each weekly ARIA Chart as set out in the Timetable.

**Chart Survey Request** means a written request by a Record Supplier for a Title to be the subject of an ARIA Chart survey. A form to facilitate such requests can be found in Schedule 4 of this Code.

**Code** means this ARIA Charts Code of Practice.

**Collateral Advantage** means any advantage or potential personal gain but does not include the industry-wide advantages that flow to participants in the music industry from the ARIA Charts.



**Example:**

*An example of Collateral Advantage could include the provision of cash incentives by a Record Supplier to a retailer directly to influence physical sales, impacting chart rankings.*



**Note:**

*In simpler terms, the ARIA Charts can benefit the entire music industry and there are industry wide advantages to be gained from participation in the ARIA Charts – like the promotion of the consumption of music. However, Record Suppliers and Data Providers should not use their position to seek personal advantages in relation to their participation in the ARIA Charts.*

**Compilation Album** means an Album containing recordings by different artists and includes DJ mixes / sequences. From mid-2019, any Album marked in the ARIA system as a Compilation will not have any streaming activity contribute to its chart results, including in Genre Charts.

**Data Provider** means any Recorded Music Retailer in Australia, a Digital Service Provider, Streaming Service Provider or Specialist Supplier, which has an agreement with ARIA to provide sales data for the ARIA Charts.

**Data Rules** means the rules set out in section 7 of this Code.

**Department Store** means a retail store in Australia with a broad product range that includes recorded music.

**Digital Service Provider (DSP)** means any retailer of digital music within Australia.

**Eligibility Rule** means a rule set out in section 6 and Schedule 3 of this Code.

**Eligible Digital Sale** means a retail sale:

- (a) of a permanent copy of a digital Product eligible for inclusion in the Chart and sold by a Digital Service Provider where the sale originates and ends within Australia;
- (b) that is auditable by an independent provider of auditing services and in relation to which a GST invoice is issued in the Digital Service Provider's point-of-sale system; and
- (c) in respect of which the relevant Product is identified in reports to ARIA by either a unique ISRC or UPC as appropriate, together with the artist name and Product title.

Eligible Digital Sale exclusions

An Eligible Digital Sale specifically excludes:

- (a) giveaways or promotional copies provided free of charge;
- (b) any tracks bundled with other recordings, video clips and/or ringtones;
- (c) non-permanent copies of tracks (e.g. time limited downloads); or
- (d) multiple sales of the same Product to the same customer. The file specification for Digital Service Providers requires the provision of information on the quantity of Eligible Digital Sales sold to 'unique' customers. Chart calculations will be based on the total quantity of such unique sales for each Product.

**Eligible Retail Sale** means:

Either

- (a) a retail sale of a Product eligible for inclusion in an ARIA Chart and sold by a Recorded Music Retailer where the start and finish of the transaction occurs within Australia; and
- (b) a retail sale that is auditable by an independent provider of auditing services and in relation to which a GST invoice is issued in the Recorded Music Retailer's point-of-sale system;

Or

- (c) Titles consciously exchanged between a Data Provider and a customer in consideration of the customer viewing or listening to advertising material which in turn pays for the purchase of the music content from the Record Supplier on behalf of the customer.

Eligible Retail Sale exclusions

An Eligible Retail Sale does not include:

- (a) sales by a Data Provider at a location other than its retail stores (e.g. at shows or shopping centre appearances) **unless** the ARIA Charts Department is notified in writing five days in advance of the event and the sales at the event are recorded in the Data Provider's POS system at the time of the sale (see section 7.3);
- (b) sales of Products by a Data Provider to third parties on a consignment basis for resale;
- (c) sales of Products by one retailer to another retailer; or
- (d) Multiple Purchase of a Product from a Data Provider.

**Eligible Sales** means Eligible Retail Sales or Eligible Digital Sales where two conditions have been met:

- (a) the Product has been paid for; and
- (b) it has been delivered to the purchaser.



**Example:**

*A pre-order is not an Eligible Sale until the Product has been despatched to the customer. For example, the pre-order may have been made weeks before the official release of a Title and then fulfilled on its release date. It is at this latter time that the “sale” is chart eligible.*



**Eligible Stream** means a recording (or part of a recording) that is:

- (a) delivered to a consumer in Australia by a Streaming Service Provider where the provision of that stream is of sufficient duration to require reporting and royalty payment to the rights holder of the recording, under the terms of the agreement between the rights holder and the Streaming Service Provider; and
- (b) specifically requested by the consumer (i.e. streams of recordings ‘suggested’ or ‘introduced’ by the service will not qualify, unless the consumer specifically requests the stream of that recording). For the purpose of this Code, tracks included in playlists are considered as requested by the consumer, where the consumer initiates the playlist and the relevant threshold duration of the track is streamed.
- (c) In the case of YouTube, only official content streams by Logged-in YouTube users are included in the ARIA Charts.

**Genre Chart** means any Chart designed to encompass a particular musical style. The current ARIA genre charts are:

- (a) Core Classical Chart (Albums)
- (b) Country Chart (Albums) \*
- (c) Crossover / Classical Chart (Albums)
- (d) Dance Charts (Singles and Albums) \*
- (e) Hip Hop / R&B Charts (Singles and Albums) \*
- (f) Jazz and Blues Chart (Albums)



**Note:**

*Australian Artist Charts are also published for those Genre Charts that are denoted with \* above.*

**Independent Store** means a specialist recorded music retailer with less than five outlets in Australia.

**ISRC** means International Standard Recording Code, which is the unique identifier for each track. For information on obtaining ISRCs for a track, see the ARIA website or contact [isrc@aria.com.au](mailto:isrc@aria.com.au).



**Note:**

*Different versions of tracks (e.g. mixes) should have different ISRCs, however one version of a track should never have multiple ISRCs.*

**Lead Track** means the focal track of a Single, under which all eligible variants if applicable (including remixes, duet versions, clean/explicit versions, and video clips) may be aggregated for the purpose of chart calculation, subject to notification to ARIA via a Chart Survey Request. Only one Lead Track may be nominated per Single, and only its sales and streams count toward chart performance.

**Multiple Purchase** means the purchase of more than one unit of the same Product by a single purchaser at any one time.

**Music DVD** means a product in which the audiovisual content must be directly related to music and musical artists.

**Online Music Store** means a retailer in Australia that offers physical recorded music products (i.e. not digital downloads) for sale by means of an Internet-based ordering system.

**Other Store type** means a specialist physical retailer that does not qualify for any of the other physical retailer categories (such as Chain or Independent etc).

**Product** refers to an individual release (i.e. package available for sale as a single unit, which may include multiple components) relating to a Title, defining the medium (e.g. CD, DVD, Vinyl, music video downloads etc) and any relevant identifiers for that release.

**Record Supplier** means a supplier of recorded music products to Recorded Music Retailers in Australia.

**Recorded Music Retailer** means a Chain Store, Department Store, Independent Store, Online Music Store, Other Store type, Specialist Supplier, Venue-Based Retailer or Digital Service Provider.

**Single** means a product in any format (physical or digital) which is either:

- (a) a Product containing up to five different songs, and with a music content of not more than 25 minutes duration; or
- (b) a Product containing multiple versions of not more than five songs with a combined duration of not more than 40 minutes providing that the combined duration of the longest version of each song does not exceed 25 minutes.

For the purpose of this definition 'song' may include an instrumental only piece.

Variants of a single are eligible for aggregation provided each variant contains the Lead Track, providing the format / variant proposed for aggregation **does not** contain the Lead Track of any other chartable single.

*Eligible Digital Tracks* which may be aggregated for Singles chart calculation purposes are:

- the actual Lead Track (radio edit or album version), as a single purchase;
- both 'explicit' and 'clean' versions of the Lead Track (provided one of them is the nominated Lead Track) and Album version will be eligible for aggregation, provided they are of the same duration and essentially identical to the lead or album track contained on the physical single, apart from minimal variation in lyrics;
- 'remix' versions of the Lead Track;
- duet versions of the Lead Track;
- video clip version of the Lead Track; and

- any digital bundle containing the Lead Track, where that bundle conforms with the duration, content and other eligibility criteria for Singles under the Code. ARIA will not aggregate any bundle unless nominated by the Record Supplier via the Chart Survey Request.

The aggregation of different physical and/or digital variants will be based on the identification of the Lead Track. Record Suppliers are to select and notify the relevant Lead Track for survey purposes using the appropriate Chart Survey Request.



**Example:**

*Frankie Fabbo releases a Title that has 4 different songs, with a different mix of two of the tracks (i.e. 6 tracks in total). The duration of the longest versions of the 4 different songs is 22 minutes, and the total duration of the product (6 tracks) is 36 minutes, so this Title qualifies as a Single for chart purposes.*

*Later Frankie releases a deluxe version that includes additional mixes of each of the 4 songs. The duration of the product now exceeds 40 minutes, and this deluxe product cannot be linked to the original Single, but it may qualify for the Album chart.*



**Example:**

*Sam Singer has a big hit with the track titled “First Time Lucky”, but their second single (“Second Time Hopeful”) is not doing as well. Sam Singer’s label decides to re-release the latest single (“Second Time Hopeful”) in a bundle that includes “First Time Lucky”. This new product would not be eligible to chart in its own right, or to have its sales contribute to the success of the “First Time Lucky” single product or the “Second Time Hopeful” single product.*



**Example:**

*Taylor Tune has a new song. Three product variations of it are being released – as a three track EP (with two other songs), as a remix EP (with four different mixes of the track) and as a stand-alone track. In all cases, the same version of the lead track must be present and listed as such with ARIA.*



**Special Event Notification Form** means the form set out in Schedule 5 which is required to be completed by a Record Supplier and sent to ARIA within the specified timeframe, whenever promotional activity is likely or expected to achieve unusual results for a product through any accredited Data Provider.

**Specialist Supplier** means the supplier of a particular genre of recorded music products or some other limited category of recorded music products in Australia.

**Stream Equivalent Album (SEA)** means the formula that determines which and how many streams are equivalent to one album sale. The formula is described below:

1. First, stream equivalent tracks will be determined by applying conversion factors for premium service and ad-supported streams at rates periodically agreed by ARIA in consultation with the ARIA Finance Committee and ARIA Chart & Marketing Committee, based on the relative average income of streams to digital track sales.
2. Secondly, a neutralising factor will be applied to the Album’s two most streamed tracks in the charting week. Points for those two tracks will be reduced to the average of the next eight titles on

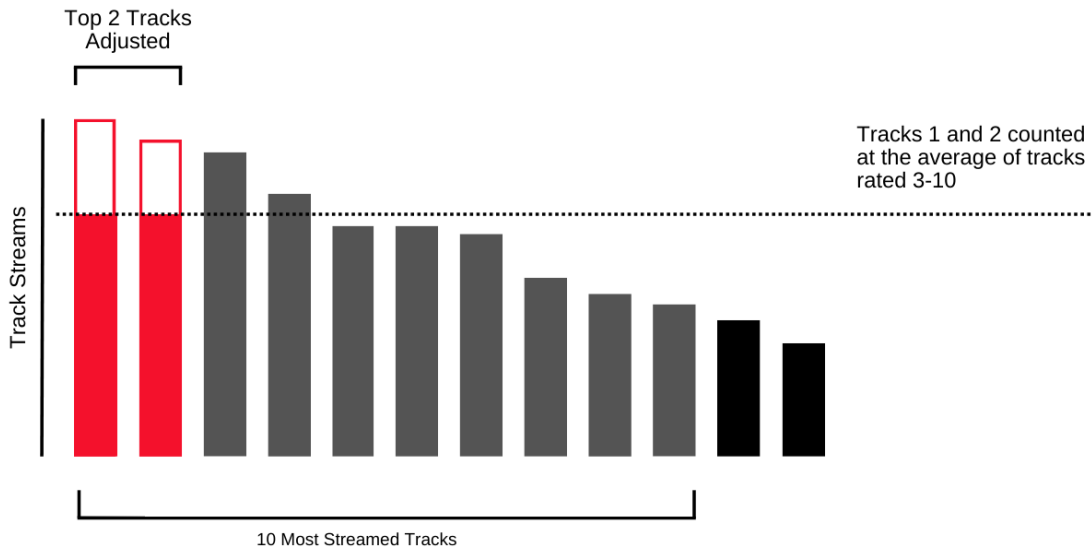
the Album (or remainder, if the Album has less than 10 tracks). This is to ensure that Albums with one or two hit tracks are not over-represented in the Album Charts due to the significant streaming of just one or two tracks.

3. Finally, the combined value of the Album's top 10 tracks (using the average values only, as determined above, for each of tracks 1 and 2) is divided by a factor of 10 (this ratio is intended to estimate track / album equivalence). *Note that the accuracy of the ARIA Charts relies on Record Suppliers providing ARIA with detailed information for each release. In relation to Album Charts, complete track listings and related ISRCs are essential to ensure that each product achieves its optimal chart result.*

A high-level graphical depiction of this methodology is set out on the next page.

**Diagram of Stream Counts in the Albums Chart**

**CALCULATING AVERAGE TRACK PLAYS**



$$\frac{\text{Aggregated Top 10 Track Plays}}{10} \div \text{SCF} = \text{Stream Equivalent Album Value}$$

The total track plays are divided by 10, then divided by the Streaming Conversion Factor, 'SCF'. The result is the SEA value.

$$\text{Stream Equivalent Album Value} + \text{Physical Sales} + \text{Digital Sales} = \text{Final Album Chart Position}$$

The SEA total is added to physical and digital sales to calculate the final Album Chart Position.

**Streaming Service Provider** means a service provider delivering a streamed music service, either by subscription or on a free of charge basis, where the user determines the track to be streamed (i.e. an on-demand service).

**Survey Reports** are electronic documents produced weekly by ARIA and provided to survey participant Record Companies detailing all Titles of that Record Supplier currently included in any of ARIA's chart surveys.

**Timetable** means the timetable set out in Schedule 6 of this Code.

**Title** is an aggregation of Products with either identical or sufficiently similar content (see specific Album, Single and Audiovisual definitions).

**Value Adding** refers to the process of bundling recorded music products with tickets, merchandise or any other non-recorded music item (see section 6.7).

**Venue-Based Retailer** means a seller of recorded music products at an Australian venue used for entertainment, cultural displays, commercial promotions, political meetings, or events open to the public.

## SCHEDULE 2: LIST OF PUBLISHED ARIA CHARTS

Chart	ARIA Report	ARIA Website
Albums	Top 100	Top 50
Australian Artist Albums	Top 20	Top 20
Australian Artist Country Albums	Top 10	Top 20
Australian Artist Dance Albums	Top 10	Top 10
Australian Artist Dance Singles	Top 20	Top 20
Australian Artist Hip Hop / R&B Albums	Top 10	Top 10
Australian Artist Hip Hop / R&B Singles	Top 10	Top 20
Australian Artist Singles	Top 20	Top 20
Australian Artist Streaming Tracks	Top 20	
Classical (Core)	Top 20	Top 20
Classical (Crossover)	Top 20	Top 20
Club Tracks	Top 50	Top 50
Compilation Albums	Top 10 (summary)	Top 20
Country Albums	Top 40	Top 40
Dance Albums	Top 25	
Dance Singles	Top 25	Top 20
Digital Albums	Top 50	
Digital Tracks	Top 50	
Hip Hop / R&B Albums	Top 40	Top 40
Hip Hop / R&B Singles	Top 40	Top 40
Hitseeker Albums	Top 20	
Hitseeker Singles	Top 20	
Jazz & Blues Albums	Top 20	Top 20
New Music Singles	Top 20	Top 20
On Replay Singles and Albums Charts	Top 50	Top 50
On Replay Australian Artist Singles and Albums Charts	Top 20	Top 20
Physical Albums	Top 100	
Singles	Top 100	Top 50
Streaming Singles	Top 50	
Vinyl Albums	Top 20	Top 20
End of Period (e.g. End of Year) Charts	various	various

## SCHEDULE 3: ELIGIBILITY RULES FOR PARTICULAR ARIA CHARTS

### General

- 1.1. This Schedule sets out eligibility rules for each ARIA Chart. It should be read together with the General Eligibility Rules in section 6 of the Code. Where any inconsistency arises between the General Eligibility Rules and these specific rules, these specific rules will apply to the extent of any inconsistency. See further the Eligibility Rules and the Data Rules in the Code and the Definitions in Schedule 1 of this Code.

### Eligibility Rules for specific ARIA Charts

- 1.2. The eligibility rules for the various ARIA Charts are as follows:

#### 1. Albums Chart

- (a) Eligibility for the Albums Chart requires that the Title:
1. must be an Album; and
  2. must be the subject of a Chart Survey Request for this chart by a Record Supplier who supplies the Title to music retailers or streaming services in Australia; and
  3. must be less than two years old measured from the date on which the Album first enters the top 100 of the Albums Chart. However, an Album can return to the Albums Chart if it is the subject of a new Chart Survey Request in accordance with the Data Rules and Eligibility Rules (e.g. a qualifying older album may be subject to an advertising campaign to coincide with a tour by the performer of the Title) and it meets the requirements set out in (f) below; and
  4. must not be a Compilation Album.
- (b) Eligibility does not require that the Title be a new release (e.g. the Title may be a re-release of a previous Top 100 Album).
- (c) A Title will no longer be eligible, and will consequently be automatically removed from survey, if after an initial survey period (currently 15 weeks) it falls below a predetermined Chart rank threshold (currently No.450) and does not recover within a reasonable period (currently 5 weeks). This threshold removal rank is changed to No.150 for Albums once they become eligible for inclusion in the ARIA Catalogue Albums Chart.
- (d) From May 2017, to determine rankings for the ARIA Album Charts, Eligible Streams from an Album are combined to produce a Stream Equivalent Album (**SEA**) value which can then be aggregated with other Eligible Sales. The SEA score in the relevant chart period is determined as set out in the definition of Stream Equivalent Album (**SEA**) in Schedule 1.
- (e) Two years after the Album's debut in the top 100 Albums Chart, it will be eligible for inclusion in the On Replay Albums Chart. Albums will be automatically removed from the Albums Chart at this time.

#### Re-Entry Conditions

- (f) To reflect major "viral moments" or activities which may prompt renewed interest in a release, Albums can be returned to the ARIA Albums Chart under the following conditions:
- (i) the Album has been absent from the Top 100 Albums Chart for at least 10 years;

- (ii) if the Record Supplier submits a Chart Survey Request for the Album to be considered for re-entry into the Albums Chart, then the Album will only return to the Albums Chart if it qualifies for a Top 30 (or better) chart position; and
- (iii) the Album can only remain on the Albums Chart for a maximum of 10 weeks.

## **2. Singles, Albums and Genre Charts for Australian Artists**

- (a) Eligibility for any Australian Artist Chart is the same as for the corresponding Chart except that the primary artists of the Title must be from Australia. Where the primary artist is a group or other combination of artists, the artist will be considered to be Australian if at least 50% of the members of the group are citizens or residents of Australia.
- (b) Any artist that satisfies the following criteria will be deemed to be eligible:
  - 1. Any artist who is an Australian citizen;
  - 2. Any artist who was born in Australia;
  - 3. Any artist with permanent residency status and who has lived in Australia for at least six months per year for the two consecutive years prior to the release of the Title in question;
  - 4. Any artist who has applied for permanent residency and has lived in Australia for at least six months of the two consecutive years prior to the release of the Title in question and is signed to an Australian record label; and/or
  - 5. Any New Zealand artist who has lived in Australia for at least six months per year for the two consecutive years prior to the release of the Title in question and is signed to an Australian record label.

In the case of groups or duos, at least 50% of the members of the act must satisfy at least one of the above criteria to be deemed eligible. ARIA may request the provision of evidence to confirm eligibility.

- (c) The ARIA Board reserves the discretion to grant eligibility in special circumstances where it considers, for example, that the artist or group has a strong historical and/or cultural connection with Australia.
- (d) If a Title contains tracks by Artists from multiple countries, at least 80% of the tracks (by track number) need to be by Australian artists (as defined above) for the release to qualify for inclusion in these charts.
- (g) Two years after the debut in the top 100 Australian Artist Singles or Albums Charts as applicable, they will be eligible for inclusion in the applicable Australian Artist On Replay Chart. Singles and Albums will be automatically removed from the Australian Artist Singles or Australian Artist Albums Chart (as applicable) at this time. These conditions do not apply to the Genre Charts for Australian Artists.

### **Re-Entry Conditions**

- (h) To reflect major “viral moments” or activities which may prompt renewed interest in a release, Singles and Albums (as applicable) can be returned to the Australian Artist Singles or Albums Chart (as applicable) under the following conditions:
  - (i) the Single or Album has been absent from the Top 100 Singles or Albums Chart for at least 10 years;

- (ii) if the Record Supplier submits a Chart Survey Request for the Single or Album to be considered for re-entry into the Australian Artist Singles or Albums Chart, then the Single or Album will only return to the applicable chart if it qualifies for a Top 30 (or better) chart position on the Album or Singles Chart as applicable; and
- (iii) the Single or Album can only remain on the relevant Australian Artists Chart for a maximum of 10 weeks.

### **3. Club Chart**

Eligibility rules, together with details of the process for production of the weekly Club Chart can be found in Appendix A of this Code.

### **4. Compilation Albums Chart**

- (a) Eligibility for the Compilation Albums Chart requires that the Title:
  - 1. must be a Compilation Album; and
  - 2. must be the subject of a Chart Survey Request for this chart by a Record Supplier who supplies the Title to Recorded Music Retailers in Australia; and
  - 3. must be less than two years old (from its first Australian release date) unless in a continuing Chart run or made the subject of a new Chart Survey Request in accordance with the Data and Eligibility Rules (e.g. a qualifying older Album may be subject to an advertising campaign to coincide with a tour by the performer of the Title); and
  - 4. be ineligible for the Albums Chart.
- (b) A Title will no longer be eligible and will consequently be automatically removed from survey if after an initial survey period (currently 15 weeks) it falls below a predetermined Chart rank threshold (currently No.60) and does not recover within a reasonable period (currently 5 weeks).
- (c) Streaming activity is not included in this chart.

### **5. Classical Albums Chart (Core Classical Albums)**

- (a) Eligibility for the Core Classical Albums Charts requires that the Title:
  - 1. must be an Album or Compilation Album;
  - 2. must be predominantly within the Classical genre and/or included or have charted within a comparable overseas chart;
  - 3. must be of works composed by a recognised classical composer and/or be in a publicly recognised classical style;
  - 4. must be of works generally capable of live performance in a concert setting;
  - 5. must be less than two years old (from its first Australian release date) unless in a continuing Chart run or made the subject of a new Chart Survey Request in accordance with the Data and Eligibility Rules (e.g. a qualifying older Title may be subject to an advertising campaign to coincide with a tour by the performer of the Title), and

6. must be the subject of a Chart Survey Request for this chart by a Record Supplier who supplies the Title to retail outlets in Australia.
- (b) The term classical is to be understood in the broad sense of the term, namely, as representative of a wide genre of music (not just music originating in the academically recognised classical period from Haydn to Beethoven).
- (c) Arrangements of classical works which are not true to the original version may not be eligible for the Core Classical chart; arrangements should be deemed “classical” in style.
- (d) If an Album contains a mixture of classical and non-classical works, an 80/20 rule will be applied. That is, at least 80% of the tracks (either by playing time or number of tracks) must be of works regarded as classical according to the above criteria.
- (e) Original soundtracks and scores performed in a classical style, by either a single artist or various artists, will be eligible for the Core Classical Album chart.
- (f) Eligibility for this chart is confirmed in the week of survey request by an honorary panel of genre specialists appointed and administered by the ARIA Charts Department at the direction of the ARIA Chart & Marketing Committee.
- (g) A Title will no longer be eligible and will consequently be automatically removed from this chart survey if, after an initial survey period (currently 15 weeks), it falls below a predetermined Chart rank threshold (currently No.60) and does not recover within a reasonable period (currently 5 weeks).

#### **6. Classical Albums Chart (Crossover Classical Albums) (Previously known as the Classical Albums Chart)**

- (a) Eligibility for the Crossover / Classical Albums Chart requires that the Title:
  1. must be an Album or Compilation Album;
  2. must be predominantly within the Classical or Crossover genre\* and/or included or have charted within a comparable overseas chart (\* *Rearrangements of classical works in popularized idioms can be included (see example below):*



**Example:**

*Drew DJ has gone into the studio with the Bullamakanka Baroque Ensemble to record two albums - One is an orchestral reimagining of selected works by classical masters in Drew's unique dance style and the second is symphonic versions of Drew's dance repertoire.*

*The former album would qualify as Crossover but the second would not.*



3. must be of works generally capable of live performance in a concert setting;
4. must be the subject of a Chart Survey Request for this chart by a Record Supplier who supplies the Title to retail outlets in Australia; and
5. must be less than two years old (from its first Australian release date) unless in a continuing Chart run or made the subject of a new written Chart Survey Request in accordance with the Data and Eligibility Rules (e.g. a qualifying older Title may be subject to an advertising campaign to coincide with a tour by the performer of the Title).

- (b) The eligibility for the Classical / Crossover Chart will be judged on the content of the release, not on the performers of the work.
- (c) Compilations are eligible for inclusion where at least 80% of the tracks (either by playing time or number of tracks) meet the Crossover category criteria.
- (d) Eligibility for this chart is confirmed in the week of survey request by an honorary panel of genre specialists appointed and administered by the ARIA Charts Department at the direction of the ARIA Chart & Marketing Committee.
- (e) A Title will no longer be eligible and will consequently be automatically removed from this chart survey if, after an initial survey period (currently 15 weeks), it falls below a predetermined Chart rank threshold (currently No.60) and does not recover within a reasonable period (currently 5 weeks).

## **7. Country Albums Chart**

- (a) Eligibility for the Country Albums Chart requires that the Title:
  1. must be an Album or Compilation Album;
  2. must be predominantly within the Country Music genre;
  3. must be less than two years old (from its first Australian release date) unless in a continuing Chart run or made the subject of a new Chart Survey Request in accordance with the Data and Eligibility Rules (eg a qualifying older Title may be subject to an advertising campaign to coincide with a tour by the performer of the title), and
  4. must be the subject of a Chart Survey Request for this chart by a Record Supplier who supplies the Title to Recorded Music Retailers in Australia.
- (b) Eligibility for this chart is confirmed in the week of survey request by an honorary panel of genre specialists appointed and administered by the ARIA Charts Department at the direction of the ARIA Chart & Marketing Committee.
- (c) A Title will no longer be eligible and will consequently be automatically removed from this chart survey if, after an initial survey period (currently 15 weeks), it falls below a predetermined Chart rank threshold (currently No.120) and does not recover within a reasonable period (currently 5 weeks).

## **8. Dance Albums Chart**

Eligibility for the Dance Albums Chart is the same as for the Dance Singles Chart except that the Title must be an Album or a Compilation Album.

## **9. Dance Singles Chart**

- (a) Eligibility for the Dance Singles Chart requires that the Title:
  1. must be a Single; and
  2. must be predominantly of a dance nature, or with a Lead Track of a dance nature, or be or have been included in the ARIA Club Chart or a comparable overseas chart; and
  3. must be less than two years old (from its first Australian release date) unless in a continuing Chart run or made the subject of a new Chart Survey Request in accordance

with the Data and Eligibility Rules (e.g. a qualifying older Title may be part of an advertising campaign to coincide with a tour by the performer of the title), and

4. must be the subject of a Chart Survey Request for this chart by a Record Supplier who supplies the Title to Recorded Music Retailers in Australia.
- (b) A Title will no longer be eligible and will consequently be automatically removed from this chart survey if, after an initial survey period (currently 15 weeks), it falls below a predetermined Chart rank threshold (currently No.150) and does not recover within a reasonable period (currently 5 weeks).

## **10. Digital Singles & Albums Charts**

These are product based variants of the ARIA Singles and Albums charts for which only digital sales are eligible to contribute to the charts.

## **11. Digital Track Chart**

- (a) The ARIA Digital Track Chart is compiled from data reported on Eligible Digital Sales.
- (b) Eligible Digital Sales will be counted toward the chart from the day of purchase as reported by Digital Service Providers which are Data Providers.
- (c) All downloads must be identified by a unique ISRC in submissions from Data Providers. Sales of individual recordings will not be aggregated unless the ISRC, Title and performer information reported match precisely.
- (d) Sales information used to compile the chart must be recorded as a result of genuine purchases by genuine consumers.
- (e) The chart reflects popularity of individual recordings and it should be noted that varying performances of a work by an artist (i.e. different versions of the track, including 'mixes') will not be aggregated for this chart. They will chart under their own ISRCs. Consequently eligible sales for this chart specifically exclude any tracks bundled with other recordings, video clips and/or ringtones.

## **12. Hip Hop / R&B Albums Chart**

- (a) Eligibility for the Hip Hop / R&B Albums Chart requires that the Title:
  1. must be an Album or Compilation Album;
  2. must be less than two years old (from its first Australian release date) unless in a continuing Chart run or made the subject of a new Chart Survey Request in accordance with the Data Rules and Eligibility Rules (e.g. a qualifying older Title may be subject to an advertising campaign to coincide with a tour by the performer of the title); and
  3. must be the subject of a Chart Survey Request for this chart by a Record Supplier who supplies the Title to retail outlets in Australia.
- (b) Eligibility for this chart is confirmed in the week of survey request by an honorary panel of genre specialists appointed and administered by the ARIA Charts Department at the direction of the ARIA Chart & Marketing Committee.
- (c) A Title will no longer be eligible and will consequently be automatically removed from this chart survey if, after an initial survey period (currently 15 weeks), it falls below a

predetermined Chart rank threshold (currently No.120) and does not recover within a reasonable period (currently 5 weeks).

### **13. Hip Hop / R&B Singles Chart**

- (a) Eligibility for the Hip Hop / R&B Singles Chart requires that the Title:
1. must be a Single;
  2. must be less than two years old (from its first Australian release date) unless in a continuing Chart run or made the subject of a new Chart Survey Request in accordance with the Data and Eligibility Rules (e.g. a qualifying older Title may be subject to an advertising campaign to coincide with a tour by the performer of the title); and
  3. must be the subject of a Chart Survey Request for this chart by a Record Supplier who supplies the Title to retail outlets in Australia.
- (b) Eligibility for this chart is confirmed in the week of survey request by an honorary panel of genre specialists appointed and administered by the ARIA Chart Department at the direction of the ARIA Chart & Marketing Committee.
- (c) A Title will no longer be eligible and will consequently be automatically removed from this chart survey if, after an initial survey period (currently 15 weeks), it falls below a predetermined Chart rank threshold (currently No.120) and does not recover within a reasonable period (currently 5 weeks).

### **14. Hitseekers (Top 20 Albums and Top 20 Singles)**

- (a) Eligibility for the Hitseekers Chart requires that the Title:
1. must be an Album or a Single; and
  2. must be by an artist who has never previously been in the Top 50 Albums in the Albums Chart (in the case of Hitseeker albums) or in the Top 50 in the Singles Chart (in the case of Hitseeker singles).
- (b) The charts are rankings of the top 20 single and album Titles by artists who are yet to appear in the relevant ARIA top 50 chart.
- (c) Upon reaching the top 50 of either the ARIA Singles or Albums charts, an artist will be permanently excluded from the corresponding Hitseeker chart from that week onwards (the "Hitseekers Chart Top 50 Rule"). The artist's breakthrough top 50 entry will be heralded as a footnote to the Hitseeker Chart in the week that the first top 50 position is achieved.
- (d) Where two or more artists jointly release a recording, the Hitseekers Chart Top 50 rule does not apply unless all of the artists are ineligible under that Rule.

### **15. Jazz and Blues Albums Chart**

- (a) Eligibility for the Jazz and Blues Albums Charts requires that the Title:
1. must be an Album or Compilation Album;
  2. must be predominantly within either the Jazz or Blues genres and/or have charted within a comparable overseas chart; and

3. must be less than two years old (from its first Australian release date) unless in a continuing Chart run or made the subject of a new Chart Survey Request in accordance with the Data Rules and Eligibility Rules (e.g. a qualifying older Title may be subject to an advertising campaign to coincide with a tour by the performer of the title); and
  4. must be the subject of a Chart Survey Request for this chart by a Record Supplier who supplies the Product to Recorded Music Retailers in Australia.
- (b) A Title will no longer be eligible and will consequently be automatically removed from this chart survey if, after an initial survey period (currently 15 weeks), it falls below a predetermined Chart rank threshold (currently No.60) and does not recover within a reasonable period (currently 5 weeks).
- (c) Eligibility for this chart is confirmed in the week of survey request by the ARIA Chart & Marketing Committee.

#### **16. New Music Singles Chart**

This chart is based on the Singles chart survey and all other rules applying to the Singles chart, save for the following specific exclusions:

- (a) Eligibility for the New Music Singles Chart is restricted to Singles that have been released in the last 4 months (16 weeks); and
- (b) Only the top 3 ranked entries of any primary artist are eligible for inclusion.

#### **17. On Replay Charts**

- (a) From 1 September 2025, the ARIA Catalogue chart will be renamed the ARIA On Replay Albums chart and ARIA will compile three additional On Replay charts – Singles, Australian Artist Singles, and Australian Artist Albums.
- (b) Titles are automatically eligible once they are more than two years old based on their original Australian release date.

#### **18. Physical Singles & Albums Charts**

These are product-based variants of the ARIA Singles and Albums charts for which only physical sales are eligible to contribute to the charts.

#### **19. Singles Chart**

- (a) Eligibility for the Singles Chart requires that the Title:
  1. must be a Single; and
  2. must be the subject of a Chart Survey Request for this chart by a Record Supplier who supplies the Title to music retailers or streaming services in Australia; and
  3. must be less than two years old measured from the date on which the Single first enters the top 100 of the Singles Chart. However, a Single can return to the Singles Chart if it is made the subject of a new Chart Survey Request in accordance with the Data and Eligibility Rules (e.g. a qualifying older Title may be subject to an advertising campaign to coincide with a tour by the performer of the Title) and it meets the requirements of (h) below; and

4. must not be a Title comprised of multiple previously released Singles packaged together.
- (b) A Title will no longer be eligible and will consequently be automatically removed from survey if after an initial survey period (currently 15 weeks) it falls below a predetermined Chart rank threshold (currently No.450) and does not recover within a reasonable period (currently 5 weeks).
- (c) Record Suppliers must supply relevant product identifiers as part of the survey request process (see Chart Survey Request form in Schedule 4). The following types of identifiers will be accepted:
- ISRC (for tracks)
  - Catalogue number, APN, UPC or GRID (for digital bundles and/or physical product).
- (d) All digital formats of a track must carry an ISRC. All digital bundles must carry a unique identifier (i.e. digital barcode). Sales of digital tracks without ISRC and digital bundles without barcodes will not be tracked for chart purposes.
- (e) Record Suppliers may amend survey information (e.g. designated Lead Track) by submitting a further survey request using the designated Chart Survey Request form. Such amendments will only be reflected in charts calculated subsequent to receipt of the notice.
- (f) From November 2014, Eligible Streams as reported by ARIA's contributing Streaming Service Providers are aggregated into the chart calculations. Streams will be factored into the chart at a rate periodically determined by ARIA in consultation with the ARIA Finance Committee and ARIA Chart & Marketing Committee based on the relative average income of streams to digital track sales.
- (g) Two years after the Single's debut in the top 100 of the Singles Chart, it will be eligible for inclusion in the On Replay Singles Chart. Singles will be automatically removed from the Singles Chart at this time.

#### **Re-Entry Conditions**

- (h) To reflect major "viral moments" or activities which may prompt renewed interest in a release, Singles can be returned to the ARIA Singles Chart under the following conditions:
- (i) the Single has been absent from the Top 100 Singles Chart for at least 10 years;
- (ii) if the Record Supplier submits a Chart Survey Request for the Single to be considered for re-entry into the Singles Chart, then the Single will only return to the Singles Chart if it qualifies for a Top 30 (or better) chart position; and
- (iii) the Single can only remain on the Singles Chart for a maximum of 10 weeks.

#### **20. State Based Charts: NSW, Vic/Tas, Qld, SA/NT, WA State Singles, Albums and Compilation Charts**

- (a) Eligibility for the NSW, Vic/Tas, Qld, SA/NT, WA State Singles, Albums and Compilation Charts is as for the corresponding Singles. Albums and Compilation Charts, except they are restricted to sales by Data Providers made to purchasers in the specific state or territory.
- (b) The territorial boundaries for these Charts do not necessarily coincide with strict State geographical boundaries but are adjusted to reflect the boundaries adopted by a majority of the record companies for distribution purposes (e.g. the Northern region of NSW is generally serviced from QLD and hence sales in that Region are included in the QLD Chart).

## **21. Streaming Audio + Visual Tracks Chart**

The ARIA Streaming Audio + Visual Tracks Chart is a variant of the Streaming Tracks Chart which is compiled from data reported on qualifying audio and qualifying visual (e.g. music video clips) Streams.

## **22. Streaming Tracks Chart**

- (a) The ARIA Streaming Tracks Chart is compiled from data reported on Eligible Streams.
- (b) Eligible Streams, as reported by Streaming Service Providers who are Data Providers, will be counted towards the chart.
- (c) All Eligible Streams must be identified by a unique ISRC code in submissions from Data Providers. Stream reports of individual recordings will not be aggregated unless the ISRC, Title and performer information reported match precisely.
- (d) A maximum of ten streams per day per customer will be counted toward the Streaming Chart. Where provided by the Streaming Service Provider, ARIA will count the number of individual streamers listening to any given track.
- (e) The chart reflects popularity of individual recordings and it should be noted that varying performances of a work by an artist (i.e. different version of the track, including ‘mixes’) will not be aggregated for this chart. They will chart under their own ISRCs.

## **23. Vinyl Albums Chart**

Introduced in April 2019, this chart is a ranking of the top selling vinyl albums each week, based on sales of vinyl format only.

## **24. Aggregated (End Of Period) Charts**

- (a) From time to time ARIA may produce charts based on the aggregated data of the weekly charts. In particular, at the end of each year, ARIA may produce annual “End Of Year” Charts.
- (b) The aggregated charts are based on weekly charts whose contributing sales fall entirely or predominantly within the aggregation period. For example, the charts for year YYYY will include all the charts whose sales periods fall entirely within the 1 Jan – 31 Dec boundaries plus whatever charts whose sales week falls predominantly within that period (4 or more of the seven days).
- (c) ARIA will not produce annual charts for any weekly chart that does not have a full year of charts produced for the year in question.

## **SCHEDULE 4: CHART SURVEY REQUEST FORM**

An online Chart Survey Request form is available on the ARIA website at:

<https://www.aria.com.au/charts/release-survey-form>

The Chart Survey form can also be obtained by contacting the ARIA Charts Department.

## **SCHEDULE 5: ARIA SPECIAL EVENT/PROMOTION/PRE-ORDER NOTIFICATION FORM**

An online Special Event Notification form is available on the ARIA website at:

<https://www.aria.com.au/charts/special-event-form>

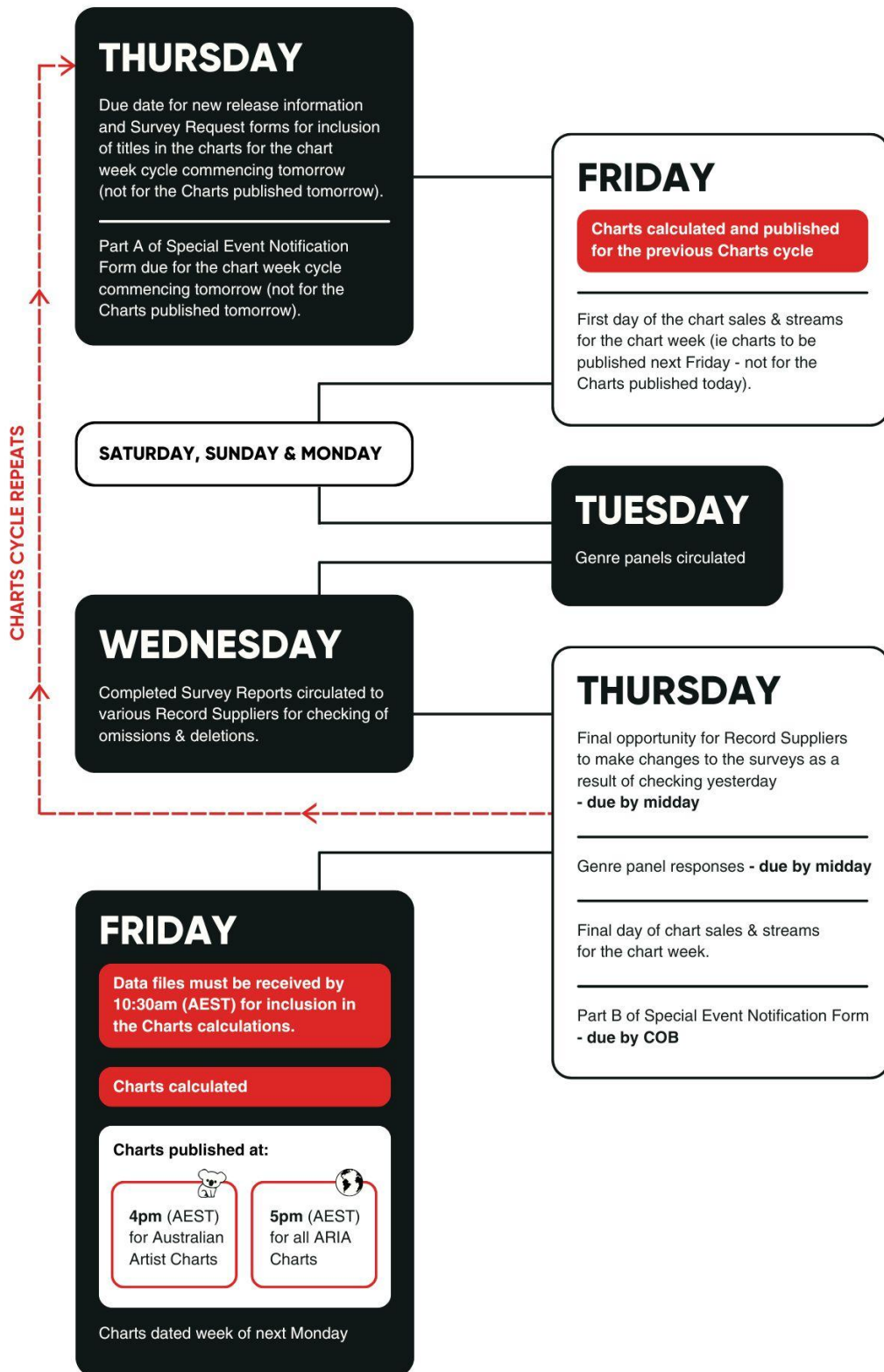
The Special Event Notification form can also be obtained by contacting the ARIA Charts Department.

## **SCHEDULE 6: TIMETABLE FOR CHART CYCLE**

- (a) The ARIA Chart week runs from commencement of trading Friday through to the end of trading the following Thursday inclusively, but this is subject to change at the discretion of ARIA.
- (b) The Chart generation process follows a repetitive, cyclical order culminating in the weekly production of the ARIA Charts. The timeframes of the tasks listed are measured relative to the Publication Date of the charts which is currently:
- 4pm (AEST) on the Friday after the conclusion of the week's sales for the Australian Artists Singles and Albums Charts; and
  - 5pm (AEST) on the Friday after the conclusion of the week's sales for all ARIA Charts (excluding the Australian Artists Singles and Albums Charts).

A high-level diagram depicting the ARIA Charts Timetable/ Charts Cycle is set out on the next page.

**High-level diagram depicting the ARIA Charts Cycle/Timetable**



## APPENDIX A: ARIA CLUB CHART CODE OF CONDUCT

### Code of Conduct

**Reviewed: August 2025**

This ARIA Club Chart Code of Conduct has been developed in conjunction with the ARIA Charts Code of Practice to help ensure a clear, consistent and fair approach to the operation of the ARIA Club Chart. This Code is designed to provide an understanding of the purpose, philosophy and practice of the ARIA Club Chart.

The ARIA Club Chart was launched on 23 July 1999 to provide a weekly synopsis of the most popular tracks being played in leading licensed nightclubs across Australia. Initially it was compiled externally by a third party, but since October 2003 it has been compiled by the ARIA Chart Department. Initially published as a top 20, the published chart became a top 50 in mid 2003.

Day to day running of the ARIA Club Chart is administered by the ARIA Chart Department, with the assistance of the ARIA Club Chart Committee. The ARIA Club Chart Committee acts in an advisory capacity to the ARIA Chart & Marketing Committee and is made up of industry specialists, appointed at the discretion of the ARIA Chart & Marketing Committee.

The ARIA Club Chart is compiled each week by aggregating charts provided by a panel of active DJs working across Australia. The DJ panel is selected and monitored by the ARIA Club Chart Committee.

ARIA Club Chart DJs who do not comply with any of these conditions and Club Chart Code of Conduct may be suspended or withdrawn from the list of Contributing ARIA Club Chart DJs at ARIA's sole discretion.

#### **The responsibilities of the ARIA Club Chart Committee include –**

- Overseeing the composition, selection and maintenance of the panel of DJs contributing to the chart;
- Monitoring the implementation of, and adherence to, this Code of Conduct;
- Identifying and pursuing avenues of promotion and publication of the ARIA Club Chart within the wider scope of the overall ARIA Chart promotional structure;
- Providing recommendations for ARIA Awards voting schools in the relevant genres; and
- Dealing with other issues pertaining to the compilation and promotion of the ARIA Club Chart.

Consistent with the requirements of the Code, Committee Members must not request any DJ panelists 'chart' any recording, nor ask any panelist if they have charted any recording.

#### **Contributing ARIA Club Chart DJs are expected to –**

- Be actively working in the club scene – preferably with 2 or more residencies or regular gigs;
- Prepare a ranked chart each week of the 20 tracks receiving the greatest positive response at their gigs;
- Submit their chart to ARIA on time every week via ARIA'S online portal (as soon as possible each Monday, but by no later than midday each Wednesday);
- Submit charts that are free from bias and representative of the most popular tracks played by that DJ in the relevant chart week (Monday through Sunday);
- Only report to ARIA in weeks during which they have played club gigs;
- Advise the ARIA Chart Department in advance (if possible) of any known or expected periods when the DJ will be unable to contribute to the charts;
- Only report official authorised releases. Tracks found to be unauthorized (for example, mashups) will be removed from the DJ's submission, and not used; and
- Behave in accordance with the requirements of this Code.

### **Criteria for the selection of contributing ARIA Club Chart DJs**

The ARIA Chart Department and the Club Chart Committee will regularly monitor the panel of contributing DJs and determine changes to the composition of the panel based on the following criteria:

- The need for enough DJs to ensure a consistent and credible chart each week;
- The mix of DJs required to properly and proportionately represent the variety of styles being played in licensed clubs across Australia, having regard to the relative size of clubs and usual attendance at each; and
- The prominence and level of activity of the potential DJ panelists (i.e. active working members of the nightclub community, in relevant licensed venues) and their ability to regularly submit chart returns to ARIA.

Note that touring and non-resident DJs may be included on the DJ panel, but may only submit a chart for weeks when they are actively gigging in Australia, and must provide a comprehensive list of the relevant gigs (including location, date, time and size of audience).

### **How contributing DJs are selected for the DJ Panel (the selection process) –**

- Aspirant working Club DJs are invited to submit an online application form.
- Applications will be periodically reviewed by the ARIA Club Chart Committee and either approved or rejected based on the quality of the application and the need for or suitability of the applicant DJ at the time (noting that the mix of DJ panelists needs to be maintained so as to reflect actual activity in licensed club venues).
- Applicant DJs will be notified by ARIA of the outcome of their request and successful applicants can usually commence contributing immediately.
- A DJ that is unsuccessful may reapply and be considered afresh at subsequent Committee Meetings.

ARIA respects the privacy of the panel of contributing DJs and, as a result, will treat their contact details as confidential. The same is expected of all participants in the ARIA Club Chart.

ARIA does **not** provide promotional recordings to **any** DJs and contribution to the ARIA Club Chart does not guarantee the same from any ARIA Member company. Each ARIA Member makes its own decisions regarding the distribution of samples and promotional material and DJs seeking sample product should liaise directly with the companies concerned.

### **Conduct of Record Companies and Labels**

- ARIA membership is not a pre-requisite for product to chart on the ARIA Club Chart, but it is encouraged.
- Inclusion of a Company's product in the ARIA Club Chart implies acceptance of and adherence to this Code of Conduct.
- Chart favours are not to be requested, extracted or expected from DJs in exchange for samples or other concessions.
- "Spamming" ARIA Club Chart DJs is discouraged – DJ consent should be sought and granted prior to including them on regular or ad hoc promotional circulars.
- Record companies and labels, and their representatives, should not contact any ARIA DJs to seek to influence their chart submissions.

While it is understood that record labels may routinely provide promotional copies of recordings to the market (including ARIA DJ panelists), ask that they be played in clubs and elsewhere and seek feedback on those recordings, in order to remain compliant with the Code they must not ask DJ panelists to chart the record or advise if they have charted the record.

### **Conduct of contributing DJs**

The validity and value of the ARIA Club Chart is dependent on the quality and relevance of the weekly chart submissions of the contributing DJs. Therefore, it is expected that contributing DJs are aware of and adhere to the guidelines set out in this document.

- Acceptance by a DJ of an invitation to contribute to the ARIA Club Chart implies acceptance of, and adherence to, this Code of Conduct.
- The DJ reports are the foundation of the ARIA Club Chart and DJs are expected to compile their chart submission without bias and in the spirit of producing the most accurate ARIA Club Chart possible.
- It is essential that contributing DJs provide their weekly chart on the basis of their own independent opinion, and not based on the views or requests of others.
- Contributing DJs are not required to provide their weekly chart submission to any other party.

When making each weekly submission, contributing DJs are required to certify that they have complied fully with this Code of Conduct. The certification is to state that: *“I have read and understood the Club Chart Code of Conduct and hereby certify that the information in this submission is accurate and unbiased. I also certify that I have not been influenced by any request made to me to give any preference to any release included in this submission. I acknowledge that my eligibility as a contributing DJ may be suspended or withdrawn by ARIA if I fail to comply with the Code of Conduct.”* A submission that does not include the required certification will be disregarded.

ARIA does not publish or provide the contact details of its DJ panelists to anyone. However, ARIA will on request, contact individual DJs or the entire DJ Panel to pass on information on new releases or other relevant information, including invitations to join a record producer / label’s mailing list. It is then up to the individual DJ panelist to contact the record producer / label should they wish to take up such an offer.