

## 4 BASIC OPERATION

### ■ Receiving and transmitting

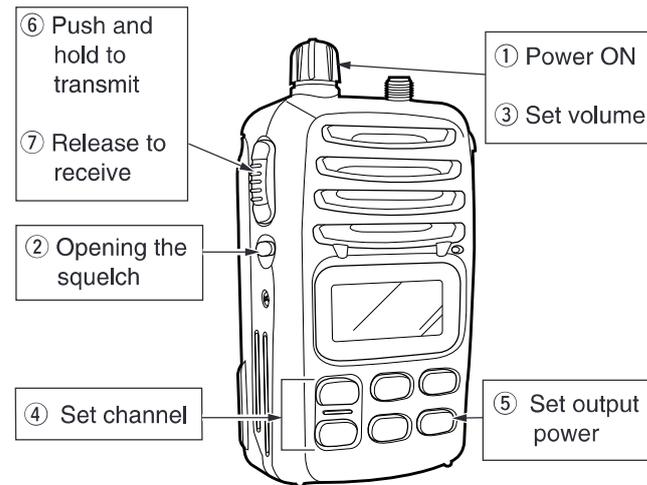
**CAUTION:** Transmitting without an antenna may damage the transceiver.

- ① Rotate [VOL] clockwise to turn power ON.
- ② Use the squelch function to mute any audio noise if necessary. After pushing the [SQL] for 1 sec., the squelch function is cut off until [SQL] is released. (default)
- ③ Push [SQL] for 1 sec. (see the SET mode on p. 19), and rotate volume to set the audio output level.
- ④ Push [▲]/[▼] to select the desired channel.
  - When receiving a signal, “**BUSY**” appears and audio is emitted from the speaker.
  - Further adjustment of [VOL] may be necessary at this point.
- ⑤ Push [H/L•LOCK] to select the output power if necessary.
  - “LOW” appears when low power is selected; “MID” appears when middle power is selected; no indication when high power is selected.
  - Choose low power to conserve battery power, choose high power for longer distance communications.
  - Some channels are for low power only.
- ⑥ Push and hold [PTT] to transmit, then speak into the microphone.
  - “TX” appears.
  - Channel 70 cannot be used for transmission (for GMDSS use).
- ⑦ Release [PTT] to receive.

**IMPORTANT:** To maximize the readability of your transmitted signal, pause a few sec. after pushing [PTT], hold the microphone 5 to 10 cm (2 to 4 inches) from your mouth and speak at a normal voice level.

**NOTE:** The transceiver has a power save function to conserve the battery power and it cannot be turned OFF. The power save function activates automatically when no signal is received for 5 sec.

**For U.S.A version:** To prevent accidental prolonged transmission, etc., the IC-M88 has a time-out timer function. This timer cuts a transmission OFF after 5 min. of continuous transmission.



## ■ Adjusting the squelch level

The IC-M88 has a squelch even though there is no control knob for it. In order to receive signals properly, as well as for the scan to function effectively, the squelch must be adjusted to the proper level.

- ① Push [SQL], then adjust the squelch level with [▲]/[▼].
  - "SL" indicator appears.
  - There are 11 squelch levels to choose from: OP is completely open; 10 is the tight squelch level.
  - When no key is pushed for 5 sec., the transceiver returns to normal condition.
- ② Push [SQL] again to return to normal condition.



## ■ Automatic backlighting

This function is convenient for nighttime operation. The automatic backlighting can be activated in SET mode. (p. 19)

- Push any key except for [PTT] to turn the backlighting ON.
  - The backlighting is automatically turned OFF after 5 sec. of inactivity.

## ■ Voice scrambler operation

(Available for I/S version only)

### ◇ Activating the scrambler

The optional voice scrambler provides private communications. In order to receive or send scrambled transmissions, you must first activate the scrambler function.

- ① Select an operating channel except Channel 16, 70 or weather channels.
- ② While pushing and holding [SQL], push [SCN•DUAL].
  - "SCRM" appears.
- ③ To turn the scrambler function OFF, repeat step ②.
  - "SCRM" disappears.



Appears when the voice scrambler function is in use.

### ◇ Programming scramble codes

There are 32 codes (1 to 32) available for programming. Set the code in SET mode. In order to understand each other, all transceivers in your group must have the same scramble code, as well as the same scrambler unit. See page 21 for scrambler code setting details.