



ARES Net Control Station

Part 1

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Introduction

- Discuss the types of nets
- Net Control Station (NCS) Procedures Overview



Types of Nets

- Directed Nets
- Undirected Nets



Directed Nets

- A directed net is formal, has a set of rules, instructions, and likely a set preamble. All communications must go through net control.
- Directed nets are divided into two main categories and they are Scheduled and Emergency nets.
- A Scheduled Net have fixed meeting times, frequencies, and a preset format.
- An Emergency Net is a group of stations who provide communication to one or more served agencies or to the general public in a declared emergency. Emergencies are nearly always declared by agencies or authorities outside of the Amateur Radio Service.



Directed Net Examples

- Scheduled Nets:
 - ARES/RACES Nets
 - Club Nets
 - Traffic Nets
- Emergency Nets
 - ARES/RACES Nets
 - Skywarn Nets
 - Tactical Nets
 - Command Nets
 - Information Nets



Undirected Nets

- The informal or undirected net is an open. Net participants may converse directly and there may or may not be a specified net control operator (station).

Net Control Station (NCS) Procedures Overview



- Total responsibility and authority in providing a smooth-running net
- Remember to follow all rules that apply to your Amateur License
- All your transmissions must be in a controlled and clear voice
- Follow the net preamble or script for directed nets or use a generic preamble if none is given
- Record and acknowledge check-ins and operators with traffic
- Designate an alternate NCS early in the activation process
- Utilize applicable ICS Forms as required or directed
- Be ready to handle emergency traffic at anytime
- Conduct regular role calls of participants as necessary



Logging The Net Activity

- Use the recommended net log sheet to accurately log net activity or a generic one if none is provided
- Acknowledge all check-ins and restate any traffic that a station has
- Traffic includes all formal messages (Radiograms, ICS Forms, etc.) and tactical messages
- Consider how portable or mobile stations will be managed due to time, equipment, and location constraints



Managing The Traffic and Activity

- Decide how the traffic (note the precedence of the messages) will be handled before other less urgent activities
- If there is a large amount of traffic, consider moving some of the operators involved to other frequencies to expedite the passing of the traffic
- Always have the receiving station contact the sending station
- After all traffic is handled, continue with necessary activities
- Ask for stations to relay information as necessary



Conclusion

- Discuss the types of nets
- Net Control Station (NCS) Procedures Overview



Questions?

- If you have questions after this presentation, please contact Dave or me for clarification.
- It is important to remember that as the NCS, you will have to be able to adapt to changing conditions, and there may not be just one correct answer to a situation or question.