

ARES District 4 Net Script

May 04, 2017 (net date)

Script Rev 03-02-2017

Good Evening everyone and welcome to the South Texas District 4 ARES net. This is

TOM (name) K5BV (call) ARES EC San Patricio & Aransas County (position)

I will be the Net Control Station for tonight's net. First, if there are any stations with priority or emergency traffic please call K5BV (call) at this time. UN-KEY

Either say **"nothing heard"** or handle the traffic immediately.

All hams in all Counties are welcome to check in to this net. You do not need to be an ARES member to participate in this net.

The purpose of ARES, the Amateur Radio Emergency Service, is to furnish emergency communications via amateur radio when regular means of communications fail or become inadequate during an emergency situation. ARES is sponsored by the ARRL, and supported by area radio clubs and individual hams. The only qualifications for ARES are that you possess an amateur radio license and you have a desire to help others. For more information or off-net questions please contact one of the following by email

- Mark Dist. 4 EC - - - - - ad5ca@arrl.net
- Tom EC for Aransas & San Patricio County - - - - - k5bv@arrl.net
- Bob Asst EC for Aransas County- - - - - kf5cfu@arrl.net
- Jim EC for Live Oak County- - - - - w5im@arrl.net
- Harley EC for Kelberg County - - - - - kg5ayd@arrl.net

The net is currently scheduled monthly for the First Thursday at 8 PM. This is subject to change. We are currently using the 147.060 repeater in Corpus Christi with a (+) PLUS offset and a 107.2 tone, which is linked to the 146.980 repeater in George West, with a (-) MINUS offset and a 107.2 tone.

This net is being conducted for the purpose of providing training and information related to emergency communications; to serve as a forum for discussion; and to foster fellowship among Amateur Radio operators.

Next, are there any operators who would like to make announcement or provide information related to EmComm? This is not general check-in. Please State your call now.

Tonight after Check-In we will discuss two subjects. Using Tactical Call Signs and ARRL Memorandums of Understanding.

Now Check-In. If the frequency has been clear a second or two key the MIC and s-l-o-w-l-y give your FCC call sign using ITU phonetics spoken clearly and slowly and UNKEY. I will appreciate a first name or handle as well. Writing calls down takes a moment so allow me a couple of seconds. Keep checking in and calls will be reviewed for clarifications, errors and missed calls. Please check-in with K5BV now.

(note these actions)

- *read each call back,*
- *ask for corrections*
- *ask for additional check-ins*

We will have comments after the tonight's material. Make a note of any questions to ask during our comments afterward.

- 1) This is K5BV and I will be reviewing the use of TACTICAL CALL SIGNS. (go to pg 4)
- 2) Next Mark AD5CA will discuss Memorandums of Understanding. Net Control, K5BV will hand the net over to Mark.

(after handed back)

Thank you Mark.

Before we go down the list for comments if there any late check-ins please provide you call to K5BV now.

(again note these actions)

- *read each call back,*
- *ask for corrections*

Net Control will now go down the list for comments.

- *go down list of check-ins*
- *now have presenter give their comments)*

Final call for check-ins. Please check-in now with K5BV.

(again note these actions)

- *read each call back,*
- *ask for corrections*
- *ask for comments*

THIS IS NET. We had XX check-ins tonight. Thank you all for joining the ARES net tonight, and thanks to the repeater owners and mountaineers for the use of these fine repeaters. I am now closing the net and returning these repeaters back to normal amateur radio use. Stations may remain on frequency to make additional QSOs.

Net Control _____ *(your call)* Out.

FCC CALL

NAME

01 _____

_____ (ENTER NET CONTROL)

02 _____

03 _____

04 _____

05 _____

06 _____

07 _____

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Tactical Call Signs are useful to identify a station's location or purpose during an event regardless of who is operating the station. This is an important concept. The tactical call sign allows you to contact a station without knowing the FCC call sign of the operator. THE VERY IMPORTANT ADVANTAGE IS THIS WILL VIRTUALLY ELIMINATE CONFUSION AT SHIFT CHANGES OR AT STATIONS WITH MULTIPLE OPERATORS.

Tactical call signs should be used for all emergency nets and public service events if there are more than just a few participants.

If one does not already exist, the Net Control Station (NCS) may assign the tactical call sign as each location is "opened." It is often helpful if the tactical call signs have a meaning that matches the way in which the served agency identifies the location or function.

Some examples are:

- * "Net" - for net control station such as this station K5BV.

other examples

- * "Nueces EOC" - for the Nueces County Emergency Operations Center
- * "Firebase 1" - first grass or forest first fire base established, or a primary fire base
- * "Checkpoint 1" - for the first check point in a public service event such as marathon
- * "Robstown Shelter" - for a public shelter in Robstown
- * "Repair 1" - for the roving repair vehicle at a bike race
- * "Moore Plaza POD" - for a Point of Distribution at Moore Plaza

Example of Calling with Tactical Call Signs

If you are at "Checkpoint 1" during a directed net and want to contact the net control station, you would say "Net, Checkpoint 1" or, in crisper nets (and where the Net Control Station is paying close attention), simply "Checkpoint 1." If you had emergency traffic, you would say "Checkpoint 1, emergency traffic," or for priority traffic "Checkpoint 1, priority traffic."

Notice how you have quickly conveyed all the information necessary, and have not used any extra words.

If you have traffic for a specific location, such as "Repair 1", you would say "Checkpoint 1, traffic for Repair 1." This tells the Net Control Station everything needed to correctly direct the message. If there is no other traffic holding, the Net Control Station will then call Repair 1 with, "Repair 1, call Checkpoint 1 for traffic."

Note that no FCC call signs have been used so far. None are necessary when you are calling another station.

Station Identification

In addition to satisfying the FCC's rules, proper station identification is essential to promoting the efficient operation of a net. The FCC requires that you identify at ten-minute intervals during a conversation and at the end of your last transmission. During periods of heavy activity in tactical nets it is easy to forget when you last identified, but if you identify at the end of each transmission, you will waste valuable time. What to do?

The easiest way to be sure you fulfill FCC station identification requirements during a net is to give your FCC call sign as you complete each exchange. Most exchanges will be far shorter than ten minutes. This serves two important functions:

- 1) It tells the Net Control Station that you consider the exchange complete (and saves time and extra words)
- 2) It fulfills all FCC identification requirements.

Completing a Call

After the message has been sent, you would complete the call from Checkpoint 1 by saying "Checkpoint 1, and call."

If I was and had completed an exchange with Repair 1 I might say Checkpoint 1 K5BV handing back to Net. This fulfills your station identification requirements and tells the Net Control Station that you believe the exchange to be complete.

If the Net Control Station believes the exchange is complete, and Checkpoint 1 had forgotten to identify, then NET should say, "Checkpoint 1, do you have further traffic?" At that point, Checkpoint 1 should either continue with the traffic, or "clear" by identifying as above.

For this method to work properly, the NET must allow each station the opportunity to identify at the close of an exchange.

A Review of Habits to Avoid

- * Thinking aloud on the air: "Ahhh, let me see. Hmm. Well, you know, if..."
- * On-air arguments or criticism
- * Rambling commentaries
- * Shouting into your microphone
- * "Cute" phonetics
- * Identifying every time you key or un-key the mic
- * Using "10" codes, Q-signals on phone, or anything other than "plain language"
- * Speaking without planning your message in advance
- * Talking just to pass the time.

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