

SCHEDULE AND INFORMATION FOR NET CONTROL
MONDAY GREEN MOUNTAIN WIRELESS SOCIETY & ARES DISTRICT 6 NET

About 5 to 10 minutes before the start of the new, announce:

"WE ARE ABOUT TO OPEN A NET ON THIS REPEATER-- ANYONE WISHING TO USE THE REPEATER PLEASE USE IT NOW. THIS IS (call sign) ".

At start of NET say:

GOOD EVENING AND WELCOME TO THE GREEN MOUNTAIN WIRELESS SOCIETY AND ARES DISTRICT 6 NET, ON THIS _____ DAY OF _____ (MONTH) , _____ (YEAR) . MY CALL SIGN IS _____, MY NAME IS _____ AND I WILL BE NET CONTROL THIS EVENING .

YOU DO NOT HAVE TO BE A MEMBER OF THE GREEN MOUNTAIN WIRELESS SOCIETY OR, ARES TO CHECK INTO THIS NET, BUT YOU MUST HAVE A VALID HAM LICENSE.

THIS NEW IS BEING RUN ON THE ANALOG SIDE OF THIS REPEATER; ANY DIGITAL SIGNALS WILL NOT BE ACKNOWLEDGED.

THIS IS A DIRECTED NET. PLEASE CALL NET CONTROL FOR CONTACTS.

THIS NET CAN BE BROKEN, AT ANY TIME, FOR EMERGENCY OR HEALTH AND WELFARE TRAFFIC BY CALLING NET CONTROL.

AT THIS TIME, I WILL PAUSE FOR MOBILE STATIONS WISHING TO CHECK IN. MOBILE STATIONS ONLY, PLEASE CHECK IN WITH YOUR CALL SIGN, NAME AND LOCATION. - - OVER.

Acknowledge each check-ins with:

"NET RECOGNIZES (their call sign) [name] [, location]"

For mobile stations, acknowledge them and ask if they have any questions or information for the net.

*****Mobile stations may only be able to reach the repeater for a short distance and you could lose them. Preference always goes to Mobile stations!!!**

After acknowledging mobiles and asking if they have anything for the NET, call for other check-in's:

“THIS IS (call sign), I WILL NOW TAKE ANY CHECK-IN'S FOR THIS EVENING'S GREEN MOUNTAIN WIRELESS ARES DISTRICT SIX NET. PLEASE CHECK IN WITH YOUR CALL SIGN, NAME AND LOCATION. THIS IS (call sign), OVER”

After the initial call up is complete, ask:

“Does anyone...mobile or stationary have information or announcements for the NET?”

Acknowledge any and let them send their information.

When this is complete, inform the net of the scheduled activity, training or rag chew.

”This is a [RagChew Net] [Training Net. Tonight's topic is (topic)].”

After completing the training, if any, call each station in their check-in order and ask for comments or questions.

STOP FREQUENTLY DURING THE NET ASK IF THERE ARE ANY ADDITIONAL CHECK-INS. MAKE SURE TO GIVE YOUR CALL SIGN WHEN ASKING AND THEN RECOGNIZE THEM.

If it is a rag chew net, just chitchat, etc. If it is a Training NE, have a topic...I offer question if anyone has any ideas... Take a paragraph out of the Tech, General, and Extra textbook. Read then throw out for comments or explain...I sometimes play Deb, NN1C's "PHONETIC GAME" Participation is optional, help is available, spell _____ (you name it..town, last name, first name, mix it up, be creative) You could also do a lesson on proper annunciation and rules of phonetic use...the fractured-phonetics are really a no-no, as is the use of any other phonetic alphabets...the various ones might make an interesting net.

TO CLOSE THE NET... You may ask if there are any announcements for the NET (The Net is supposed to be only ½ hour long, but that is not in stone.)

Offer one last call for check-ins...acknowledge them but if time is short don't ask how day was, etc. SAY:

“I WOULD LIKE TO THANK EVERYONE THAT PARTICIPATED IN THIS NET. WE HAD _____. CHECKINS AND I WOULD LIKE TO THANK THE OWNERS AND OPERATORS OF THE 147.045 REPEATER. I WILL NOW TURN THE REPEATER BACK TO REGULAR AMATEUR USE. THE TIME IS _____. THIS IS (call sign). OUT”

=====

AFTER THE NET HAS BEEN CLOSED: The Net Control (or have someone else)will send a report to Janet KB1DSR via email to KB1DSR@arrl.net. The Subject Line should be: 4 Feb 13 GMWS/ ARES Monday NET Report

Please Include; DATE

NUMBER OF CHECK-IN'S

TOTAL MINUTES OPEN

OF FORMAL TRAFFIC TAKEN

ANY NOTEWORTHY ITEMS, i.e. our NET after Irene, any post event evaluation or if or any important or special news or reports covered on the NET.

=====

Hints:

- Number contacts as you get time so you have the figure at the end for the final dismiss..
- After a person tells the group about their week or something NC most often will acknowledge what has been said with personal input or thoughts and again after all have checked in ask for comments on something.
- If it is a slow night and you can't get a good conversation going, you can return the repeater to regular armature use, but announce that you will be standing by until 8:00PM for any late CheckIns.
- Throw your call out a couple of times and ask for check-ins **“This is _____, I am Net Control for the GMWS NET MONITORING, are there any late check-ins?”** At 8 PM you can announce that you are going clear or will be monitoring frequency, etc.

- Once in a great while, you may get someone who wants to talk to another check-in. They are to call you (NC) and request permission. You may grant a quick contact, direct them off frequency, or tell to stay on freq after the net if it seems they are going too long or Off Topic. Explain the situation, give direction and move on.

NC IS IN CHARGE...END OF TOPIC!!!

- I PRINT OUT THIS FORM BEFORE EVERY NET I AM NC FOR AND FILL IN THE BLANKS AHEAD OF TIME...DATE, CALL, ETC. Helps me read better.
- Have a scrap paper and THREE pens/pencils on hand.

=====

- **HINTS AND TIPS FOR RUNNING THE GMWS/ARES DIST 6 MONDAY EVENING NET (a compilation from various operators)**

- For continuity, it is strongly recommended that the preamble be used when conducting this NET. It may not seem important but things do go better following the format. It might seem like chit chat but this is training for real life stuff. After a disaster is not the time to see if your radio works or needs tweaking. It has been proven that when groups have previously worked together they work better. If all else fails, no matter how experienced or confident you feel it works better all around. If that fails.
- The time for the NET is 7:30PM thru 8:00PM. If you cannot find enough to say or no one has anything to contribute you can release the members but NC should announce they will be standing by for late check-ins until 8:00PM. But that the repeater is semi-open for all. Someone knowing the NET operates between these times may not be able to get to their radio. In the world of real emergencies that is how it happens. Someone could have a low battery and need to conserve only checking in at certain times. If NC has left.....
- The schedule as it appears in KeyKlicks is there for Ops to know in advance of their turn and so they can plan the course of the net...especially the Training NETs. As with any other time, please listen to the frequency before just keying up and starting the net. If a conversation is taking place listen to ascertain that it is not an emergency or important conversation. Break in when you can and remind the people of the NET and times. They will usually move off. If not, wait until they finish.
- Ham radio is mostly listening. Even NET Control. It seems like forever when you ask for check-ins but people will hang back so as to avoid a pileup. It is also hard not to clip off the end of what someone is saying by keying up too early. Let the repeater reset itself, or someone else a chance to break-in. IE: During Irene, many avenues of communication went down. Ham Radio was the only thing running and linking various agencies, locally and statewide. There was an emergency at a shelter, the ham op had a hard time breaking into the net. Delays of this nature can be deadly.
- The schedule as it appears in KeyKlicks is marked for Training (T) or RagChew (RC) NETS. We don't dictate what is to be covered. But training should be about something related to Ham Radio. If you get QST or Ham University, ~ etc. You can read or summarize an article you think the group will find interesting. When the NET is a training NET it should run almost full time slot.

- The same goes for ending the NET. There might be people waiting for the release of the repeater back to normal use. Keep an eye on your time...You need it to report to Janet anyway.
- Older Operators are not trying to bring you down or single you out when they offer advice. Don't take it personally. Bear in mind, not all of us are graceful at offering help. The reason "Elmers" can correct slips is they have done them all in the past too. If they did not care, they would not offer guidance.
- The local **ham bands can and are monitored** by anyone with a Radio Shack scanner. Always act in a professional, kindly, or civil manner. During a NET, NC is responsible for maintaining order and with charity. It is not the venue or time to air dirty laundry.