

Abandon Ship Exercise!

Purpose:

At anytime the net control repeater or frequency may become unusable. This exercise works on the real world possibility of moving from the primary frequency to the back-up frequency. It utilizes the following skills: changing frequencies on member's radios, establishing a net and closing a net on a new frequency.

Objectives:

- Establish a new net control on the back-up frequency.
- Efficiently opening and closing a net and checking in members.
- Exercising member's ability to moving frequency to frequency

Required Resources

- PC ARES Frequency List
- PC ARES Roster
- PC ARES Opening.Closing Net Script.pdf

Personnel

- Drill Proctor (DP) – The person who runs the drill.
- Net Control Station (NCS) – NCS station who is running the Sunday net.
- ARES Stations (AS) – ARES member & guest stations available to participate in the drill.
- Monitor Station (MS) – SC, EC, or other experienced ARES operator to provide an evaluation on how the drill went.

Preparation

- EC to assign a MS and DP.
- EC to email ARES group prior to the exercise with this sheet, required resources, and who will be the MS and DP.
- DP to choose a primary, secondary, and tertiary repeater for the exercise and confirm repeaters are operational before the net. Choose repeaters reachable by most stations.
- DP to advise repeater trustees planned exercise via email.

Drill Agenda

1. Drill Proctor (DP) explains the drill to the members, covers review topics, What-ifs and answers any questions
2. DP announces the back-up repeaters:
 - a. Primary – W6SAR, Roseville, 146.640 -.6 156.7
 - b. Secondary – W6SAR, Auburn, 145.270 -.6 156.7
 - c. Tertiary – W6EK, 145.43 -.6 162.2
3. DP calls for volunteers to be NCS.
 - a. NCS Primary
 - b. NCS Secondary
 - c. NCS Tertiary
4. DP starts the timer and announces:
 - a. “This is an exercise. We have repeater failure. All stations move to the backup frequency. W6SAR, Roseville, ...”
5. NCS Primary:
 - a. Open Net
 - b. Take roll
 - c. Announce back-up frequency, W6SAR, Auburn, ...
 - d. Call repeater failure
 - e. Close net
6. NCS Tertiary:
 - a. Open Net
 - b. Take roll
 - c. Announce back-up frequency, W6EK,
 - d. Call repeater failure
 - e. Close net
7. When TNCS properly completes check-in into the Resource Net, DP stops time.
8. DP asks TNCS how many ASs checked into their net. DP compares check-ins vs the quantity assigned.
9. DP asks for comments, questions, or lessons learned from participants
10. DP asks for an evaluation from the monitoring station
11. DP returns control to EC or NCS.

Review Topics:

When assigning a new repeater give repeater callsign, frequency, deviation, and CTCSS (PL) tone.

When receiving an assignment, write down everything as it is given to you, even if you think you know all the information. It may not be as expected and you will have your notes to fall back on.

What-Ifs:

What-if the repeater is already use? QSY back to the frequency you came from and advise net control.

What-if you cannot make contact with NCS because you are out of range of the repeater or there is interference? Monitor frequency and move to the next backup repeater. If all else fails, return to the W6EK.