Net Procedure

Androscoggin ARES/RACES operates three types of net to support training, events and activation.

Information and Training Net:
The weekly Thursday VHF net on the Androscoggin Amateur Radio Club (W1NPP) 610 Repeater is our primary Training Net with other Training Nets scheduled when opportunities are available.
The Training Nets give us the opportunity to exchange information, conduct training and provided information about the Androscoggin ARES/RACES group to the listening public.

Event Net:
Event Nets are scheduled to support local events like the MS Walk and Dempsey Challenge. The nets are designed and prepared with known operating times, stations and traffic intent to support the event.

Activation Net:
Real Activation Nets are situation driven and could leave no preparation time. These activations can last several days depending on severity, note each operational period should not last more than 12 hours, therefore multiple activation nets may be required. Historically major storms have resulted in the activation of Skywarn Nets.

Location
Whenever possible, Net Control should be conducted from the Androscoggin Unified EMA. Event Nets may require Net Control operated from a different location. The location should allow for adequate transmission and reception of primary and alternate operating frequencies.

Net Preparation:
- Arrive/Prepare early
- Utilize a radio log system
- Ensure radio system is functioning properly

Operating Tips:

- When putting out requests for response (such as check-ins) indicate "Nothing Heard" when no response is heard so stations attempting to get in know they were missed.
  - After several check-ins, acknowledge each one phonetically then continue asking for more check-ins.
- Keep transmissions brief.
- Keep in mind "What is the goal of my transmission?" Will your transmission achieve that goal? Do not say something for the sake of saying something.
- Listen before you speak, try to avoid doubling with other stations.
- When transmitting, key up, wait a second, give your transmission, wait a second, then unkey. Allow the repeater to drop before starting another transmission. Having multiple repeaters linked may require extra time to key up before transmitting.

Information and Training Net Procedure:

Net Frequencies: Pri: Lewiston 146.610MHz - 88.5Hz Alt: Androscoggin Primary Simplex frequency 146.460.

Format Notes:

(Italicized words below are instructions for the net control operator, they are not to be read aloud.)

[Brackets denote actions for the net control operator and are not to be read aloud]

Plan test is the script for the net control operator.

Before Opening the Net:

[5 Minutes before the net announce on the repeater]

(do not take early check-ins, the intent of the training net is to have a station lineup to help the net control operator become proficient in taking, acknowledging and directing stations – such as stations who have traffic, announcements, may be mobile, short-time, etc.)

The Androscoggin County ARES/RACES Net will begin in five minutes.

Information and Training Net Preamble:

[note time in your log]

Does anyone need to use the repeater before the Net begins?

(Listen for about 2 seconds.)

All stations this net, all stations this net, calling the Androscoggin County ARES/RACES Net. This is Net Control station [call sign], my name is [first name]. operating from [your town location or EOC].

The purpose of this net is to facilitate training, coordinate events and provide information about the Androscoggin County ARES/RACES group in support of the Androscoggin County Unified EMA and community activities in Androscoggin County.

Information about the Androscoggin County ARES/RACES can be found at URL

KA1AAR.ORG

[Break to reset the repeater]

This is a directed net; all traffic must go through the Net Control Station. Stations not participating are requested to stand by until the net is complete. Stations with emergency or priority traffic may break in at any time.

This net meets every Thursday Night at 1930 hours local time on the 146.61 repeater In the event the repeater is not available the Androscoggin Primary Simplex frequency 146.460 shall be used.

All amateur operators with 2m privileges are welcome to check in.

We will now take check-ins, please give your call sign phonetically, your name, location and indicate if you have voice traffic.

(Listen for about 2 seconds for after each transmission to allow stations time to respond. Write down call signs and annotate if they have traffic or must leave early Acknowledge responding stations in groups by call signs.)

Any Additional check-ins, please come now.

Repeat until no more stations heard.

Remember to ID every 10 minutes with your call sign.

Go through your list of check-ins that indicated bulletins and traffic for the net and let them pass their traffic. Start with any officials, (SEC, DEC, EC, AEC).

(Close the voice net and take digital check-ins)

This concludes the voice portion of our net, if you are going to participate in the digital net please come now and indicate if you have traffic for the net.

(Manage the traffic by directing the station to pass the traffic)

Training Net Closing:

Thank you to the Androscoggin Amateur Radio Club for the use and maintenance of this repeater. If you would like more information about the Androscoggin County ARES/RACES group our web page can be found at URL: KA1AAR.ORG

This is [your call sign], net control station for the Androscoggin ARES/RACES closing the net at [time].

After the Net send a net report to the Androscoggin ARES EC at keith@anoe.us
Submit a Net Report to the EC with the following information:
- NCS
- Start Time Voice and Digital
- End Time Voice and Digital
- Number of Stations Voice and Digital
- Station Call Signs Voice and Digital
- Number of messages passed Voice and Digital.
- Notes that you would like to be provided.

NCS: KE4UCW
Voice Net
Start Time: 19:33
Four Station: KE6PIJ, N1OXA, KU1U, KC1AIH
Two MSGs Passed:
KE4UCW R to NET – ARES/RACES status and schedule.
N1OXA R to KE6PIJ – MSG # 123
Notes: Good net, all station Good Readable.
End Time: 19:47

Digital Net.
Start Time: 19:49
Four Station: N1OXA, KC1AIH
Two MSGs Passed:
KC1AIH R to N1OXA – Test Msg
End Time: 19:55