

Net Control... for the rest of us Cupertino ARES/RACES

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Topics for tonight

1. Net Control 101
2. Jumping into the *Net Control Station Handbook*
3. Net Control... It's not that hard!



Net Control 101

1. Net is short for network.
2. Networks can be groups of equipment, individuals, and/or agencies that act together to increase efficiency and effectiveness through shared information and resources.
3. Ham radio operators and emergency nets capture, record, and distribute information so that others may work more effectively.
4. The purpose of any net is to provide a means for orderly communication within a group of stations.
5. And, a Net Control Station (NCS) organizes and controls this activity.



Net Control 101

1. The **Net Control Station** (NCS) is managed by a **Net Control Operator** (NCO) who is responsible for controlling all radio traffic on a repeater or simplex frequency during a directed net.
2. A **Directed Net** is formal, has a set of rules; all communications are coordinated by NCS.
 - The NCS controls the frequency and issues specific instructions on how the net will run.
3. An **Open Net** is informal. NCS may use this net when the amount of traffic or the number of stations needing to communicate are low.
 - Net participants may talk directly; a net control operator may be optional.



Net Control 101

What we do as a Net Control Station

1. Checks in and out all members during an event
2. Manages all traffic on the frequency
3. Tracks who is on the net at all times
4. Coordinates passing message from one station to another
5. Keeps all stations on the net up to date with event information
6. Maintains all NCS logs and forms



Net Control 101

The CARES NCS and SCCo RACES NCS are different

CARES

1. Has only one message number.
2. Net Control assigns local stations the message number.
3. A separate named operator (RRO) sends and receives CUP EOC messages.
4. NCO does the ICS 309 logging.

SCCo RACES

1. Has two message numbers.
2. Each jurisdiction assigns their own message number.
3. NCO sends and receives all SCC EOC messages.
4. Uses scribes for ICS 309 logging.



NCS Handbook

your new best friend

Includes

1. Frequencies
2. Contact Information
3. Operator refresher
4. Procedures
5. Sample scripts

Net Control Station Handbook

Cupertino ARES/RACES

January 2022



NCS Handbook

Frequencies

1. CARES
2. County Nets
3. Frequency Guard Stations

1 Operating Frequencies

CARES Frequencies

Resource Alt	TAC1	147.570	Tone=151.4
Message Net	TAC2	146.460	Tone=151.4
Resource Net	TAC3	440.150+	Tone=100.0 W6TDM
Resource Net Direct	TAC4	440.150	Tone =100.0
Field Tactical	TAC5	441.000	TSQL=151.4
Field Tactical	TAC6	147.585	Tone=151.4
Command Net	TAC7	442.000+	Tone=151.4 WW6HP
Command direct	TAC8	442.000	Tone=151.4
Resource Alt 2	TAC11	147.570	TSQL=151.4

County Frequencies

SCC Message Net	147.360 +	Tone=110.9 W6TI
SCC Message Net Alt 1	145.450 -	Tone=100.0 K6FB
SCC Command	442.500 +	Tone=100.0 WB6ZVW
SCC Command Alt	443.275 +	Tone=107.2 K6SNY
SCC Resource Net	146.115 +	Tone=100.0 AA6BT
SCC Resource North	145.270 -	Tone=100.0 W6ASH
SCC Resource South	444.625 +	Tone=110.9 N6NAC
SCC Hospital Net	145.230 -	Tone=100.0 N6NFI
NTS Net	146.640 -	Tone=162.2 WR6ABD

Emergency Alert System (EAS) Stations

National public warning system; listen to one of the following EAS stations whenever there is an emergency in progress:

LP1, National Primary EAS Station	KCBS	740 KHz
LP1S, National Primary EAS Station	KSOL	98.9 MHz
LP2, National Primary EAS Station	KQED	88.5 MHz
LP2, National Primary EAS Station	KSJO	92.3 MHz

NCS Handbook

Contact Information

1. General Phone Numbers
2. DOC Notifications
3. C469 Qualified Operators
4. ISA Doc Holders
5. Community Information

2 Contact Information

General Contact Numbers

9-1-1 Alt	408-299-3233
Cupertino Public Works Support (After Hours)	408-299-2507

DOC Notification Priority

Name	Position	Direct (forward)	Cell (texting)
1. Ken Ericksen	CCC Coord, DOC	408-777-3176	408-215-8459
2. Tom Chin	Emergency Manager	408-777-1310	408-495-9234

Comm 469 Qualified Operators

Judy Halchin	KK6EWQ	408-533-2517
Ken Foot	KR6CO	408-761-3647
Ken Ericksen	KI6SYY	408-215-8459
Jim Oberhofer	KN6PE	408-839-8798

ISA Document Holders

Comm 469	--	#2	--
Chris Capener	AI6CC	#5	408-813-4168
Bob Cascone	K6IM	#1	408-515-2899
Ken Foot	KR6CO	#7	408-761-3647
Judy Halchin	KK6EWQ	#3	408-533-2517
Steve Hill	KK6FPI	#8	408-693-5794
Jim Oberhofer	KN6PE	#6	408-839-8798
Forum		#4	

Community Information

For Cupertino-specific instructions on an emergency, check this station first:

Cupertino Community (TIS) Radio	WQGH344	1670 AM
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NCS Handbook

3. NCO Refresher

3.1 Introduction (page 6)

3.1.1 Guidelines

3.1.2 Before even thinking of taking the net

3.1.3 Before starting the net

3.1.4 During the net

Three take-aways:

1. You are in charge
2. If you need it, ask for help
3. Keep all records and logs

The take-away:

1. Experience = Practice, Practice, Practice

Its all about the Forms

www.cupertinoares.org > [Forms](#)

3 Net Control Operator refresher

3.1 Introduction

The Net Control Station (NCS) is managed by a Net Control Operator (NCO) who is responsible for controlling all radio traffic on a repeater or simplex frequency during a directed net. The NCO should view themselves as an emergency dispatcher, needs to remain professional at all times, and maintain a calm collected demeanor.

3.1.1 Guidelines

The following is an excerpt from the *ARRL NCS Standard Operating Guidelines*.

1. The net control station maintains total responsibility and authority in providing a smooth-running net.
2. You are in charge. Your tone of voice is the most powerful part of your speech.
3. State the time frequently.
4. When transmitting on the repeater, be sure to pause after the courtesy tone to give stations a chance to break in.



NCS Handbook

3. NCO Refresher

3.2 Response Sequence Overview (page 8)

3.2.1 Initial Response Ops

3.2.2 Initial Response Ops; Comm 469 is staffed

3.2.3 Extended Response Ops; High Traffic

3.2.4 Extended Response Ops; Low Traffic

10. You are in charge – If it's going too fast for you, slow it down. Do not respond until you're ready (including keeping up with your logging).

3.2 Response Sequence Overview

The following is a general description of activities and staffing over the course of an activation. Specific details are in the following pages in this handbook.

3.2.1 Initial Response Ops

- Minimum Staffing (2): NCO, SS.
- The first NCO-capable CARES member on frequency assumes the NCO position, opens the net as a directed net, and operates from his/her initial location (home, mobile, etc.).
- Member check-ins (and mike-mike reports if appropriate) are taken, frequency guard assignments are made.
- The first Shift Supervisor (SS) on frequency assumes the SS position; directs all CARES activities; makes decisions on field assignments as

NCS Handbook

3. NCO Refresher

3.3 General Net Operations

3.3.1 Basic Template for the Net Control Script

- Start / Introduction
- Reports / Check-ins
- Field Assignments
- Updates
- Close

3.3 General Net Operations

3.3.1 Basic Template for the Net Control Script

The following is an excerpt from the SCCo RACES NCO 3A Class. The net can be broken down to series of parts:

Start / Introduction

- Check for a clear frequency.
- Identify yourself, including the tactical call sign of net control.
- Identify the purpose of the net, and whether it will be operated as open or directed.
- State whether or not you have the ability to dispatch resources.
- State what to do if immediate help is needed (e.g., call 911 or city tactical).
- Ask if there is any emergency traffic.
- Ask if there is any traffic for net control.
- Be sure to say your FCC callsign on the air at least every 10 minutes.

Reports/Check-ins

- Describe how people should make reports or check-in.
- May include when to use Tactical and FCC call signs.

NCS Handbook

4. Procedure: Emergency Net Operations

- 4.2 General Net Startup:** (page 12) is for exercise or emergency events that includes time to perform pre-planning tasks such as identifying staffing requirements, making staffing assignments, deploying C469, and identifying field assignments.
- 4.3 Planned Net Startup (on-going event):** (page 14) is for exercise or emergency events where a plan is developed on how the net should operate. This would be typical after the net was previously shut down and planned to be re-activated during a later Operating Period. This also applies to a Public Service Event.
- 4.4 Remote Net Startup:** (page 16) For an earthquake, it is likely that the CARES Emergency Net will start from a home location with the initial response being managed remotely. This section is not a script, but a general sequence of actions that the NCO should perform.
- 4.5 Ongoing Net Operations:** (page 19), covers general message management, what to do every 30 minutes, and shift changes.

It's not that hard

four ways to get started

#1... CARES Weekly net

1. Download the script and follow along... www.cupertinoares.org > Docs and References > Net Control Scripts > CARES Weekly Net Script
2. Practice copying complete call signs as you hear stations check in; don't worry if you don't know their names... **it's the call sign that is important!**
3. Ready to try it? The CARES Staff or any Net Control will be happy to work with you a head of time with some on-air practice sessions.
4. When ready, sign up for a weekly Net control slot... www.cupertinoares.org > Member Login > **Weekly NCS Sign up:** [Sign-up here](#)
5. And, do it! Just remember, as Net Control, you determine how the net will run and at what pace. It is OK to slow it down!



Its' not that hard

four ways to get started

#2 ... County Weekly Net; every ~11 weeks for us

1. Download the script and follow along... www.cupertinoares.org > Docs and References > Net Control Scripts > SVECS Net Control Script
2. Listen to several County Nets for how it works
3. Practice taking the city reports
4. Ready to try it? Let us know and we can set you up!
5. And, do it! Just remember, as Net Control, you determine how the net will run and at what pace. It is OK to slow it down!



Its' not that hard

four ways to get started

#3... You like it! What else?

1. Sign up and take the County Net Control Classes

- Net Control - Type III, Part A Saturday, 5-Feb-2022... space available! (zoom)
- Net Control - Type III, Part B Saturday, 5-Mar-2022... space available!

#4... Put it to practice

1. Volunteer to take a turn at a CARES public service event

- Big Bunny Fun Run Saturday, 16-Apr-2022
- Forth of July Fireworks Monday, 4-July-2022

2. Check, sign up on the County RACES site for public service events

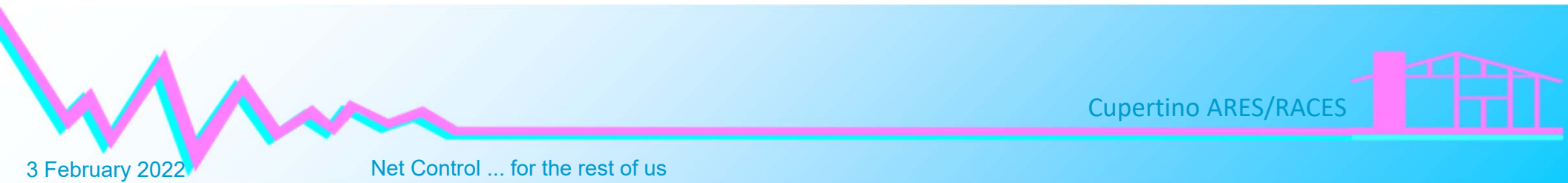
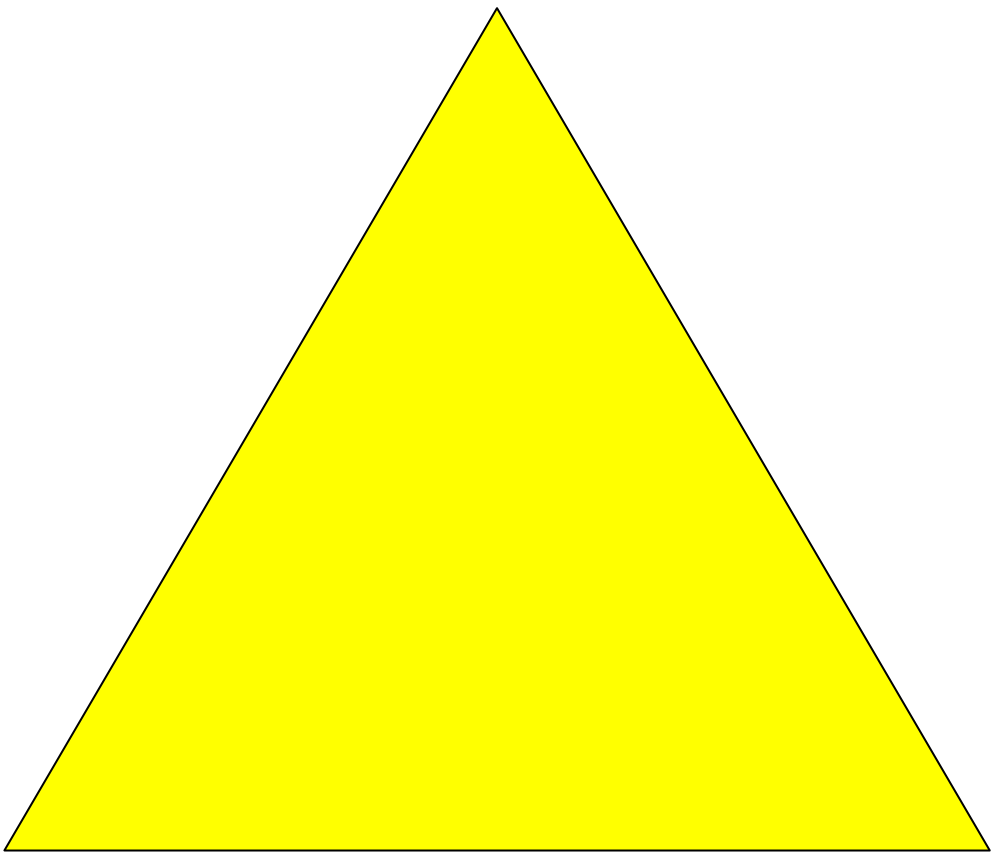
- Festival of Lights Parade
- Los Altos Arts and Wine Festival
- Santa Clara Arts and Wine Festival



Thank you

Any Questions?





3 February 2022

Net Control ... for the rest of us

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