

# NORTH-LAND Amateur Radio Emergency Service



## PLAYER'S HANDBOOK

MECC Simulated Emergency Test 2021



Exercise date: October 2, 2021

## Exercise Introduction:

**September 23th - Pre-SET Briefing – Northland ARES ZOOM meeting 7:00 PM to 9:00 PM**

**Meeting info at [www.kcnorthares.org](http://www.kcnorthares.org)**

- Demonstrate operational coordination and operational communications by use of our established Net procedures and Deployment Manual.
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- Demonstrate support of Public Service Organizations, such as EOC's and using our established communications procedures.
  - Demonstrate the ability to provide situational assessments and conditions reporting in a disaster situation.
  - Learn from the use of Fldigi-FLmsg and identify any issues during its use. Operational Coordination
  - Situational Assessment and Conditions Reporting

### Support of Public Service Organizations during a disaster situation.

- Operational Communications
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Review this Handbook

- Answer any questions we can, with limited detail so as to support a valid test of our capabilities.

### **October 2nd - SET EVENT**

On the morning of October 2, 2021, a text-caster message will be sent to the Northland ARES Team to put them on stand-by for the SET and give initial instructions for participation.

Scenarios: Amateur radio operators are at home and have been notified via text-caster to standby to report in to your local nets. You are requested to follow the instructions in the injects provided for you at the Pre-SET Planning Meeting on September 23.

#### **NLARES SET Planning Team**

In consideration of recent Covid-19 guidelines, SET planning has been scaled to limit the number of NLARES members required to occupy facilities.

#### **Voice Net Operations 146.790 (pl 107.2) 08:05 AM CDT**

NCS WA0TJT An exercise developed by Keith using What3Words and/or APRS will allow all participating stations the opportunity to participate in an exercise within their home area. This might require a short walk from your house. RE: Complete description > See Page Three

#### **NET Logging Net Control Manager** <https://net-control.us/>

W0DLK Log Manager Participating stations are encouraged to monitor NCM log operations

#### **Digital Net operations**

NCS KA00TL "MODES" net operation guide lines **Refer to Page Five for details**

The Platte County Resource Center "PCRC" has been re-activated. Digital net operations will be handled from this facility.

Below is the inject scenario I propose to use for the SET exercise. I can even email this to anyone who volunteers to do it on the day of the SET.

**The Scenario:**

The sheriffs department witnessed a suspicious person leaving the scene in a vehicle. It was later spotted entering the area you live in.

They would like us to as closely as possible report the position, the color and type of every vehicle in your immediate neighborhood.

For example: 'Red Car'

**Equipment Needed:**

2m HT pre-programmed with the primary (79) and secondary (33) repeater frequencies. Bonus if your HT is APRS capable. Smart phone with the pre-loaded 'What 3 Words' app. A free app that does not require the Internet or phone service to work.

Be familiar with its use.

**The Method:**

Take a walk down your block. For every car in a driveway or parked on the street report its location.

**Reporting:**

Be sure to start and end each transmission with **"THIS IS AN EXERCISE"**

If your HT is APRS capable, then first beacon your location. Then using your HT call net control and report the find. For example: red car, blue truck, or black motorcycle, red & yellow tricycle. Multiple vehicles should all be reported at the same time. One red car, one blue truck, two black motorcycles.

Wait for confirmation from net control.

If you do not have an APRS HT, then using W3W take note of your location, be sure you have updated it on the app. Then call net control and report the find. For example: red car, blue truck, or black motorcycle, red & yellow tricycle. Multiple vehicles should all be reported at the same time. One red car, one blue truck, two black motorcycles.

If you can not reach net control on your HT, use the 'Share' button on the bottom of the What 3 Words app to send a text message to 816-590-2282.

You may enter the car information next to the what 3 words listing.

An additional idea would be to use the APRS.fi app on your smart phone. With a paid subscription, this too can send a beacon into the APRS IS.

Wait for confirmation from net control.

**Safety:**

DO NOT go on private property.

DO NOT enter or even touch any vehicle you find.

Be aware of your surroundings at all times.

HAVE FUN!

**SET 2021 COMMUNICATIONS / LOGGING PLAN KC NORTH ARES MECC REGIONAL VOICE NET**

146.940 (88.5) MECC REGIONAL DIGITAL TFC 146.800MHz simplex

07:30 – 08:00 AM KC Metro Regional Net Control

Primary Voice <NCS Roll call of all local net control stations/liaison stations via the KC Metro Regional Net on the 146.94 MHz repeater (tone 88.5).

08:00:00 AM All Participants Start of Exercise (STARTEX)

**Northland ARES Primary**

**PLATTE/CLAY COUNTIES VOICE NET REPEATER OPERATIONS**

**NCS > WA0TJT 08:05 - 08:10 AM Voice net Roll Call**

**NCS > Request for Liaison station to MECC Regional Net**

Primary 146.790 (pl 107.2) Secondary 147.330 (151.4)

**NLARES - PLATTE/CLAY COUNTIES DIGITAL NET REPEATER OPERATIONS**

Primary 444.550 (pl 151.4) Voice coordination Secondary 147.330 (151.4)

**PLATTE/CLAY DIGITAL "SIMPLEX" operations 145.680 FM**

**OPERATING MODES FSQcall / FLdigi-FSQ**

**Refer to Page Five for net details**

**NET LOGGING OPERATION - ICS-214 REPORT FOR AAR**

Net Control Manager Primary net log **WODLK**

At close of the SET ICS-214 reports will be extracted for

AAR report. Log access <https://net-control.us>

**Winlink Operations: Refer to Page Six for details**

**Last Call Memorial Service - Mike Bellinger KOUAA**

Voice NCS > WA0TJT Full details Page Eight

**Digital Net operations 09:00 AM CDT FSQcall - FLdigi-FSQ Digital ops  
145.680 FM Simplex Voice coordination 444.550 (151.4)**

**NCS KA00TL SET > "MODES" net operation guide lines**

1. Stations will sound as usual before the net. Cut off for sounding 8:55 AM NCS will be preparing to open the net. Stations that wish to be logged, but unable to be present, append (/u) suffix to call sign. The /u will indicate unattended.
2. NCS > Using the Heard list stations listed NCS will Interrogate each station using the FSQ Syntax command "Call sign @" As each station responds NCS> will send "ACK" to acknowledge the station called.
3. If a station listed has a /f, /h, or /u appended, skip over, the next attended station check in  
in /f=fire station /h=hospital /u=unattended
4. NCS will continue to canvass for late and missed stations.

Stations may follow the check in procedure at <https://net-control.us/> Net Control Manager

**FSQCALL Command Summary –**

callsign message Enables print of message at station call sign  
callsign? Returns signal report from station call sign  
callsign\* Sets FSQCALL ACTIVE at station call sign if it was in SLEEP  
callsign! message Station call sign retransmits message  
callsign@ Returns QTH message from station call sign  
callsign& Returns QTC message from station call sign  
callsign| message Station call sign displays an Alert Box with message- Beep  
For full syntax command info, <https://modes.groups.io/g/main/message/86>

Inject: SET participating Digital stations using FLdigi may be requested to send traffic to NCS using FLmsg & FLamp. Please be prepared to utilize ICS forms, Plain Text, & ARRL Radiograms

## Winlink Express Inject

<https://winlink.org/WinlinkExpress>

NLARES participating stations will be requested to test the Winlink system.

### Method One: Telnet Winlink

Telnet is an internet protocol for remote connections to computers. Winlink Express, Airmail and other client programs have a feature allowing users to send and receive mail messages at high speed via a telnet connection - a non-radio path across the Internet directly to a Common Message Server (CMS)

### Method Two: Packet Winlink

RMS Packet is simple to install and run, and requires a minimum of computer and radio equipment. It supports the most popular TNCs directly, and almost all others through popular soundcard software. The program listens for both AX.25 packet and VARA FM using single or multiple radios, TNCs, soundcard programs or 'soft modems'.

RMS Packet is ideal to provide a temporary portable or fixed emergency portal for radio e-mail users, or for installation at unattended remote locations where it can provide wireless e-mail communications to the "last mile".

A number of stations are in the KC Metro for VHF connection on the Packet Channel selector.

W0KCN-10 >145.090 W0OEM-10 >145.090 KA2FNK-10 >145.070 W0JWT-10 >145.050

**UZ7HO Soundmodem Sound Card Modem:** [http://uz7.ho.ua/modem\\_beta/user\\_guide\\_v105\\_EN.pdf](http://uz7.ho.ua/modem_beta/user_guide_v105_EN.pdf)

Using a device similar to a Signalink requires a Sound Card Modem program. The link listed is one that is currently in use by established Winlink users with good results.

**Winlink stations - - Send "SET" activity confirmation information message to:**

**K0KEX@winlink.org**

SEMA Radio Room Connectivity

NOTE: Radio Room is unattended unless activated for exercises or disasters

SEMA POCS:

SEMA Radio Room direct telephone: (573) 526-9201

SEMA Control Room (Telco receptionist): (573) 526-9100

Mike Thayer KMOS – SEMA Comm Ofcr: (573) 291-0557 Cell

Winlink and conventional email to SEMA: [Sema.semadps.mo@gmail.com](mailto:Sema.semadps.mo@gmail.com)

(Unattended except for exercises and activations)

After SET Participant Feedback:

- On Repeater 146.79 special post-SET Net
  - *Prepare to discuss 3 things you think worked well and 3 things that need improvement*
  - **Completion of the online survey – we will use this information to create the After Action Reports of our Jurisdiction’s SET experience. Refer to Page Nine for "Survey Monkey" info**

### Exercise Artificiality and Assumptions

In any exercise, assumptions and artificiality may be necessary to complete play in the time allotted and/or account for logistical limitations. Exercise participants should accept that assumptions and artificiality are inherent in any exercise, and should not allow these considerations to negatively impact their participation.

### Communication Reminders

**ALL spoken AND written communication will start and end with the statement, “THIS IS AN EXERCISE”**

**It is important that we remind anyone who might be monitoring the frequencies that we are conducting an exercise only.**

### **Real World Emergencies:**

Real world emergencies take priority over exercise events. If an actual emergency occurs, declare a "REAL WORLD EMERGENCY" and await instructions from the exercise leadership.

You should use “Break, Break” to break into the Net to declare an emergency.

**A Celebration of the Life of Michael Claude Bellinger  
First Lutheran Church 6400 State Line Road, Mission Hills, Kansas**

**Saturday, October 2, 2021, 11:00 a.m.**

**"We have a lot to be thankful for." —Mike Bellinger, January 4, 1946 ----- November 1, 2020**

At age 11, Mike became a licensed Amateur Radio Operator ("HAM" call sign KØUAA), an interest that would be lifelong. He earned an Extra Class license, inspired many others to become involved in the hobby, and taught classes to help others obtain their license. Through amateur radio, he volunteered with Jackson County Amateur Radio Emergency Services to provide vital communications backup when normal communications systems fail, notably in severe weather situations. Mike was a trained weather spotter and often served as net control when local weather watches and warnings were issued.

As a member of the Heart of America Radio Club (WØRR), Mike hosted a radio check-in net for hams in the area every Saturday morning at 9 AM. Through this club, Mike recruited local hams to provide communications for Johnson County Parks and Recreation District biathlons and triathlons. Mike served as editor for the monthly HARC Herald newsletter. A natural adjunct to his ham radio service was volunteerism with the American Red Cross local and regional chapters. Mike was part of the Disaster Services Technology Team, helping to make sure responders had the technology and communications resources needed to successfully provide relief to victims during disasters of any nature (tornadoes, earthquakes, fire, floods, structural collapse, etc.). His work with the Red Cross spanned the last 38 years.

**Mike's comprehensive obituary is published on the site of KC Cremation Society (kccremation.com)**

**WA0TJT >>**

***In the family of ham radio operators KØUAA, Mike Bellinger was well liked, well respected and an Elmer to many. He willingly passed his love of mic and key on to all of us but has now become a silent key. He enjoyed and loved this "greatest of hobbies" for many, many years and willingly shared it with everyone. We were all blessed and honored when we heard his callsign and voice come across our speakers.***

***Please join me now in a moment of silence for our loss.***

***As I finish the roll call you may each take this opportunity to say a few words about the loss of our friend and fellow ham.***

**Part 3: - Participant Feedback**

- Join on Repeater 146.79 for a special post-SET Net
  - Prepare to discuss 3 things you think worked well and 3 things that need improvement
  - Rick will act as Net Control and Deb will log your feedback
  - Feedback **needed for the MECC Hot wash at 2PM** at ZOOM meeting

- Participant Feedback Form:

1. We will use an online Survey to report participant feedback this year. The link to the site will be published under the "SET 2021" link on

Below are the links to Participant Feedback Survey. **Please complete the survey within 48 hours of the exercise.** <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/MECCSET2021>



This QR is available to all ARES members that have an app available to link them to the "SurveyMonkey"

- **It is critical that we get your feedback as soon after the SET as you can provide it.** This information will be reviewed in the metro-wide meeting after the SET and will be needed before 2 pm that day. Please take a few minutes to give your feedback immediately.

**Sign-in Sheet**

**Most important.** You "**must**" sign an exercise sign-in sheet located at the sight your are working at. The sign-in sheets for each sight will be collected immediately after the SET and added to the AAR

**DO NOT FORGET TO START & END EVERY MESSAGE WITH THE WORDS "THIS IS AN EXERCISE".** It is important that we remind anyone who might be monitoring the frequencies that we are conducting an exercise only.

**Miscellaneous:**

Do not rush to your assignments, there is plenty of time to accomplish our objectives. **HAVE FUN!!!!**

Intentionally blank

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1-20  
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