

ANGELINA COUNTY ARES DIRECTED NET PROTOCOL

1. Directed Net Protocol Description.

A Directed Net Protocol is used to maximize the traffic flow on a single radio frequency during heightened activity times such as Training Nets, Public Service Events or Emergency Incidents.

2. Directed Net Protocol Application.

Directed Net protocol will be followed for all ARES Training Nets, Public Service Event Nets, and Emergency Incident Logistics/Operations Nets.

The Directed Net protocol may be relaxed somewhat by the Net Control Station (NCS) during Training Nets to allow for member interaction and the passing of general interest information. The basic protocol will still be followed.

3. Directed Net Protocol Operation.

- a. The NCS sets the example for Net members with a professional presentation and demeanor.
- b. The NCS ensures that a controlled environment is in place to handle traffic by a priority system— Routine, Priority, and Emergency traffic categories.
- c. All requests to transmit during a Directed Net go to the NCS who directs the activity of the Net to minimize doubling and ensuring the priority system is in place for traffic flow. Members must request permission from the NCS to call another member.
- d. Members use Tactical call signs, when assigned, at the beginning of a transmission and end with their Amateur call sign when a transmission or series of transmissions is complete.
- e. The Phonetic Alphabet is always used with call signs and for other traffic when needed to clarify transmissions.
- f. All members must listen closely and leave pauses between transmissions. This pause allows stations with higher priority traffic to break in. It also allows repeater time out timers to reset. This is especially important when multiple repeaters are linked together and there is link up time involved across repeater systems.
- g. Members must get used to and use short, concise language on Directed Nets. **Think about what you will say before you key the microphone.** This is different from day to day casual conversation on a repeater or HF frequency.
- h. During emergency nets, the adrenaline is often flowing. Speak calmly and clearly to limit requests for retransmission. Get and give complete detailed information the first time to limit requests for clarification.