

North Cars Net Procedure

NORCARS is a directed net. This means that all stations checking into the net take directions from the net control operator (NCO).

NORCARS operates on the 'roundtable' format allowing everyone an opportunity to pass not only their individual report but any information they may wish to share with the net. Actual local observations regarding road & weather conditions that may be useful to mobile operators are especially appreciated. If checking in on "short-time" the NCO will be happy to take your weather report or road conditions.

HINT: Because of the "burst" of stations when an NCO initially calls for check-ins to establish a list, STANDARD PHONETICS are appreciated for your first call into the net. We may only get a partial of your call, but at least you are on the list and we will get to you.

Following the preamble and any important net announcements, the NCO will typically take check-ins in the following priority:

1. ANY station on frequency with emergency or priority traffic. This includes stations report Bonafede hazardous road or weather conditions.
2. *Mobile* stations: **PLEASE** be sure to append "*mobile*" to your callsign when checking in if you are mobile. If you are mobile, YOU are the primary customer of the net and mobiles will go to the top of the NCO's check-in list. They also go to the top because they are more likely to have a changing signal and should be picked up while they can be heard.

3. **General check-ins:** Everyone else, using their amateur radio callsign. The NCO will maintain a check-in list and then refresh it when reaching the bottom. During the operation of the net if your position on the list places you too far down the list and you need to depart the net, call 'short time' so the net control operator can take your weather report and/or road conditions.

NORCARS is not a member of ARRL's national traffic system however the net control operator using his or her discretion will pass said information to any net member. If there is an emergency the net control operator will recognize the emergency and adjust net operations for the duration of the emergency.

During net operations interference ("*QRM*") may be experienced that is either intentional or non-intentional. All members are asked to refrain from acknowledging the interference. Working through such difficulties is part of running a net.

The following additional procedures help insure smooth operation of the net.

"RELAY": If a member – who is already checked in and in contact with Net Control – hears someone attempting to check into the net who has not been acknowledged by the NCO please say our call and "*RELAY*" and await instructions. If net control has previously announced to the net a station performing relay service, please wait a moment to see if the relay has picked up the station not heard by net control. Listening is important and multiple stations bombarding the NCO with the same relay attempt achieves less, not more.

Stations check-in are always to invited to *“ride along”* and lend their ears to the net. The presence of potential relay stations is REALLY what make a net work.

“CONTACT”: Members wishing to check into the net should reframe from stating “contact” until after they have been acknowledged by the NCO and placed on the net roster. **“CONTACT”** is used by a checked-in station wishing to use the net to contact another station already check-in. The NCO then will permit the 2 stations to pass their traffic, such as arranging a different frequency/time for a longer conversation or just to pass along a personal greeting.

“RE-CHECK”: This should be used when a member has previously been acknowledged by the NCO and placed on the net roster believes that they have missed their turn. The other use is when new or update information is now available, and the station wished to pass it to net control.

As NORCARS runs 5 days a week, mornings and 3 days afternoons, there is a possibility that a scheduled NCO may be unable to open their schedule net. If this should occur and a NORCARS NCO is monitoring they should open the net and conduct net operations. Remember the NORCARS net preamble is located on our web site.

Remember – HAVE FUN! Even if you don’t have a formal report to give, THANK YOU for checking-in and supporting the net. NORCARS NCOs and other stations are happy to give and receive signal reports and, if you

*are a newly licensed operator
CONTRQATULATIONS! We are glad to take
your call and welcome you to Amateur Radio.*