SCARES Net Procedure

Revised: 8/19/2026

Linked Frequencies

VHF: 146.445 (simplex, PL 114.8)
UHF: 444.50 (PL 100 Hz, + offset)

Use the UHF frequency to conduct net whenever possible, especially at RWC PD.

Location

Whenever possible, the weekly net should be done from your city's EOC or any place where SCARES has an emergency station. This allows you to familiarize yourself with getting into the station and using the equipment. It also allows for testing the equipment.

Before Net *(start this a day or two before net)*

Get a current copy of the Roll Call List. Don't count on finding one at the station. You can get the latest list from the SCARES web site at http://k6mpn.org/ or by downloading the file from the WeeklyNet folder in the SCARES-Members folder of Dropbox. You can also find the files you'll need in the Rosters folder. Request this link to be sent to you. Note: you must have your email address in the SCARES database to be allowed to obtain the list this way.

Find out who is assigned as Net Control for the following week. You can find this information by sending an email to netcontrol-at-k6mpn.org to get the Net Control Assignments email. **Do not assume it is the next person on the roll call list.**

On Net Night

- Arrive early
- Have writing pad & pencils handy.
- Obtain a Radio Check.
- At around 1915 hrs (7:15 pm), listen for the link between the repeater and the 2m remote base to come up. **DO NOT TRANSMIT UNTIL THE LINK IS COMPLETELY UP.** You will hear an announcement on the UHF repeater side (something like "Remote Base On"), then the announcement will be transmitted on the 2m remote base side. Once you hear the announcement on the 2m side, the link is established and you are free to transmit.
- At approximately 1920 hrs (7:20 pm local time) assign a **SCARES Member** as a **Relay** Station. ***Ask Relay to let you know if your transmissions begin to "clip"***: that is, they start before the link comes up. ("…eard", instead of "Nothing heard"). **Note: do NOT assign a non-member as Relay.**
- Although **we discourage early check-ins**, you may get some. [**Don't invite earlies!**] Please mark early check-ins with "E". **Don't skip over Earlies when going through the roll call. Mention they checked in Early.**

Italicized words below are instructions for the net control operator --- **they are not to be read aloud**.

Preamble

All stations – All stations – All stations. This is <*your call*> <*your name*>, acting as the net control operator for the South County Amateur Radio Emergency Service net. This net is held every Monday night at 1930 hours local time. This is a directed net. Stations not participating are requested to stand by until this net is completed. Stations with emergency or priority traffic may break in at any time.

We are operating from <*your location*>. Our relay station will be <*relay station's call*>. We will take check-ins on 146.445 MegaHertz simplex with a PL of 114.8 Hz and on our club repeater with a frequency of 444.50 MHz, a plus offset, and a PL of 100 Hz. The 2-meter

frequency is linked to the club repeater so we can hear check-ins from both frequencies on the repeater.

Is there any emergency or priority traffic? Please come now. <*listen*>

Are there any ARRL officials that wish to check-in? <*listen*>
If they have traffic, advise them to give their traffic now.

Roll Call

Roll call will be taken in alphabetical order by call sign suffix. Responding stations please hold your mike button down for 1 second before you begin speaking. This will allow the repeater links to pick up. We have quite a few members checking in and in order to speed up the process, unless you have traffic, please respond with your call sign only. Stations wishing to pass traffic will be called, in order, after roll call. Please advise if you will be unable to remain on frequency for the duration of the net. Guests will be called **after** the member roll call.

Member stations, please check in as called:

*Proceed through Roll Call list, calling each member by their call sign. Remember to hold your mike button down for 1 second to allow the link to pick up. Please do **not** do the entire list phonetically --- it takes way too much time. Use phonetics only if you need to verify part of the call sign. Listen for about 2 seconds for each station to respond. Acknowledge responding stations by their first name, for example "Good evening, Bill".*

*If you don't hear the called station, please respond with "Nothing heard". The reason for this is that if the member tried to check in but wasn't heard, they'll know they weren't checked in and Relay will also know you couldn't hear the check-in (Relay might hear something you can't). And, please **do not** ask each station if they have traffic: if they have traffic, they will say so when they check in. If someone was early, just say "xxxxxx was an Early".*

Check each member off on the Roll Call list and note if they have traffic. Allow the Relay station to check in just in case they want to pass traffic on the net.
Don't forget to give your call sign as identification <u>every 10 minutes</u> as per the FCC requirement. And, don't forget to mark yourself as Net Control ("NC") on the list.

***When you get to the person assigned to do Net Control the following week,** please remind him/her. If they can't do their assignment, it is their responsibility to find a substitute: you can invite them to poll the net during the time for traffic to see if someone is willing to sub for them.*

Late Member Check-ins

Now we will take late member check-ins, but please wait for Net Control to acknowledge each late check-in before keying up so we can avoid doubles …

Late Member Check-ins A through I only -- please come now. <*listen*>
J through R only -- please come now. <*listen*>
S through Z only -- please come now. <*listen*>
Any additional A through Z -- please come now. <*listen*> Any relay? <*listen*>

Acknowledge the responding stations. If there are doubles, try and pull out a few letters and ask that station to come again. Use your relay station if you aren't sure.

Associate & Non-Member Check-in

That completes our regular membership roll call. If there are any guest stations who wish to check in, please give your **call sign**, phonetically, your **first name**, and your **location**. **Please transmit at Writing Speed: pretend you are writing it down as you speak. This allows Net Control to record your information.** Again, please wait for Net Control to acknowledge each guest station before keying up. Please come now. <*listen*> Any relay? <*listen*>

Optional: Try asking for guests in call sign groups: A-I, J-R, S-Z

*Acknowledge each station that checks in; if you hear only part of the call sign, ask for the station to repeat the **entire** call sign (keeps them FCC compliant) --- DON'T ask for partial or whether you heard it correctly. Record guest check-ins on the net log (right-hand side blank area: call sign, first name, location).*

Traffic

There is traffic.

Go down through the Roll Call List passing the net to each person with traffic in turn.

i.e. <*call*> go ahead with your traffic.

After last station has given traffic:

That completes our listed traffic. Is there any additional traffic? <*listen*>

Invitation to Guests

We would like to thank our guests for checking in this evening. We invite you to join our net each Monday night.

*Give this invitation **only** if a Board member has not already given it.*

You are also invited to join us at our monthly meeting. We meet at the Belmont EOC on the 2nd floor of Belmont City Hall, on the third Thursday of each month at 1930 hours. Does anyone have any questions about our meetings? <*listen*>

Closing

This is the last call for late member, associate member, or non-member check-ins. <*listen*>

Your net control station for next week will be <*call*>.

Thanks to <*relay station's call*> for being our relay station this evening.

This is <*your call*> net control for the South County Amateur Radio Emergency Service closing the net at <*time*> on <*date*>.

These frequencies are now available for normal use.

Thank you all for your participation and good evening.

***Count the number of check-ins**, noting the number of members, associates, and visitors. **Don't forget to include yourself in the count.** Mark this on your worksheet. Please scan or photograph and **email** a copy of your Roll Call worksheet to Madeline KD6JTU at kd6jtu -at- gmail –dot- com.*

Thank you for doing Net Control!