## Ham Radio Nets

## The Basics



Jerry Spring VE6TL April 2023

### What is a Net?

# A regularly scheduled on-the-air (or online/digital) meeting of hams who have a common interest

### Examples:

- Public Service (local)
- Certificate/Award Hunting (HF/DX)
- Specific manufacturer (Collins, Heathkit, etc.)
- CW practice
- Rag chewing Socializing
- Youth groups
- Maritime
- States/Provinces
- Buy/Sell
- And MANY, MANY more

### **Many Different Venues for Nets**

- Allstar
- Echolink
- IRLP
- DMR
- Fusion
- DSTAR
- HF (CW)
- HF (SSB)
- HF and VHF (AM)

### **Types of Nets**

**Directed Net** – This is the most popular format. It follows standard operating rules, with NCS (Net Control Station) maintaining order, directing net activity, keeping a log of check-ins, and terminates operations in an orderly way. The NCS defines net policy and focus (usually starts with a preamble about the net). A directed net is one in which it is necessary to obtain permission from the NCS before transmitting to other stations in the net.

**Undirected Net** – Informal format that allows participants to converse directly with each other and may not have a NCS. Often referred to as a "round table".

Other types of Nets – ARES (Amateur Radio Emergency Services), Traffic Nets - handle formal written messages, operated by NTS (National Traffic System), SkyWarn Nets (usually run by ARES), Emergency Nets (message handling between hams on the ground and specific government groups), etc.

# **Directed Nets:**Typical Check-in Procedure

- I. Listen to the NCS for instructions. They may ask for check-ins from a specific area or with other criteria (e.g. mobile/portable,)
- 2. Register your call sign and location with the NCS at the appropriate time
- 3. If you miss your time, you should wait for the NCS to call for late or missed check-ins
- 4. When called, if you have nothing to say, give your call and say "No traffic"
- 5. If you have to leave early, give your call and state that you are "In & Out"
- 6. If the NCS cannot hear a station but you can, you can say, "Relay" and wait for the NCS to acknowledge you. You can then relay the message to the NCS, who will repeat it so that everyone else can hear.

# **Directed Nets:**Best Practices

- Monitor the Net for all rules & procedures before checking-in.
- Find a good location with a strong signal before calling.
- Organize your thoughts before TXing.
- Use your call in Phonetics whenever possible.
- Speak clearly and confidently.
- Don't leave the Net until you are dismissed.
- If you need to leave the Net, check-in saying "Recheck". Once you are acknowledged, say "Please check me out" and give your call.
- If you need to talk to another station on the Net please use another frequency during the Net.
- Use an appropriate amount of power (if possible) so that others on the net can hear you (avoiding relays)
- Keep all transmissions quick unless otherwise stated.
- Always be friendly and courteous.

### From CARA Website:

Net Name	Freq.	Time	Description		
Sunday VHF Net	144.200 USB	23:00z Sunday	Alberta VHF net.		
MARA	145.290- (VA6CTV) FARS Network	2100 Sundays	MARA ERC [Emergency Response Communications] net		
IRLP Net	146.61 (VE6OIL)	0900 Local	SARA IRLP Net		
Central Alberta ARES	146.61 (VE6OIL)	2000 Sunday	Central Alberta ARES, linked to SARA network		
LDS Net	146.61 (VE6OIL)	2030 Sunday	LDS Net		
CAARC	146.61 (VE6OIL)	2000 Monday	Central Alberta Amateur Radio Club Monday night net		
CARA Caratels Net	146.850 FM (VE6RYC)	1PM MT Tuesday	CARA's weekly net held on the VE6RYC repeater.		
Net	146.940 (VE6RPT)	Tues & Thurs 8:15pm	Bob VE6PWT. This Net has been led since 1992		
CCC Net	147.135 (VA6CAL	Sundays 7:00pm	New CCC Repeater Net		
Alberta Public Service Net	3.700 LSB	01:30z Daily	Nightly public service net. Part of the national traffic system.		
BC Public Service Net	3.729 LSB	01:30z Daily	BC's public service net. Part of the national traffic system.		
Sask Public Service Net	3.735 LSB	01:00z Daily	Saskatchewan's public service net. Part of the national traffic system.		
Aurora Net	7.100 LSB	23:00z Daily	Western Canada net		

### http://hamnetlist.blogspot.com

#### Canada Alberta VE6 Local Nets HF | VHF | UHF

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Daily:

0130 UTC - Alberta Public Service net on 3.700MHz

Monday:

20:00 Local - Alberta D-Star Net on VE6KM-B

Tuesday:

1930 L - NARC weekly net on VE6HM

2030 L - Ladies net on VE6NHB / SARA system

Wednesday:

0900 L - TransCanada IRLP Net on VE6NHB / SARA system.

2100 L - VE6PP linked to VE6HM Whitecourt Net

Thursday:

1930 L - New Hams 2m net on VE6NHB / SARA system

Friday:

1900 L - D-STAR Can-Net on VE6KM B.

Saturday:

2030 L - Tailgater's Swap Net on VE6NHB / SARA System

Sunday:

1800 UTC - TransCanada HF net on 14.140MHz

1930 L - ARES Alberta HF net on 3.675MHz

2000 L - ARES Alberta VHF net on VE6UV (NARC System on 3rd Sunday). Provincial linking net on 1st Sunday of the month.

### https://www.rac.ca/nets/

#### **Alberta**

#### Alberta Public Service Net

This net runs daily on 3.700MHz at 01:30Z. Net manager Don VE6JY

#### The Central Alberta Amateur Radio Club VHF Net

The CAARC Monday Night VHF Net is held:

- at 20:00 hrs local (Mountain) on the CAARC linked repeater system VE6QE 147.150 + near Red Deer, VE6VHF 146.910 near Rocky Mountain House, VE6PZ 145.210 near Nordegg and VE6UK 145.250 near Big Valley.
- The Net Control station rotates weekly and, periodically just for fun, a dual mode net will be run with stations checking in on VHF then QSY to an alternate mode on another frequency such as CW, packet, IRLP or APRS for a second check in.
- · Weekly net information can be found at http://www.caarc.ca/ with the schedule of Net Controllers.

#### The Weekly VHF ARES NET

The Central Alberta ARC holds a VHF ARES Net:

- Sunday nights at 20:00 local time (Mountain)
- · on the CAARC linked repeater system VE6QE, the SARA system and the ARES UHF system VE6YXR
- The net manager is Stephen VA6SGL, EC.

### http://ac6v.com/nets.php

#### **HF DX NETS By UTC**

TIME UTC	NET NAME	DAY	FREQUENCY	NET CONTROL	
0000	Arkansas DX Assoc	Sun	3.815 MHz	-	
0200	HI-DX	Daily 14.222 MHz NI5I		NI5I	
0330	Oceania DX Group	Sat	14.245 MHz	-	
0400	Mexican DX	Daily	3742	XE1PEP	
0445	ANZA (VK, ZL & Africa)	Saturdays 21.205 MHz -		-	
0515	ANZA (VK, ZL & Africa)	Daily 14.183 MHz -		-	
0500	Arabian Nights Net	Fri	14.250 MHz	JY3ZH	
0530	YL Triple Two	Mon	14.222 MHz	-	
0530	Triple Two (VK9NS)	Sat/Sun 14.222 MHz -		-	
0600	YL Pacific DX	Mon	14.222 MHz	VK9YL	
0630	USA DX Groupe	Daily	7.240 MHz	W8KLI	
0700	Triple H Net	Nightly	7.190 MHz	-	
0800	Pacific Island	Daily	14.315 MHz	V63JC	
0930	Oceania DX Group	Sat	3.620 MHz	-	
1000 to 1300	Portuguese DX Net	Sat	21.280 MHz -		
1000 to 1300	Portuguese DX Net	Sat 28.480 MHz -		-	
1100	Friendly Caribbean	Daily	14.165 MHz	W2MIG	
1100	Southern Cross DX	Daily	14.226.5 MHz	VK4AAR	

### http://ac6v.com/nets.php\*

#### **HF DX NETS By UTC - Continued**

1200/1400	Brazil DX Net	Daily 28.430 MHz		_	
1230-1300	Southern Cross DX	Daily	14.238.5 MHz	VK6ZAI & W1FDY	
1300	14305 DX Net	Mon - Fri 14.305 MHz -		-	
1300 /1800	Africana Net	Daily 21.355 MHz NX5B		NX5B	
1300 or 2300	China DX net	Sat	21.410MHz -		
1400-1700	Family Hour	Daily	14.245 MHz	-	
1430	10M DX Net	Daily	28.330 MHz	-	
1500	European DX	M,T,W,T,F,S	14.243 MHz	OE6EEG, 4X6DW	
1600	Canada DX Net	Sun	14.173 MHz	_	
1730	Family Hour	Daily	21.350 MHz	-	
1800/1900	Brazil DX Net	Sat/Sun	14.222 MHz	-	
1900/2100	BRYLA (PY-YLs Net)	Wed	14.248 MHz	_	
2000 - 2100	247 QSL Info	Daily	14.247 MHz	KB7SO	
2100 - 2300	247 DX Net	Daily	14.247 MHz	KB7SO	
2330	OKDXA	Sat	3.860 MHz	_	
2330	Pitcarin Isle	Tues	21.348 Mhz	-	

<sup>\*</sup>This website contains many more nets: Local Clubs, WAS, QRP, IOTA, County Hunters, Emergency, CW, Swaps, Maritime Mobile, Boat Anchors, etc.

### **Netlogger Software\***

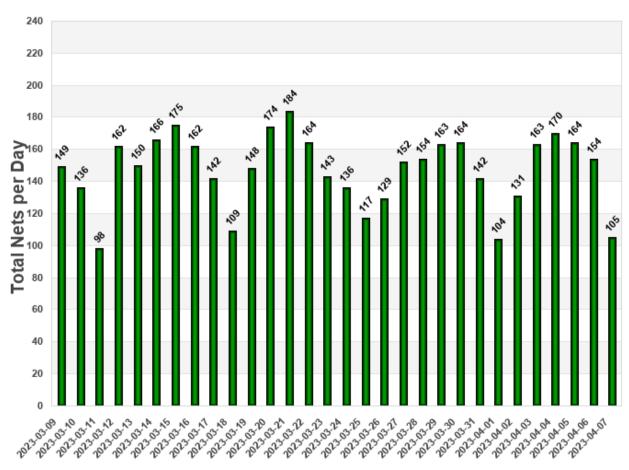


Currently Active Nets @ 2023-04-10 01:59:00 UTC						
Net Name	Frequency	Mode	Server Cluster	Start Time - UTC	<b>Elapsed Time</b>	Subscribers
3916 Nets <u>(www)</u>	3.916 MHz	SSB	NETLOGGER	2023-04-10 00:01:06	01:57:54	11
American Airlines Amateur Radio (www)	147.000	FM	NETLOGGER	2023-04-10 01:19:28	00:39:32	7
The Beacon Net (www)	147.390	FM	NETLOGGER	2023-04-10 01:22:47	00:36:13	13
Colorado ARES UHV-VHF Net (www)	145.310	FM	NETLOGGER	2023-04-10 01:58:37	00:00:23	1
The Friendly Bunch (www)	3.919	SSB	NETLOGGER	2023-04-09 22:59:52	02:59:08	6
K9HAM Sunday UHF Net (www)	442.775	FM	NETLOGGER	2023-04-10 00:46:27	01:12:33	6
MINUS 2 NET (www)	146.850	FM	NETLOGGER	2023-04-10 01:50:54	00:08:06	3
N1FD-NARS 10M Weekly Chat Net (www)	28.480	SSB	NETLOGGER	2023-04-10 00:32:21	01:26:39	1
Niece slow - fast cw net 40m (www)	7.045	CW	NETLOGGER	2023-04-10 00:28:47	01:30:13	4
SundayNightNet org ELINK 387904 (www)	146.790	FM	NETLOGGER	2023-04-09 23:40:45	02:18:15	12
YARC Digital Net (www)	Digi	YSF	NETLOGGER	2023-04-10 01:54:26	00:04:34	1
OMISS 40m SSB Net (www)	7.185	SSB	NETLOGGER2	2023-04-10 00:22:36	01:36:24	73
3905 40m SSB Early Net (www)	7.268	SSB	NETLOGGER3	2023-04-09 23:33:23	02:25:37	19
3905 75m SSB Early Net (www)	3.898	SSB	NETLOGGER3	2023-04-10 01:35:09	00:23:51	14

<sup>\*</sup>Free software at https://www.netlogger.org/

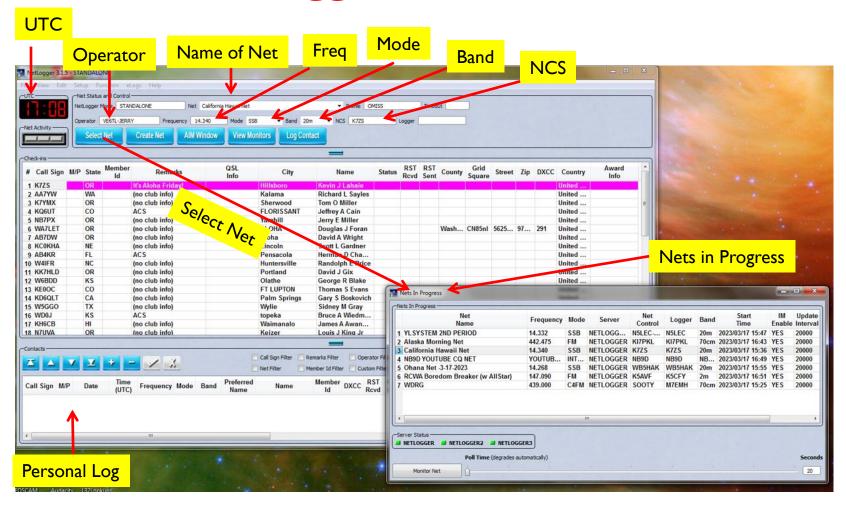
### **Netlogger Software\***

**NETLOGGER Server Usage - Last 30 Days (UTC)** 

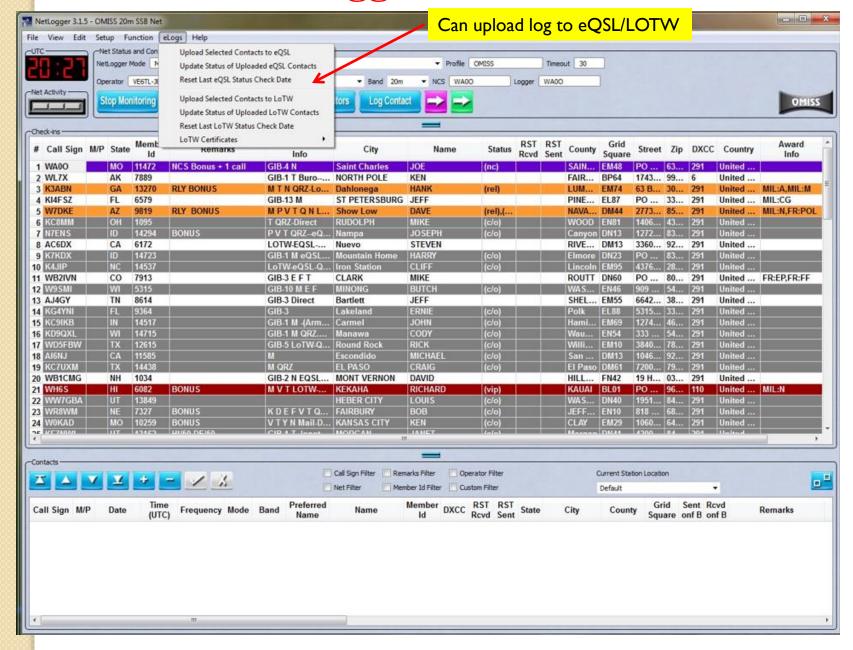


<sup>\*</sup>Free software at https://www.netlogger.org/

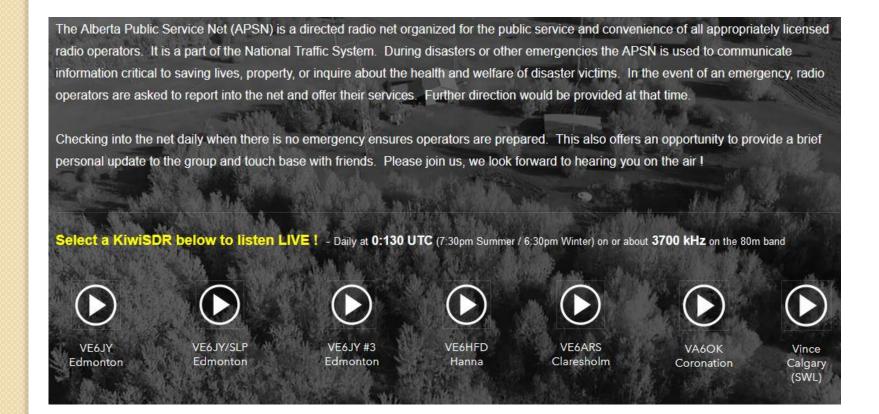
### **Netlogger Screenshots**



### **Netlogger Screenshots**



### Alberta Public Service Net (APSN)



## What is your favourite net?

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(Discussion Time)