Hints and Kinks for Net Control Stations

The following are some Hints from the Level II of the Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Course

1. If the net is scheduled net, start on time.

2. Use a script when possible. This promotes efficient net operation.

3. Be friendly yet in control. Speak slowly and clearly with an even tone. Speak with confidence, even if you are inwardly nervous

4. Write down all calls.

5. Ready you radio owners’ manual and know your radio before an emergency occurs.

7. During check-ins, recognize participants by name whenever possible. This boosts morale

8. Frequently identify the name and purpose of the net.

9. Don’t be afraid to ask for assistance if you net it. Have an alternate NCS

10. Keep transmissions as short as possible

11. Transmit only facts.

12. When necessary use standard ITU phonetics.

13. For voice nets, use plain English. Do not use Q signals

14. If the net has been quiet for more than ten minutes, check on operator status.

One of the functions and duties of an NCS is to keep a current list of stations checking in, where they are, their individual assignments, and what capabilities they have.