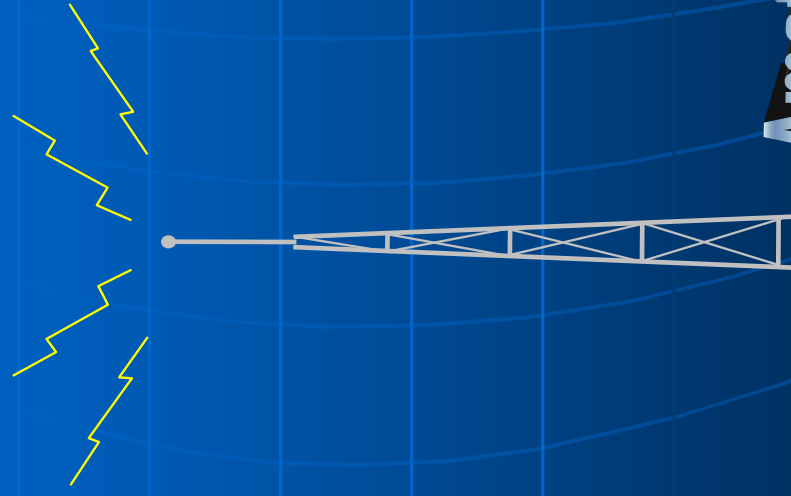


Mastering Amateur Radio Public Service

(The Art of Public Service)



Presented by

John Galvin, N5TIM

jgalvin2@gmail.com

Amateur Radio is a National Resource

Is It Legal ?

The FCC encourages public service activities within Amateur Radio. A fundamental principal found in the very first FCC rule in part 97 is “Recognition and enhancement of the value of the amateur service to the public as a voluntary non-commercial communications service...” Acceptable activities, the FCC wrote, are not determined by the profit objectives of the sponsor, not the pay status of other participants. Although some transmitted communications could incidentally benefit a sponsor, we do not view such communications as violations of the rules where their main purpose is to provide a service to the public.

... Yes!

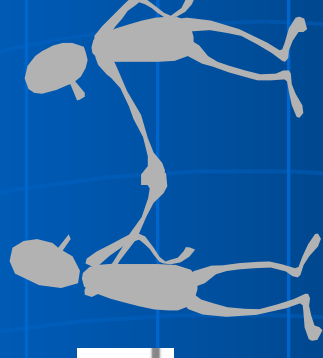
Why Public Service?

- Public Service provides the amateur an opportunity to operate his/her equipment under conditions that simulate operating characteristics of an incident needing emergency communications.
- To operate in various capacities that one might encounter at an actual emergency incident.
- To demonstrate amateur radio to the general public.
- Meet your groups training requirements
- To provide safety and logistics communications to worthy service organizations

Who do we serve?



- Medical/Research Organizations
- City/County Municipal Governments
- Civic Organizations
- Charitable Athletic Events
- Our community



As public service communicators

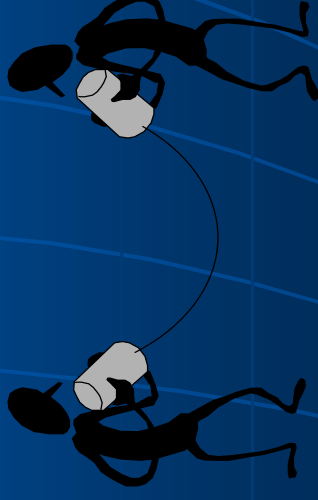


- We are there to provide communications at the request of the event sponsor
- We are there to help make the event run smoothly and safely
- We should put our best foot forward in actions and dress
- We have an opportunity to support a worthy cause
- We represent amateur radio and amateurs in general
- We test our communications skills and equipment
- We have **fun**

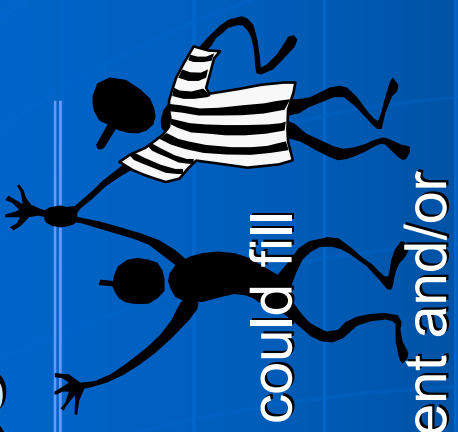
Public Service Communications

Communicator positions

- Volunteering
- Coordinator
- Shadow
- Rest Stop/First Aid station
- Sag/Mobile/Ambulance
- Net Control



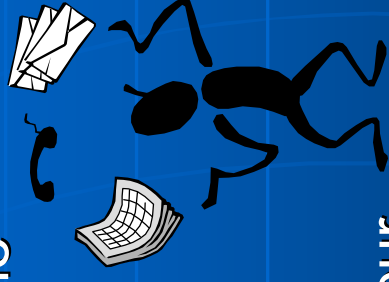
Volunteering for Public Service



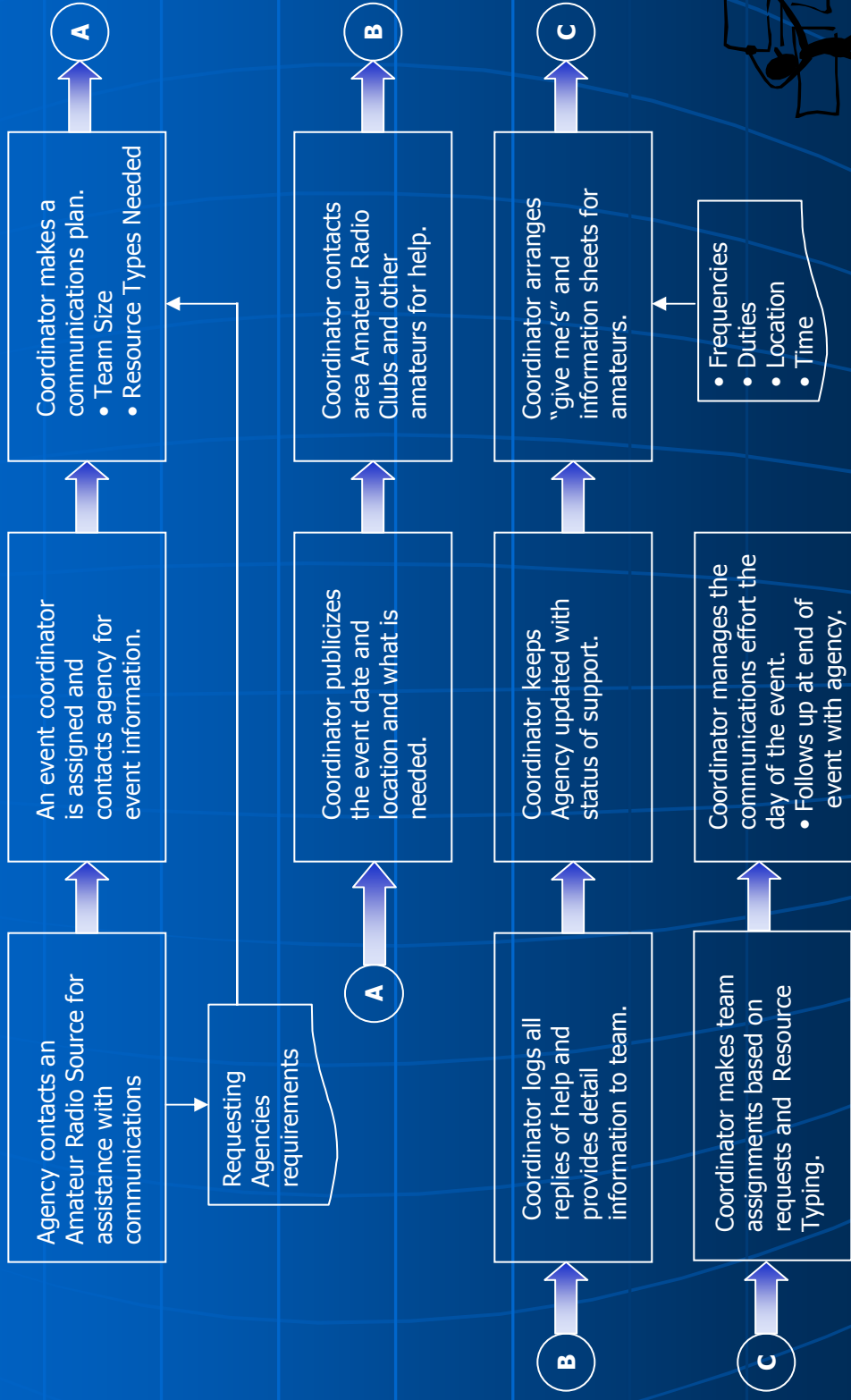
- Sign-up as early as possible
- Let the coordinator know what positions you could fill (Resource Type)
- Inform the coordinator of limitations (equipment and/or physical) that affects your participation
- Prepare yourself and your equipment
 - Consider comfort items
- If your plans change, notify the coordinator as soon as possible
- Be prepared for changes in weather, equipment and/or assignment

As the communications coordinator

- Meet with the requesting agency and get all the event details (include a site visit)
- Make a communications plan
 - Plan for multiple frequencies
- Call for volunteers - *Beg if needed*
- Be specific in communications needs
- Provide as much information as possible to your communications team in a timely manner
- Don't try to do it all yourself, name a co-coordinator or team leaders
- Don't assign yourself to a key position
- Don't wait until the last minute to plan
- Debrief and document



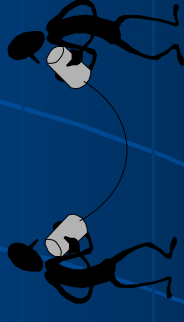
Public Service Event Planning



What do You do as a Shadow?

Resource Type S

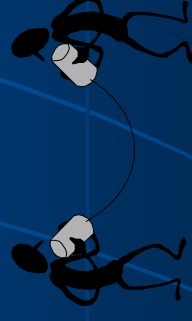
- A shadow is an Amateur Radio Operator who accompanies an official during an event
- A shadow operator is generally on-foot
- The shadow operator must remain with the person being shadowed at all times
- The shadow may operate other radios as well
- The operator should be in good physical condition (Lots of walking)
- An HT is usually used for this function



What do You do as a Rest Stop?

Resource Type B

- The purpose of a rest stop or aid station communicator is to provide constant contact between net control and the local rest stop or aid station official
- Information usually passed consists of safety and logistic related messages
- The rest stop/aid station is usually one of many providing participants with supplies and or first aid
- The communicator needs to always remain in contact with the site leader and be cognizant of site operations without interfering with normal operations
- This function is similar to Base or Shelter Operations



What do You do as a SAG/Mobile?

Resource Type M

- A SAG/Mobile Communicator is a mobile capable Amateur Radio Operator who accompanies an official during an event. A SAG operator typically rides in a vehicle designated to provide transportation or logistics during an event
- The SAG/Mobile communicator may be called upon to assist the driver with map reading, observing road conditions and assisting the loading of the vehicle (generally tired or participants with minor injuries), including their equipment if needed
- The SAG/Mobile communicator can be a roving set of "eyes" in some situations



What do You do as a Net Control?

Resource Type B

- Net Control is an Amateur Radio Operator who performs as the control point for coordinating a group or team of amateur radio operators all communicating on the same frequency, providing controlled communications during an event
- The purpose of the net control is to maintain orderly communications and serve as the focus for net functions
- The net control directs the order and effective flow of traffic during the net
- The net control is also responsible for keeping track of all resources, active and reserve, directing traffic effectively, maintaining net discipline and recording all incidents and traffic



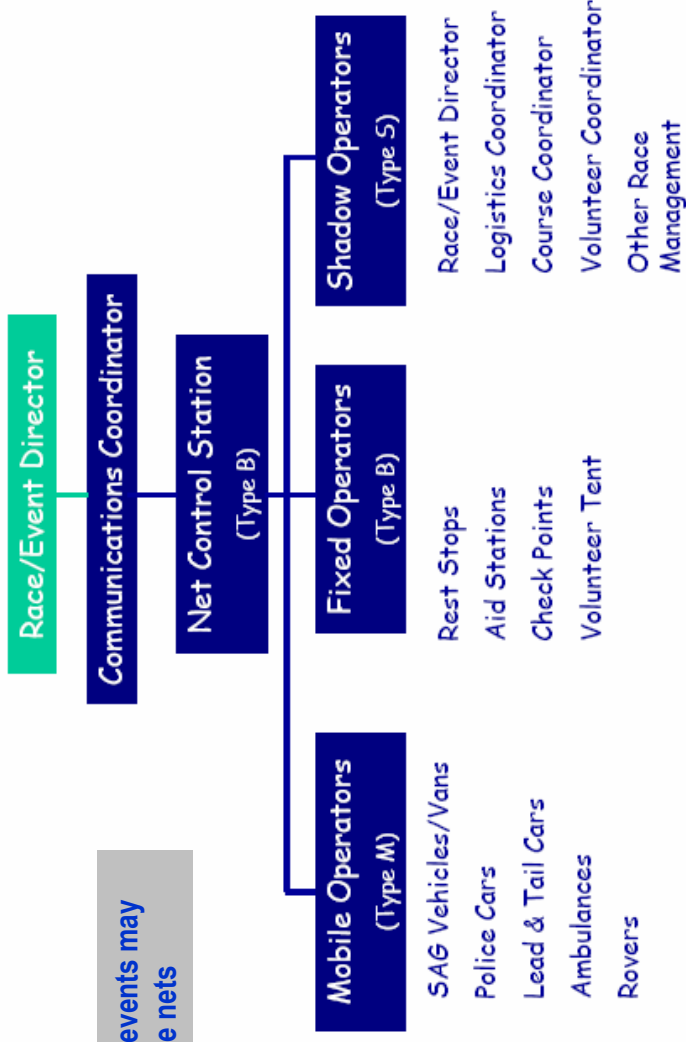
What equipment is needed?

- A 2 Meter transceiver. Generally all communications are on 2 meters
- Dual band capability is a plus
- Some positions require a mobile or stationary transceiver, others an HT
- Antennas, batteries, earphone, adapters and other miscellaneous items
- RACES/ARES standardized antenna, audio, and power connections
- Equipment instruction manual or reference card
- Know your equipment - Know your Resource Type



Putting it all together

PSE Communications Structure



Courtesy of KE6LOU

Communicator Priorities

- Listen to the net – Be aware of what is being said
- Provide status information as requested by Net Control
- Accurately report –
 - Situations involving serious injury to participants or spectators
 - Situations that pose an Immediate threat to life and property
 - Requests for information and provide response to those requests
- Understand your role

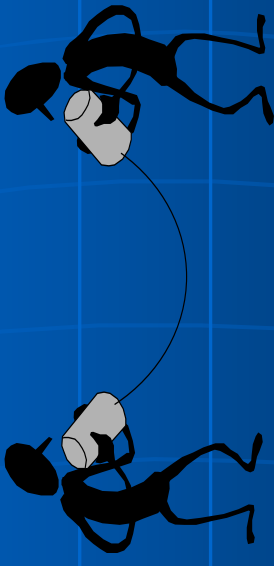
A time to experiment

- Test out new equipment and or configurations
 - Radios, Antennas and Power systems
- Try new modes of operating
 - Automatic Position Reporting System
 - High Speed Multi-Media
 - Amateur TV
 - 802.() Amateur Networking
 - WinLink
 - Packet
 - NVIS
 - Digital HF



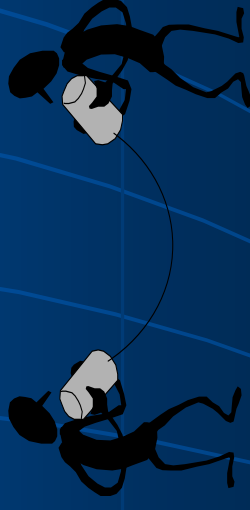
Other Public Service Activities

- Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service (RACES)
- Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES)
- SkyWarn
- SATERN Network
- Red Cross Communications
- Texas Baptist Men Communications
- ARRL Traffic Nets
- Military Affiliate Radio System (MARS)
- Volunteer Examiner
- MRC



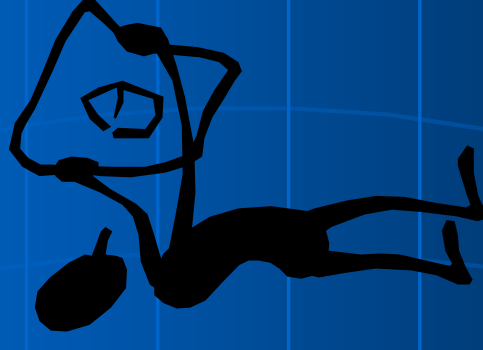
The Future

- Our served agencies are “jumping” on the NIMS/ICS bandwagon
 - Try to incorporate ICS into your event planning
 - Use standard forms for planning and execution of an event
 - Use Resource Typing
- Add digital and multimedia to your event planning
- Encourage new and “old” amateurs to join in



Resources

- Check out the special events web site;
www.qsl.net/n5tim
- Other resources
 - www.arrl.org/field/
 - ARRL Operating Manual
 - ARRL Special Events Manual
 - The DARC web site
 - Area Public Service Events web site
 - Cloud Cowboy Reference Manual
 - Other public service communicators
 - Magazines (Public Service articles)
 - Communicator Resource Types Document
 - IS-15 - Special Events Contingency Planning for Public Safety Agencies (FEMA on line course)



Some of the events

- WalkAmerica
- Run the Rock
- MS-150 Bike Ride
- Red Hot Chilipepper Rally
- Turkey Trot
- Wildflower Bike Ride
- MADD'er N Hell Bike Ride
- Komen Walk
- Field Day
- Mesquite Rodeo Parade
- Walk for Diabetes
- Dino Dash
- Collin Classic
- Grasslands Run
- Irving Independence Day Parade
- Tour d Paris

Web sign-up form

(Event Name) Sign-up Form

Public Service Communications Event

Event Name

Enter your name and call:

Enter your email address:

Home phone (optional):

Work phone (optional):

Enter your T-Shirt size:

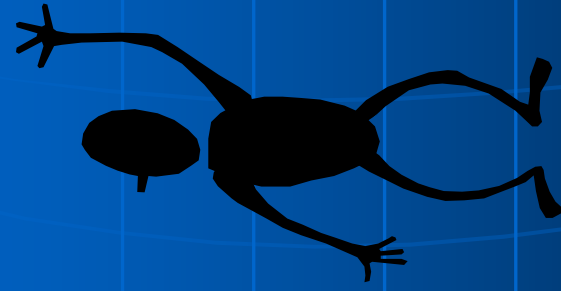
What Resource Type are you ?
(Enter all that apply)

- Type S Type B Type M Type DT Type DA Type DM Type H
(See [Communicator Resource Type Guide](#).)

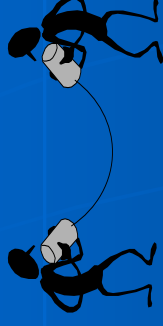
Enter comments, operating preferences, and/or equipment :

Thanks for supporting Public Service Events.

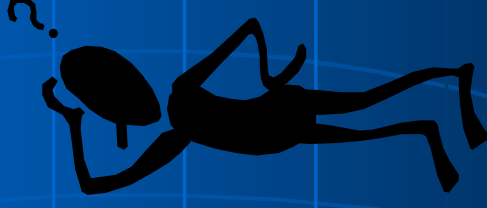
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Questions?



Answers



Amateur Radio is a National Resource

A little history

