ARES net procedure

1) The Net Control Station (NCS) shall open the net by announcing his or her station call sign, the net name, operator's first name, specific location (city/town, township, or village – whichever is MOST specific), and the check-in format. <u>The check-in format shall be only station call sign, operator's first name, and specific location.</u> **We are not asking if you have traffic, so do not say "traffic" or "no traffic" when you check in**. Call sign, operator's first name, specific location... only.

2) Ask for any emergency or priority traffic. If there is emergency/priority traffic, prepare to copy such traffic immediately before moving on. If you need time to gather writing materials, tell the calling station to wait a moment by using the procedural word WAIT or STAND BY; when you are ready to copy, use the pro-word GO AHEAD.

3) Take regular check-ins. **We are not asking if stations have traffic at this point.** <u>The check-in format is station call sign, operator name, and specific location (city/town, township, or village – whichever is MOST specific).</u> **There is no need to say "traffic" or "no traffic" at this time.** If necessary, remind stations who are checking in that they must not leave the net without advising the NCS that he or she is leaving. Once checked in, do not leave until the net closes or you check out.

4) After all stations are checked in, ask if any station has traffic for the net. If a station has traffic and he or she has already checked in, the station only needs to give his/her call sign to indicate there is traffic. Optionally, the station could indicate a number of messages and/or the intended recipient(s). Allow traffic to be passed.

5) After any routine traffic is handled, move on to any exercise materials for training. The training exercise can be any relevant activity. You may choose your own, or if Sam wishes to continue providing materials, allow Sam to take the net for the duration of the training exercise. The training activity will ideally take 30 minutes or less to complete.

6) Once NCS has been given back control of the net, NCS should ask if there are any questions, comments, or concerns that need to be addressed. After questions/comments have been handled, or if there are none, please close the net.