

Exercise Report Form

Section 1: General Information

County/District/Agency Name: Clarke Co. Amateur Radio Emergency Service, Jackson Co., Amateur Radio Emergency Service, Oconee County Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service, Northeast GA Radio Club, and the Athens Radio Club

Date/Time Exercise/Drill Conducted: September 12, 2009 4:00 pm to 12:15 am

Location of Exercise/Drill: Sanford Stadium, University of Georgia, Athens, Georgia, Communications for the Red Cross First Aid Response Teams at the University of Georgia vs. University of South Carolina Football Game

Person (POC) supervising or controlling the Exercise/Drill:

Kay McMann, Clarke County ARES

Name

Title

Section 2: Exercise Information

Type of Exercise:

- Orientation
- Tabletop
- Functional
- Full-scale
- Drill:

Brief Description of Scenario:

This was a public service event, but has been counted as an exercise due to the amount of experience gained which would apply in a true emergency event. For 30 years amateur radio operators have provided communications for the American Red Cross First Aid Response Teams at the University of Georgia (UGA) Home Football Games. Sanford Stadium presently accommodates approximately 100, 000 people on game days. The Red Cross First Aid Teams are a valuable resource in such situations due to the large numbers of injuries sustained by fans during the games. Communicators are needed to help coordinate the response of First Aid Teams to the areas where injuries have occurred. A Net Control Station (NCS) receives reports from various sources and then assigns Red Cross Teams to the area via communicators (Amateur Radio Operators) or requests the aid of EMS. Due to the crowded conditions, the number of injuries, the noise and size of the crowd, structure and design of the stadium, the UGA Football Games provide an excellent opportunity for amateur radio operators to practice communication skills in a difficult, complex and challenging situation. Due to the high level of communication activity and the length of the games, operators must be prepared physically and mentally. Communicators must have well-maintained equipment and good communication skills. Although the Red Cross First Aid Team communications is the primary agency served at the games, other communications are often handled through Amateur Radio Operators. Many requests are received for Law Enforcement, EMS and Event Staff. In this particular event, twenty-one amateur radio operators from various amateur radio services, were assigned to 1) Red Cross First Aid Teams, 2) Red Cross First Aid Rooms,

3) the net control station (NCS), and 4) one amateur radio operator operated closely with Red Cross via visiting all Red Cross Posts and First Aid Rooms. These events express the interest of amateur radio operators to provide communications in the area of public service. In this exercise amateurs demonstrated a positive, willing attitude. This event allowed communicators the chance to discover any problems with their personal communication equipment and their ability to communicate while practicing basic communication skills. Some communicators did have problems with their equipment, but we made changes to meet the basic communications needs of the event.

Exercise Objectives:

The primary objective was to aid the Red Cross Teams in their response to injuries in Sanford Stadium. Operators were expected to: 1) assist in detecting injuries and report them to the NCS, 2) pass traffic from the NCS to the assigned First Aid Teams and 3) report First Aid Team responses to incidents and the nature of the injuries. This exercise also provides an excellent opportunity for amateur radio operators from different emergency response groups to work and practice communication skills jointly.

Agencies/Organizations represented:

Oconee County RACES

Clarke County ARES

Jackson County County ARES

Northeast Georgia Radio Club

Athens Radio Club

Section 3: Outcomes

Briefly describe lessons learned:

The NCS activated the communications station at 5:25 pm. Although the game did not start until 7:00 PM, requests for first aid began as soon as communicators arrived at their stations, even before the Red Cross First Aid Teams arrived at the Posts and before the formal net was activated. At 5:45 pm a radio signal check was conducted. The check also included a check to see if Red Cross First Aid Teams were on site and if the Post had a wheelchair, their cooler and first aid bag. The alternate or backup frequency of 147.570 was noted and Station 5 was designated as the alternate net control.

Over 100 messages were handled during this game. Due to the late start time, a number of ETOH related incidences occurred throughout the entire game. Also, a number of heat related problems were handled. Numerous requests for wheelchairs, from both EMT and First Aid Stations and Rooms, were relayed.

Examples of some of the other requests made by Post and communicators in other locations:

5:25 pm Station 15 – Station 12 had Station 3's First Aid bag and the bags needed to be exchanged

7:00 pm Station 7 – North First Aid Rooms were experiencing short power outages; NCS notified Stadium Operations

7:12 pm Station 15 – University Police had pepper sprayed 2 ETOH people; requesting EMS personnel; NCS notified EMT operations

8:15 pm NCS to Station 4 – University Police requested assistance for pregnant female having difficulty in section 111/112

8:22 pm Station 4 – patient with heat-related problems under stands in East endzone

8:47 pm Station 4 – communicator requested to accompany pregnant female to her vehicle; KJ4HWG (rover) accompanied patient

9:04 pm NCS to Station 4 – directed to unconscious female in section 109; Station 3 was swamped and could not respond

9:25 pm Station 4 – Requested location of nearest water fountain; NCS provided information

9:29 pm Station 6 – Requested information on location of working ATM; NCS checked with Stadium Operations – there are no longer any working ATM within the stadium, nor will there be in the future; nearest ATM would be Tate Center

9:39 pm Station 3 – Security requested above section 110/111 – object thrown over the side

9:45 pm Station 1 – male child attacked by bat in section 103 – skin broken; taken to First Aid Room

9:55 pm Station 3 – person had lost cell phone and had been told that EMT had found it; wanted to know if EMT had it; NCS checked with EMT, who said No; Rover 1 reported that Red Cross worker had found a phone earlier and turned it into Lost & Found; Stadium Operations suggested checking with L&F at Section 229 – behind Press Box

11:29 pm NCS – closed directed net

11:35pm – As 3 of the radio operators were returning to the staging area, a handicapped male from South Carolina requested that someone from Red Cross carry him back to his car; Mike Rivers was notified but stated that Red Cross did not provide such service; the radio operators stayed with man and contacted Stadium Operations; it was determined that there was a handicapped van that could come and pick him up, but it would take some time before it could make it back to the stadium; Eli KJ4FWK volunteered to stay with the man until the van arrived

The simplex frequency (146.550 MHz) was used throughout the event and demonstrated the ability of communicators to pass traffic on a local scale with low powered transceivers.

Problems that occurred were:

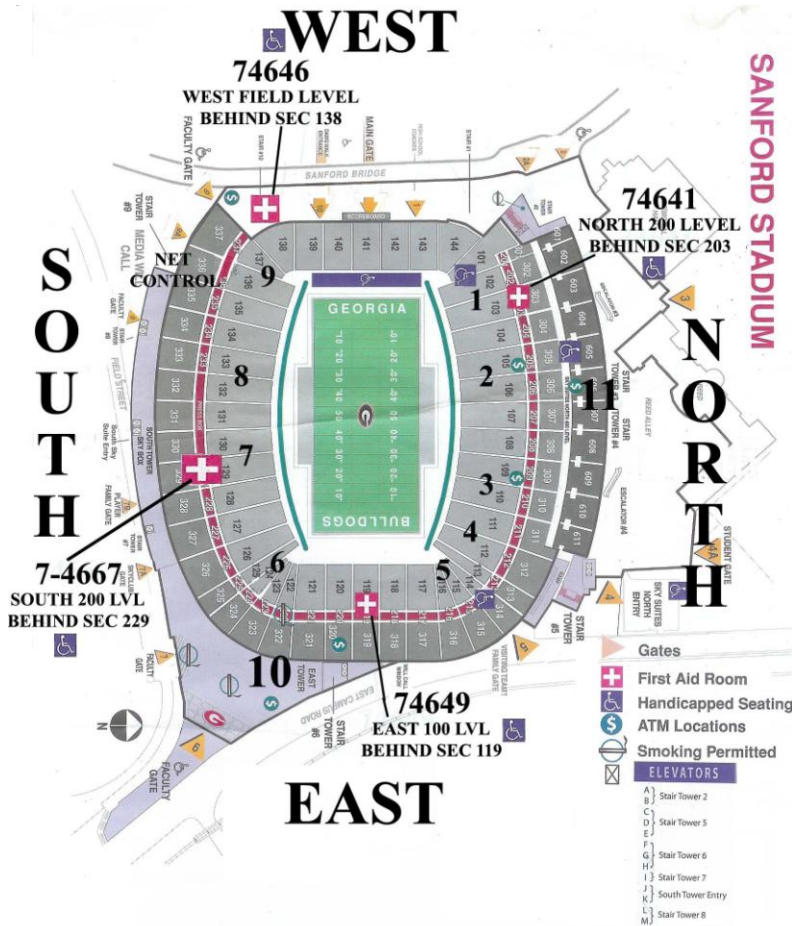
- I. N4CUA had numerous problems with his microphone; after several attempts to improve the transmission quality failed, it was suggested that he discontinue use of his external microphone and just speak directly into the radio. That helped some but did not totally resolved the issue.
- II. KG4WHA (NCS) had to change batteries twice due to the number of transmissions being handled.

Other comments/recommendations:

Most of the communicators met for a debriefing session after the game. Some of the issues discussed included:

- Due to the extreme noise level during the game, noise-quieting headsets should be used.
- Due to the number of calls that net control must handle, handheld radios and their batteries are often overwhelmed. Stan, WA4DYD, suggested that a more powerful base station should be used. Erwin, KG4WGZ, volunteered to bring his kit and set it up for use as the base for the next game.
- A detailed gameday procedure writeup is now available on Ed's website, www.n4zra.com. Everyone should review the document.
- Mike Rivers would like for us to begin attending the Red Cross pre-game meetings. Therefore our departure time from the Piedmont College parking lot will be three (3) hours before the game start time, not 2.5 hours.

Public service events provide an excellent opportunity for amateur radio operators to interact with served agencies, city and county officials, and the public. As volunteers we must be accepted by public-safety officials as a valid service in the area of communications. It is important that amateur radio operators strive to demonstrate their ability to contribute in times of disaster, based on the efficiency and effectiveness of their performance in public service events. Acceptance, image, efficiency and effectiveness are all important to the ongoing working relationships between amateurs and officials, since amateur radio volunteers are accepted by establishing a track record of competent performance in a range of diverse activities. Radio amateurs must demonstrate that they are organized, disciplined, reliable, and have a sincere interest in public service.



Communicator	Post	Emergency Response Group
KG4WHA – Kay McMann	Net Control Station (NCS)	Clarke Co. ARES
KI4KCA – Steve Pilcher	1	Red Cross
KI4SYC – Bert New	2	Oconee Co. RACES
KE4JLL – Bob Herrin	3	Clarke Co. ARES
KG4WGZ – Erwin Greene	4	Clarke Co. ARES
WA4DYD – Stan	5	Clarke Co. ARES
KJ4FWE – Bonnie	6	Clarke Co. ARES
KI4JIQ – Bill Hussey		Clarke Co. ARES
KJ4MQU – Antonio		
KE4EOI – David	7	Clarke Co. ARES
N4UFZ – Albie	8	Clarke Co. ARES
N4CUA – Paul	9	Clarke Co. ARES
KI4KPA – Steve Hulsey	10	Clarke Co. ARES
WB9TBY – Mike Lamb	11	Oconee Co. RACES
N2EST – Jim	12	
KJ4FWK – Eli		
WD4GTY – Lewis Patterson	15 - West First Aid Room	Red Cross
KI4KCB – Mike Rivers	Rover	Red Cross

KJ4CZE – Eddie Gilbert	Rover	Jackson Co. ARES
N4ZRA – Ed Rollor	Rover	Clarke Co. ARES
KJ4HWG – Angela	Rover	Red Cross

Red Cross UGA Football Stadium First Aid Station Report

DATE: September 12, 2009

GAME: UGA vs South Carolina

TIME IN: 4:00 PM

TIME OUT: 12:15 AM

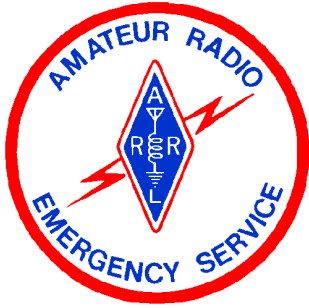
NUMBER FIRST AIDERS:

NUMBER RADIO OPERATORS: 21

NUMBER PEOPLE ASSISTED:

Total Volunteers:

SUMMARY OF ASSISTANCE PROVIDED



PUBLIC SERVICE ACTIVITY REPORT

About This Form

Amateur Radio donates thousands of person hours of supplementary public service communications in civil emergencies, official drills and events such as parades and marathons each year. Such events show Amateur Radio in its best light, and it is critically important that ARRL bring documentation of this public service work to the attention of the Congress, the FCC and other public officials. Your information below is an important addition to the record. Please complete and return this form to the Public Service Branch at ARRL Headquarters. Thank you.

1. Nature of activity (Check one).

Communications Emergency. Amateurs supplied communications required to replace or supplement normal communications means.

Alert. Amateurs were deployed for emergency communications, but emergency situation did not develop.

Special exercise. Amateurs supplied communications for a parade, race, etc.

Test or drill. Amateurs participated in a training activity.

2. Brief description of activity: Red Cross First Aid Team Communications for the University of Georgia Vs. University of South Carolina Football Game

3. Places or areas involved: Athens, Georgia

4. Number of amateurs participating: 21

5. Event start date/time: 9/12/2009 4:00 pm 6. Event end date/time: 9/13/2009 12:15 am

7. Duration of event (hours): 8.25 8. Total person-hours: 173.25

9. Number of repeaters used: 0

10. Estimated person-power cost: \$1732.50 (person-hours times \$10/hr)

11. Estimated cost of equipment used: \$1600.00 (hand-helds, repeaters, etc.)

12. Total estimated cost of service: \$3332.50 (add amounts from lines 10 and 11)

13. Nets and/or frequencies used (including repeater call signs): Simplex 146.550 MHz

14. Number of messages handled: 100+

15. Names of agencies receiving communications support: American Red Cross, EMS, UGA Game Event Staff, UGA Police

16. Please list call signs of amateurs who were major participants:

N4UFZ, N4CUA, KI4KCA, KG4WHA, KE4JLL, KG4WGZ, KI4SYC, WB9TBY, WA4DYD, KJ4FWE, KI4KCB, KI4JIQ, KJ4MQU, KE4EOI, KI4KPA, N2EST, KJ4FWK, KJ4CZE, N4ZRA, WD4GTY, KJ4HWG

17. Other comments:

Communicators reported medical incidents and requested supplies and equipment for Red Cross First Aid workers.

Please attach photos of amateurs in action, newspaper clippings or other data.

Name of Amateur Radio organization providing service:

Clarke Co. ARES, Jackson Co. ARES, Athens Radio Club, Northeast GA Radio Club, and Oconee Co. RACES

Location of organization: City or town: Athens State: GA

Your name: Ed Rollor Call sign: N4ZRA

Address: 69 Thrasher Dr., Watkinsville, GA 30606

ARRL appointment, if any: Clarke Co. ARES EC e-mail address: n4zra1@bellsouth.net

Telephone: 706-542-8684 706-542-8684
(Days) (Evenings)

I attest that the information provided above is complete and true to the best of my knowledge.

Signature

Date