

- 1.5 Everyone can hear you. No profanity, no disparaging people by name, don't give out your address and announce that you'll be away for a week! Most people refer to one another by call sign and/or first name. Don't use surnames.
- 1.6 Verbal Interference – NEVER acknowledge the heckler by rising to the bait! Move to another pre-arranged, hopefully unknown, frequency.
- 1.7 Exercise verbal efficiency – keep transmissions short, concise and use plain language.
- 1.8 Emergencies: FCC rules require that you make every effort to contact a caller who has an emergency.
- 1.9 Give your <call sign> every 10 minutes and at the end of the conversation. You don't have to transmit your friend's call sign, although many do. Illegal to key up without your call sign. If you want to test your radio, say "<call sign> Testing."

2. Net Procedures

- 2.1 What is a net? (*a group of stations who gather on one frequency with a common purpose. Nets provide structure to allow for an orderly flow of messages or information*)
- 2.2 Nets serve a function: rag-chewing, swap meets, emergency communications, regular social interaction among friends
- 2.3 Some nets are directed, some are open or informal. May or may not have a **Net Control Station** (NCS).
- 2.4 If the net is formal, there will be a check-in controlled by NCS. Check-in is either by roll-call or general invitation
 - 2.4.1 Roll-call: unusual, but typical for small, regular nets
 - 2.4.2 Check in with your call sign and anything else the NCS requests (any items of business or traffic?). No need to say call at the end of the net.
 - 2.4.3 General Invitation, by Call Suffix, or by Geographic Region
 - 2.4.3.1 There will be pile-ups and people stepping on toes – Don't Worry!
 - 2.4.3.2 Be patient, Net Control will sort out the pile-up. Wait for Net Control to refer to your call, a suffix or a prefix, etc
- 2.5 Nets are like roundtable discussions, not telephone calls. Be courteous and contribute when you have something to say.
- 2.6 If you wish to leave a net, polite to ask the NCS for permission to leave.

3. Ragchews

- 3.1 Be a good listener. Ask questions that follow your friend's conversation. He's from South Dakota? Is it really that cold there? He's using a vertical antenna? How many radials did he lay down? You're a retired teacher? Do you miss teaching?
- 3.2 Enter an existing conversation with "Break" or your call sign. One speaker should recognize you and allow you to join in.

4. Getting on the Air – The CommAcademy Net Exercise

- 4.1 In-class on-air conversation. 146.52 MHz, simplex, low power.