

Car Rally Radio Operators Handbook

This document is a guide for the amateur radio operators who will be operating on the directed network supporting the **Rally de Paris Car Rally**. To help the Net run smoothly, please try to follow the procedures outlined below as closely as possible. Communications will be quick and easy if we all use the same prosigns and terminology.

Purpose of this Net

The primary purpose of this Net is ensuring the safety of drivers, workers, and spectators. Providing rally officials with information to help conduct the event is a second consideration.

General Procedures

- This is a directed Net; all calls will be made through Net control. If you wish to talk to another station on the Net, you can call them only after calling Net control and getting permission.
- Before transmitting, make sure that the frequency is not in use, and that Net control isn't waiting for a response from someone. **You must listen.** When you hear the Net control operator give his/her call sign, you know that it is OK to call Net control.
- Use your tactical call sign to get the attention of Net control. Since all calls will be for Net control, saying "three start" alerts the control operator that the operator at three start wants to get on the Net. Even if the Net is busy, control will attempt to respond to your call. You may be asked to stand by until control is available. Control will note your call in order to respond back. Since some stage positions may not have good communications to Net, be ready to relay if asked.
- Use your call sign at the end of your last transmission. When the Net control operator hears you say "your call sign", control will assume that you have finished your transmission.
- All radio operators must listen to the Net at all times and is ready to respond to control. If you are out of your vehicle, use of an external speaker is acceptable, or take your HT to hear Net.
- Unless you have emergency traffic, allow a small amount of time to lapse between the end of the Net control ID and your call to Net control.

Net Frequencies

Primary Frequency - - - - 146.700 – pl 114.8 Repeater located in Brookston KD5HIS

This repeater only resets after the long tail after the courtesy tone. Wait until the tail is finished before transmitting.

Back up Frequency - - - - 147.440 Simplex. Only use if the repeater fails. You will need mobile with 50 watts output.

To be used to place operators on course and for start/finish set up:

Stage 1: 147.54 simplex

Stage 2: 147.48 simplex

Emergency Procedure

If you have emergency traffic, interrupt the Net at any time by saying, "**break break.**" This must only be done for true emergencies – something that threatens the health and welfare of people. Examples would be a non-authorized vehicle on stage, a vehicle accident, and an injury on stage. Everyone must hold traffic until emergency is completed. The only radio traffic should be individuals involved with the emergency. If another emergency occurs, say "**break, break**" and proceed as directed by Net Control.

Remember in an Emergency: HAND, What do you Have, where Are you, what is Needed, Details as needed. See Pro Word document for more details.

DO NOT UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCES MENTION THE NAME OF THE DRIVER OR CO-DRIVER or EXTENT OF INJURIES IF KNOWN. You are on a radio where the public can listen.

Log Sheets

Radio Operators are also asked to record the car number of competitors to start, finish, or pass by them. Record the information on the log sheet provided when possible.

What Net Control Needs to Know

The following events will be reported to Net control:

- When you arrival at your location. How many people are at your location?
- Let Net control know when you are ready. Being ready indicates that all persons assigned to that location are there and ready.
- Prior to the departure of car “o” Net control will do a radio/course check with ALL radio operators.
- Net control will advise Start when course is ready for car “o”.
- Start will advise when car “o” has left the start control zone with the time left.
- Finish will advise when car “o” has arrived at their location with the time arriving.
- Net control will advise Start when course is ready for First Car Out.
- Start will advise when first rally car has been released to start the stage with the car number and time out.
- Start will let control know how many cars started the stage and the number of the LAST car.
- Finish will advise control when the first rally car has arrived at their location with the time arriving.
- Finish will advise control of the number of cars finishing the stage and the car number of the last car.
- Start will advise control when sweep vehicle has left the control zone with the time leaving.
- Finish radio reports arrival of the sweep vehicle at their location with the time arriving.
- Radio observers may be asked at any time by control the number of cars past their location and when sweep passes.

Things Net Control Must OK

These events will be cleared with the Net control before they happen:

- Departure of car “oo” and car “o” from a stage start
- Departure of the first rally car, and time of departure from stage start
- Departure of sweep vehicle to sweep a stage
- Shutdown of a stage
- Any emergency situation on the stage or in the spectator location..

Thanks to all of the radio operators for their time and expertise to ensure that the rally is safe and fun for all.

Car Rally Public Service Communications Pro-Words	
Pro-Word	Meaning / Definition
BREAK, BREAK	An interruption in conversation – usually to request use of the frequency as for an emergency (As a request) (Immediate response needed)
RED CROSS	Serious injury or incursion by non-rally traffic
OK SIGN	Car stopped on course, OK sign displayed
Car Off Course	Car has gone off course, in ditch or wrong road
Non Rally Traffic	Unknown car, 4 wheeler, motorcycle, tractor etc. on course
Person walking	Unknown person, walking, on course
Fire	Type, grass, car
AFFIRMATIVE	You are correct – your information is correct
NEGATIVE	NO – Your information is not correct
DISREGARD	This transmission is in error – Disregard it
QUERY	Request for information
INFO	Indication of information to clarify a point or answer a question
RE-CHECK	Indication of additional information or need or clarification
QSL	As a question – Do you copy / understand As a reply – Copy / information understood
QSY	Used to request a frequency change or indicate operator is changing frequency
CLEAR	Transmission has ended – no response is expected
OVER	Transmission has ended and a response is expected
SAY AGAIN	Please repeat last transmission

IN AN EMERGENCY – REMEMBER THE WORD “HAND”	
H – what do you HAVE	I have a ---Use Pro Words above, and car number if known
A – where ARE you	At -Location, how far from start, miles on stage, instruction number, which ever you have
N – what is NEEDED	I need – medical, fire fighters, tow vehicle,
D – DETAILS as needed	Approximate time of incident, number of cars past your location, other as asked by net
	TIP: ALWAYS BE AWARE OF YOUR LOCATION

Always use the correct phonics Use common words

Remember your ABCs: Accuracy Brevity Clarity