

The quarterly County Communications Drill this month will be a “stay at home” exercise of the Resource Net from Level 1 through Level 3. This is not something we practice very often, but we will all depend on this process when the next major earthquake arrives. All hams are invited to participate in this drill, regardless of whether your city is planning to directly participate.

The operational period will be Saturday, August 27, 2022 from 10:00 to 12:00. The drill event will consist of:

- A simulated major earthquake
- One simulated aftershock
- Simulated (or real) activation of participating City EOC radio rooms
- RACES Mutual Aid requests which will need to be fulfilled from available radio operators
- Assignment, dispatch, and simulated travel tracking of radio operators (no actual travel required)

The drill planning documents, along with materials needed for field communicators, are posted at the drill website: https://www.scc-ares-races.org/drills/drill_2022-08-27.html

The drill will be divided into three phases, which will be announced via Resource Net Control.

- Phase A: A simulated major earthquake has just occurred. The Resource Net will operate at Level 1 and take Mike-Mike reports.
- Phase B: A simulated aftershock occurs. Additional new reports will be collected via the Resource Net, and some cities will activate their EOCs, moving the Resource Net to Level 2.
- Phase C: Mutual Aid requests will be received by the County. The Resource Net will move to Level 3, and available operators will be queried, assigned, dispatch, and tracked through (simulated) travel.

The Resource Net repeaters will be linked for this drill, so remember to wait 1-2 seconds after keying up before speaking. However, due to the ongoing equipment relocation, it is likely that only **AA6BT** and **N6NAC** will be linked for this drill - **W6ASH** may not be linked.

Please remember to follow the instructions of Net Control at all times throughout the drill.

Note also the (brief) homework items listed at the bottom of this document.

Phase A

You should expect to receive a message from AlertSCC shortly before the drill begins, notifying you of a simulated earthquake that has just occurred. The Resource Net be activated by a Net Control in the County EOC Radio Room and will operate at Level 1, collecting damage observations.

If your city wants you to contact the city first for preliminary safety assessments, city Mike-Mike reports, etc., please follow your city’s established instructions. If in doubt, contact your EC. Otherwise, please join the County Resource Net when able.

To determine your MM damage report, we would like you to read an observation and then select a suitable Mike-Mike level for that observation. The Table of Observations is linked from the drill website: [https://www.scc-ares-races.org/drills/drill_2022-08-27/SCCo Drill 20220827 Table of Observations.pdf](https://www.scc-ares-races.org/drills/drill_2022-08-27/SCCo_Drill_20220827_Table_of_Observations.pdf)

For phase A, use the **last letter** of your **FCC call sign** and then look up the observation for that letter in the table. Reminder that the Mike-Mike scale used by SCCo ARES/RACES is documented at <https://scc-ares-races.org/MMScale.html>.

Phase B

Around 10:20, Resource Net Control will announce that a simulated aftershock has occurred and that we are entering Phase B of the drill.

You will select a new observation for this phase corresponding to the aftershock, using the same Table of observations as Phase A, and potentially select a new Mike-Mike level based on this observation. For phase B, use the **last letter** of your **middle name**. (If you have no middle name, use your first name.)

Depending on message load, you may not have provided your Mike-Mike report during Phase A, particularly if you had a lower-level Mike-Mike report number. Regardless, you should select a **new** observation once Phase B begins.

During Phase B of the drill, we expect that some cities will announce the (simulated) activation of their EOCs, and the Resource Net will transition to Level 2. We will follow Level 2 procedures and ask impacted hams to move to their city nets. Come back to the Resource Net when released by your city.

Phase C

Around 10:40, Resource Net Control will announce that we are entering Phase C of the drill. We expect to receive Mutual Aid requests at this time, moving the Resource Net to level 3.

We will stop taking Mike-Mike reports during Phase C (Resource Net Level 3). Instead, the Resource Net will be used for Mutual Aid requests:

1. Asking for communicators that have been released by their city and are available for an assignment. (If your city isn't participating in this drill, you can consider yourself "pre-released".)
2. Assigning and dispatching operators for simulated Mutual Aid response to a location within the County.
3. Tracking simulated travel (with Health and Welfare checks) for dispatched operators. No actual travel is required or expected.

When indicating availability, Net Control will ask for any credentials or endorsements that you have earned. If you don't have any credentials, Net Control may query for your capabilities in other ways. Any operator with **County DSW (and who has been released by their city)** is welcome to participate in the Level 3 Resource Net.

During assignment, preference may be given to those operators holding credentials and endorsements matching the request. If you are assigned and dispatched, please simulate traveling to the assigned location and try to give accurate health and welfare responses for location and odometer updates, as if you were actually traveling to the destination. If you get to simulate arriving at the destination (time permitting), please inform Net Control.

Note : if you are using an app with offline maps to find directions to the destination, simulate an internet/phone outage by putting your device into “airplane mode” during this phase.

It is expected that Phase C will be quite busy. Please be patient and understanding that Net Control may be dealing with a heavy message load and may not be able to get to everyone.

The drill will end at 12:00, and the Resource Net will be closed. All participants are expected to have received an awesome practice opportunity and learning experience.

Thank you for your consideration of participating in this drill as a field communicator.

HOMEWORK ITEMS

To best prepare for this drill, please review the following:

- Confirm with your City EC whether initial damage reports should be reported to the city first.
- Confirm that your AlertSCC information in the SCCo ARES/RACES database is up-to-date by no later than **Saturday, August 20, 2022** : <https://www.scc-ares-races.org/activities/mycontactinfo.php>
- Have ready or print out the “Table of Observations” document found at https://www.scc-ares-races.org/drills/drill_2022-08-27/SCCo_Drill_20220827_Table_of_Observations.pdf along with a copy of the Mike-Mike scale (should already be in your 2-hour carry kit!)
- Have a paper or offline map of the county available and updated so that you can get an accurate route from your location to the street address given in your activation/dispatch instructions.