

# Packet Network Update

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**Date:** January 1, 2014

**From:** Santa Clara County ARES/RACES Packet Committee

**Subject:** Packet Network Update – 220 frequencies and other changes

**Attention:** All ECs, AECs, MACs and other Santa Clara County Packet Users

This Packet Network Update contains important information which affects your ability to access and use the county packet network. This update covers the following topics:

- 220 Frequency Swap for W2XSC and W4XSC
- Primary BBS Assignment Change for Stanford University
- Tactical Call Sign Prefix Changes
- Updated Web Page
- Updated Bulletins
- Action Item Summary

Please read this information thoroughly, take any recommended actions, and pass along to any packet users in your local area.

## 220 Frequency Swap for W2XSC and W4XSC

On Wednesday, January 8<sup>th</sup>, 2014, weather permitting, the 220 frequencies on the W2XSC and W4XSC BBSs will be swapped. The weather is a factor due to the dirt access road at the W4XSC site. Unless it is an emergency, we avoid using the road when it is wet so we don't degrade the surface. If a delay is required, an announcement will be posted to the scc-packet Yahoo group and the frequency change will be performed as soon as possible thereafter.

Details: The 220 frequency on W2XSC is designated in the band plan as the local BBS forwarding frequency. However, at least one BBS that we would like to connect to is not able to reach the Crystal Peak site where W2XSC is located. So, we will swap the 220 frequencies used on W2XSC and W4XSC. This will allow us to establish RF forwarding with other BBSs serving the mid- and Northern parts of the Bay Area. The following table summarizes the change.

BBS Call Sign	Current Frequency (MHz)	New Frequency (MHz)
W2XSC	223.600	223.560
W4XSC	223.560	223.600

Please be sure to update your radio memories and download and save the updated documentation (see below).

We also recommend that you edit the BBS descriptions in Outpost to update the frequency information. From the main Outpost window, go to: Setup > BBS. Select the "SCC BBS 2 – Crystal Peak" (W2XSC-1) BBS and edit the "Description" field. Repeat for the "SCC BBS 4 – Frazier Peak" (W4XSC-1) BBS. The next version of Outpost will include the updated frequency information.

## Primary BBS Assignment Change for Stanford University

On Wednesday, January 8<sup>th</sup>, 2014, the primary BBS assignment for Stanford University will change from W3XSC to W4XSC. The alternate BBS for Stanford University will remain W1XSC.

## Tactical Call Sign Prefix Changes

On Wednesday, January 8<sup>th</sup>, 2014, the following tactical call sign prefix changes will occur:

<u>Action</u>	<u>Agency</u>	<u>Prefix</u>
Add	American Red Cross	ARC
Delete	Los Gatos Red Cross	LGR
Delete	Palo Alto Red Cross	PAR
Delete	San Jose Red Cross	SJR
Delete	County Communications Center	CCC

## Updated Web Page

The "Packet Frequencies and BBS Listings" web page will be updated on Wednesday, January 8<sup>th</sup>, 2014 to reflect the changes to frequencies, BBS assignments, and agency prefixes. The URL is:

<http://www.scc-ares-races.org/freqs/packet-freqs.html>

Be sure to print out a copy of the web page and save it with your go kit.

## Updated Bulletins

The "SCCo Packet Tactical Calls" bulletin will be updated on Wednesday, January 8<sup>th</sup>, 2014 to reflect the changes to BBS assignments and agency prefixes.

The "SCCo Packet Frequencies" bulletin will be updated when the frequency 220 frequency swap occurs on W2XSC and W4XSC. This will occur on January 8<sup>th</sup>, 2014, or shortly thereafter.

Outpost will automatically download any new bulletins each time you connect to one of our BBSs. Be sure to connect soon after the above changes are completed and save the bulletins to your Outpost "Archive" folder.

## Action Item Summary

After the above changes are completed, you should:

1. Print out and save in your go kit a copy of:  
<http://www.scc-ares-races.org/freqs/packet-freqs.html>
2. Update your radio memories
3. Edit the "Description" field for the W2XSC and W4XSC BBSs in Outpost to change the 220 frequencies listed in each description
4. Connect to one of the SCCo BBSs with Outpost, download the "SCCo Packet Tactical Calls" and "SCCo Packet Frequencies" bulletins, and save them in the Outpost Archive folder

## Questions / Comments / Concerns

That's all for this update. If you have a question, comment or concern, it is likely that someone else does, too. So please post it to the scc-packet Yahoo group. That way, everyone can see the question and the answer. URL: <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/scc-packet>