



Monthly Packet Message Passing Exercise Review

Period: 01/15/2025 09:00 to 01/21/2025



Santa Clara County ARES®/RACES

Last Updated: 23 January 2025

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Messages Passed Summary

Approximate number counts from the Xanadu EOC ICS-309:

Assignments signed up / accepted / instr:		22 / 21 / 5
Actual participating / dropped / MIA		22 / 0 / 1
Outpost / Manual / Fun (signed up)		16 / 6 / 0
Content Messages exchanged *:		As of 01/21 17:09
	1 x ICS213 (sent to XND EOC)	24
	1 x AHFacStat	26
	1 x EOC213RR	21
	Various operator-2-operator	244
	Other, testing, etc.	-na-
Total excluding delivered		388
Total		708

Thank you for participating in this exercise!

Usual Practice Objectives

- Based on SCC documentation
 - SCCo ARES/RACES Packet Operations - Type III, Part A and Part B courses
 - How to Send a Packet Message with Outpost - 09/19/2013
 - Standard Packet Message Subject Line - 02/22/2020
 - Standard Packet Check-in/Out Message - 09/25/2025
 - Outpost Users Guide, Basics; Version 3.4 | July 2020
 - RACES Recommended Form Routing Cheat Sheet [Rev: 19-Feb-2025]
- Following Directions
- Exercising simulated 3rd party and operator-to-operator messages
 - Check-In and Check-Out
 - XSCEVENT and XND@XSC Notice retrieval and send messages
 - Operator to operator messages: Check-in and Check-out, notice read, etc.
 - 1 x ICS213, 1 x AHFacStat, 1 x EOC213RR sent
- Expected paperwork turn-in via email:
 - Completed packet ICS309

The Assignment: Intro and Part 1,2, and 3

1) Simulated Scenario for this month's exercise: Two days ago, Xanadu County was hit with an unseasonable *100-year* cold spell. Xanadu Weather Services is forecasting several more days of significant cold temperatures. Local power and energy services are being stressed and intermittent outages are being experienced across the county creating a unforeseen surge in health facility patient intake. Power is available at all health service facilities.

Xanadu OEM has been tasked with providing radio communications personnel to provide communications support at several Allied Health facilities. You have been assigned as a packet radio operator for the 2nd operational period at one of these simulated facilities. This facility is well-organized and understands managing and tracking messages sent via voice or packet.

2) Assignment details for mutual aid volunteer consideration

Agency:	Friendly Care Home
Event/Incident:	Jan 2025 Cold Spell #: XND-25-0115P
Assignment: (simulated)	Provide packet operator services for Facility to Xanadu EOC communications. Power is available and you are to bring your own packet station.
Requested arrival and Operational Period:	For this simulation and practice, you have been assigned to the second operational period of the facility's activation. The prior packet operator checked-out with Xanadu County EOC. Your actual practice operational period begins with the download of any pertinent BBS notices prior to your check-in with the Xanadu County EOC and ends with your check-out and subsequent transmission of the required participation turn-in materials to the practice instructor.
Simulated Reporting Location:	<i>not needed for this simulation</i>
Contact on arrival:	Elizabeth Blackwell, Facility Manager
Travel info:	All major roads are clear at this time, however black ice conditions may exist.

Do you accept or decline the above assignment?:

Please reply to this message with the simple added text response of "I accept this assignment" or "I decline this assignment". If you receive this assignment on more than one email address, only one response is requested. Do not expect a response to this email, please continue with the practice.

3) Mobilization and Travel Tracking - Resource Net Level 3

This process step is not simulated for this practice.

The Assignment: Intro and Part 4

4) Local Situational Briefing and Position Assignment

This information in this section will be made available to the mutual aid communicator upon arrival at the reporting location. As part of this practice use this information after your simulated arrival.

Your supervisor	Elizabeth Blackwell
Your position:	Packet Operator
Tactical Call Sign for packet: (also your BBS mailbox):	XND051
Location: (also your Tactical Name for Check-in/out and any voice nets)	Facility 51
Your message number prefix:	X51
Next packet message number: (from simulated relief briefing)	2551
City BBS Notice area:	XND@XSC
Your BBS:	Use your normal primary BBS, if not available use your secondary.
Xanadu EOC mailbox:	XNDEOC@W1XSC.ampr.org (primary)
	XNDEOC@W4XSC.ampr.org (secondary)
XND EOC will be open:	From Wednesday 01/15/25 09:00 until Tuesday 01/21/25 17:00
Participation credit requirements	1. Packet messages received by Xanadu EOC for Check-In&Out and the three 3rd party messages 2. Email to instructor with completed packet ICS-309 (per release instructions).
Simulated Voice communications with Xanadu EOC:	For simulated voice net messages, call the EOC at 650-542-8987 and leave a voice message. SMS/MMS text messages are also accepted. (Yes, the phone number really works for this exercise).

Starting your Operational Period

- After your simulated arrival remember to routinely check the assignment BBS city notice area starting before your check-in on the Xanadu packet net and then routinely during the event.
- Begin your operational period with a check-in for your tactical assignment, then follow the directions in each BBS city notice or received message from XNDEOC. If you sent the correct response message you will receive the next message task in this exercise.
- A message with the subject containing "Thank you" will contain your last assignments.

Note: appears that all facilities used the “next packet message number” appropriately.

Check-In

52		2552P		X52-2552P_R_Check-In	XND052,	Facility	52
53		1605P		X53-1605P_R_Check-In	XND053,	Facility	53
55		1660P		X55-1660P_R_Check-In	XND055,	Facility	55
57		1799P		X57-1799P_R_Check-In	XND057,	Facility	57
58		1638P		X58-1638P_R_Check-In	XND058,	Facility	58
59		1826P		X59-1826P_R_Check-In	XND059,	Facility	59
60		1840P		X60-1840P_R_Check-In	XND060,	Facility	60
61		1732P		X61-1732P_R_Check-In	XND061,	Facility	61
62		1744P		X62-1744P_R_Check-In	XND062,	Friendly Care Home	
63		1819P		X63-1819P_R_Check-In	XND063,	Facility	63
64		1896P		X64-1896P_R_Check-In	XND064,	Facility	64
65		1847P		X65-1847P_R_Check-In	XND065,	Facility	65
66		1794P		X66-1794P_R_Check-In	XND066,	Jan 2025 Cold Spell #:XND-25-0115P	
67		1738P		X67-1738P_R_Check-In	XND067,	Facility	67
70		1913P		X70-1913P_R_Check-In	XND070,	Facility	70
80		1960M		X80-1960M_R_Check-In	XND080,	Facility	80
81		2134M		081-2134M_R_Check-In	XND081,	Facility	81
82		1986M		X82-1986M_R_Check-In	XND082,	Facility	82
83		2162M		X83-2162M_R_Check-In	XND083,	Facility	83
84		2010M		X84-2010M_R_Check-In	XND084,	Facility	84
99		214P		X99-214P_R_Check-In	XND099,	Facility	99

Notes:

1. XND062 and XND066 – should be Facility XX

XND@XSC Notice Read

52		2555P		01/13/25_17:17		X52-2555P_R_XND 2025 Cold Spell notice read at 01/13/25 17:17
53		1604P		01/13/25_16:24		X53-1604P_R_XND 2025 Cold Spell notice read at 01/13/25 16:24
55		1664P		_badtime		X55-1664P_R_XND Cold Spell Notice Read XND055
57		1801P		_badtime		X57-1801P_R_Cold Spell Notice read
58		231P		_badtime		X58-231P_R_XND 2025 Cold Spell notice read
59		1827P		01/15/25_16:54		X59-1827P_R_XND 2025 Cold Spell notice read at 01/15/25 16:54
60		1843P		01/15/25_16:46		X60-1843P_R_XND 2025 Cold Spell notice read at 01/15/25 16:46
61		1738P		01/18/25_12:57		X61-1738P_R_XND 2025 Cold Spell notice read at 01/18/25 12:57
62		1749P		01/16/25_15:54		X62-1749P_R_XND 2025 Cold Spell notice read at 01/16/25 15:54
63		1820P		01/20/25_16:41		X63-1820P_R_XND 2025 Cold Spell notice read at 01/20/25 16:41
64		1899P		01/19/25_19:00		X64-1899P_R_XND 2025 Cold Spell notice read at 01/19/25 19:00
65		1859P		_badtime		X65-1859P_R_Message read
66		1795P		01/20/25_12:45		X66-1795P_r_ XND 2025 Cold Spell notice read at 01/20/25 12:45
70		1912P		01/18/25_14:16		X70-1912P_R_XND 2025 Cold Spell notice read at 01/18/25 14:16
80		1961M		01/15/25_11:55		X80-1961M_R_XND 2025 Cold Spell notice read at 01/15/25 11:55
81		2139M		01/18/25_12:35		081-2139M_R_XND 2025 Cold Spell notice read at 01/18/25 12:35
82		1987M		01/21/25_15:00		X82-1987M_R_XND 2025 Cold Spell notice read at 01/21/25 15:00
83		2166M		01/18/25_10:55		X83-2166M_R_XND 2025 Cold Spell notice read on 01/18/25 10:55
84		2014M		01/20/25_22:15		X84-2014M_R_XND 2025 Cold Spell notice read at 01/20/25 22:15
99		215P		01/21/25_16:29		X99-215P_R_XND 2025 Cold Spell notice read at 01/21/25 16:29

Notes:

1. MsgSummary given: "XND 2025 Cold Spell notice read at 01/DD/25 HH:MM"

Message 1: ICS213 Staffing Levels

- All good

Message 2: Allied Health Facilities Status

- Issues noted
 - 3 facilities sent: TO ICS Position: “Health Care Liaison”
 - 1 facility sent: TO ICS Location: PHDOC
 - Many sent: TO ICS Location: County EOC
 - In XND@XSC notice:
 - “The PHDOC is not open for this practice.”
 - From SCCo ARES/RACES Recommended Form Routing:

Form Type	Handling	To Location **	To ICS Position **
Medical			
Allied Health Facility Status	Routine (<2 hrs)	If open: PHDOC Else: County EOC	PHDOC: Health Care Liaison
			County EOC: EMS Unit -or- Public Health Unit Else: Medical Health Branch Else: Operations Section
RACES			

** For actual EOC activations, use the default To Location and To ICS Position(s) as indicated, unless told otherwise by the message originator.
For an ARES/RACES exercise or training event, use the information given for that event, e.g. “Xanadu EOC” may be specified instead of “County EOC”, etc.

- Two occurrences: “Friently” and “Fraiently”
 - One occurrence: a least one Adult Day Center count incorrect
- Note from ZOOM call: attached Routing Routing Slip clearly indicated TO Location: Xanadu EOC. This will be scored as an error in future mpmp’s (if specified in what form(s) provided). Will also add some hint in the instructions or assignment to guide selection of information from the recommended routine sheet.

Message 3: EOC213RR - Priority

- Mostly good
- Two instances of Routine instead of Priority
- 14 instances "County EOC" should be "Xanadu EOC"
 - Note to self: improve instructions

Note from ZOOM call. Will add some hint in the instructions or assignment to guide selection of information from the recommended routing cheat sheet.

Check-Out

53		1618P		X53-1618P_R_Check-Out	XND053, Facility 53
55		1673P		X55-1673P_R_Check-Out	XND055, Facility 55
57		1813P		X57-1813P_R_Check-Out	XND057, Facility 57
58		1650P		X58-1650P_R_Check-Out	XND058, Facility 58
59		1839P		X59-1839P_R_Check-Out	XND059, Facility 59
60		1856P		X60-1856P_R_Check-Out	XND060, Facility 60
61		1751P		X61-1751P_R_Check-Out	XND061, Facility 61
62		1760P		X62-1760P_R_Check-Out	XND062, Friendly Care Home
63		1832P		X63-1832P_R_Check-Out	XND063, Facility 63
64		1909P		X64-1909P_R_Check-Out	XND064, Facility 64
65		1860P		X65-1860P_R_Check-Out	XND065, Facility 65
66		1807P		X66-1807P_R_Check-Out	XND066, Jan 2025 Cold Spell #:XND-25-0115P
67		1751P		X67-1751P_R_Check-Out	XND067, Facility 67
70		1925P		X70-1925P_R_Check-Out	XND070, Facility 70
80		1978M		X80-1978M_R_Check-Out	XND080, Facility 80
81		2153M		081-2153M_R_Check-Out	XND081, Facility 81
82		2000M		X82-2000M_R_Check-Out	XND082, Facility 82
83		2183M		X83-2183M_R_Check-Out	XND083, Facility 83
84		2032M		X84-2032M_R_Check-Out	XND084, Facility 84

Notes:

1. XND062 and XND066 – should be Facility XX

Packet ICS 309

- All top and bottom looking pretty good
- A few missing logs for last few messages, such as:
 - Check-out & Delivered received
 - Goodbye from the Xanadu Packet Net
 - Knowledge stimulation topic
 - If Outpost: Delivered messages sent
- Note:
 - Will update ICS 309 Comm Log Builder instructions for “Content -> Exclude these messages” to be clearer on excluding non-mpmp messages, if desired.

Summary

This Month

- Good attendance and good go!
- February 2025 practice will start on 19th – posted
 - <https://www.scc-ares-races.org/activities/eventdetail.php?id=1537>
- March: no practice (instructor out of country)

Draft scorecard review

- Reminder, there is no pass or fail
- The scorecard is a tool for indicating areas for improvement