



GUIDELINE
IARU REGION 3
Region 3 Net

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1. Introduction

A weekly “on air” net in the 20 metre band was proposed to provide a regular forum for the Directors to be available for general discussions and contact with radio amateurs; principally in IARU Region 3. It started in March 2005.

However, with the decline of propagation conditions and sunspot activity over time it became increasingly difficult to communicate within the whole Region and the net was eventually suspended. It may be revived if conditions improve. The wide range of time zones spanned also proved to be a difficulty.

(This document was originally approved on 31 October 2004, and Revised (Rev. 1) on 6 October 2005.)

The remainder of this document describes the net as it was first set up and intended to operate.

2. Net Organisation

1 Frequency of occurrence

The net should be conducted once a week. Having the net meet just once a month may result in prospective “check-ins” forgetting the scheduled date.

2 Day of week

Friday is probably the most suitable day. Being end of week, operators are more inclined to be relaxed and be inclined to have a chat on the radio. Saturday is the day when most Contests are held and it would be advisable to avoid Saturdays.

3 Time of Net

Any time earlier than 1100 UTC will be rather too early for the South Asian countries and any later time will be rather late for New Zealand and the Eastern states of Australia. Also it is preferable to avoid a time of 30 minutes past whatever hour. So the Net should be conducted at 1100 UTC.



4 Frequency for Net operation

Given the popularity of the 20 metre band, the suggested the frequency is 14.300 MHz. The figure “3” will help to establish a link with Region 3.

5 Calling announcement

The calling announcement at the commencement of the Net should be something along the lines of: “CQ IARU Region 3 Net, CQ IARU Region 3 Net. This is a net operated by Directors of IARU Region 3 to enable all radio amateurs in Region 3 to talk with them on matters of a personal nature in compliance with the respective regulations. This net meets once a week on Fridays commencing at 1100 UTC on 14.300 MHz”.

6 Sequence for calling countries

The first call for “check-ins” will be from New Zealand and the Pacific Islands because it will be a later hour for them. Thereafter countries should be called, moving to the West.

7 Record of check-ins

The Director running the net should maintain some notes on each day’s activity. These notes, which should be circulated after closing the net, should include how many checked in, from which countries, whether any salient issues were raised.

3. Nature of Discussions

All Directors are reminded that the comments made and traffic exchanged should not relate to the internal affairs of any member Society so as to comply with clause 55 of the Region 3 Constitution.

Directors are free to share news and information regarding Region 3. Non- confidential decisions of the Directors may be treated as information but only if such information is solicited. As a general rule, the reporting should be in response to questions raised and should relate to events and decisions that have already taken place. Matters lined for future consideration by the Directors should not be discussed.

Directors should bear in mind Section 2 paragraph 5 above which says: “...to talk with them on matters of a personal nature in compliance with the respective regulations”

It will be useful to ascertain whether the inquirer is a member of a Region 3 Member Society. If he is not, having shared the news and information, he should be encouraged to join.

If a matter of policy is raised, the inquirer should be requested to make it the subject of an email as it is inappropriate to discuss policy matters on the air.

Matters of discussion should be kept to those of general interest. Contentious issues should be avoided. One way to handle a controversial question is to state that rather than express a personal view, that inquiry needs to be considered by all R 3 Directors. Another approach could be to bounce that question to anyone else on frequency and inquire what they feel about it.



4. Difficulties Possibly Encountered

If there is an operator who is being difficult, he/she should be handled as follows:

Actions to be taken step wise:

Step 1 The R 3 net should be by Region 3 for Region 3. So anyone calling with a prefix outside Region 3 should be politely asked to not join in without a valid need to communicate with us.

Step 2 If there is a difficult operator, it should be explained that we do not like to discuss contentious issues in such an open fashion. Would he please make his issue into an email.

If step 2 does not address the problem, then:

Step 3 Please ask him to check in on the 2nd Friday of the month when the net controller will be 9V1UV. He is the Director who set up this net. So the operator should please take up all these difficult and contentious matters with him.

If that too fails to subdue the guy, then

Step 4 Switch off and shut down abruptly.

5. Net Management

1 Propagation Conditions.

It is to be recognized that propagation will hinder making contact with all Countries in R 3 on every occasion. Recognizing that situation, it should be possible for amateurs living in the same country as the Director conducting the net to make a good contact subject to skip conditions.

2 Proposed commencement date

Operations will commence in March 2005. That date will make it possible to give publicity on the proposed Net in the R3 Newsletter for December and allow time for the information to get down to individual levels.

3 Proposed duty roster

1st Friday of every month: ZL2AZ

2nd Friday of every month: 9V1UV

3rd Friday of every month: HL1IFM

4th Friday of every month: VU2RCR

5th Friday (when it occurs): M0OEY

If due to absence from home, personal engagement or other reason, the duty Director is unable to conduct the Net, he should so communicate in advance with HL1IFM (after VK2BPN) by email and request him to cover his duty turn. The person to cover absence etc of HL1IFM will be 9V1UV.
