

Standard Operating Procedure Loss of Net

It is inevitable that at some time on our nightly net we will experience a Loss of Net. This is indicated by an extended period of 20 to 30 seconds of “dead air.” There are two possible causes: 1) technical difficulties at the Net Control Station (NCS), and 2) technical difficulties at the repeater.

The following is the SOP should this period of “dead air” occur.

1. All station continue monitoring the current repeater for at least an additional 30 seconds.
2. The Backup Net Control Station (BNCS) calls the NCS on the current repeater. This will tell the BNCS and everyone on the net if the repeater is still in operation.
3. If the repeater is still operable and NCS does not reply, the BNCS continues the net on the current repeater.
4. If the repeater is down (nothing heard for the additional 30 seconds) all stations switch to Tac 2 Channel and standby for further instructions from NCS or BNCS.
5. If Tac 2 is in use by the net (net traffic being passed), NCS or BNCS will break the traffic handling and give instructions for continuing the net.
6. If Tac 2 is in use for non-net communications, NCS or BNCS will break the frequency and ask to use the frequency. Based on response, NCS or BNCS will either thank those relinquishing the frequency and continue the net, or, issue instructions for net members to switch to a different Tac Channel.