NCS Self Evaluation

Last Update: 6/17/09

ECom operators are frequently called upon to create "Nets" (short for Communication Networks) with little or no advance warning. Those are the life blood of our work. To prepare for these events or incidents we regularly hold training nets that have the potential for being anything from poorly conducted to very efficient. By what standard do we measure how good those nets are?

Please keep in mind that everyone needs to have as many of these items correct as possible but increased experience requires more correct than a new NCS.

- **Yes items - can you answer <u>yes</u> to all of these**
    1. If it was a scheduled net, did I start the net on time?
    2. Was I prepared?
    3. Did I use my microphone correctly?
        a. No huff and puff from P, B, etc.
        b. No breath sounds
        c. Volume consistent
        d. No distortion
        e. No (or minimal) background noise
    4. Did I allow enough time for net participants to reply? A consistent four to five second wait is essential.
    5. If on a repeater - Did I listen well and hear stations without asking for multiple unnecessary repeats?
    6. If on a repeater system - Did I properly utilize the unique properties of the repeater system? Colorado Connection for example, requires the Denver machine to be down for three seconds to have the Grand Junction timer reset, 200 miles away.
    7. If on HF - Did I ask for relays as appropriate?
    8. Did I handle acknowledgments correctly?
        a. Not repeating phonetics
        b. Not repeating checkin information beyond the call and those with business/traffic
        c. Not missing multiple checkins
    9. Did I speak in first person during acknowledgments?
        ("Net would like to recognize ...." is not first person)
    10. Did I handle "doubles" properly?
    11. Did I ask specific questions?
    12. Did I give specific instructions?

- **No items - can you answer <u>no</u> to all of these**
    1. Did I over identify?
        a. Was I adlibbing or does the script need updating?
    2. Was I overly talkative?
    3. Did I mumble or fumble through more than one item?
    4. Did I seem in a hurry?
    5. Did I make editorial comment on more than one item?
    6. Did I seem to be under stress?
    7. Did I seem to "get lost" and have to think on the air (dead air time)?

- **Overall:** Were you comfortable with the net?
    If not, what specific items would improve the net?