Winlink Express
Tactical Addresses & Auxiliary Call Signs Setup & Use

Georgia ARES Digital Messaging Training

2021-v1.6

Benefits of Tactical Address

- Provide functional identification (e.g., NSH-DULUTH vs KK4FGL)
- Alternative* when a club call is not available for use
- Facilitates shared usage without risk of changing a call sign associated account.
- When Winlink Express checks for incoming messages it receives both messages addressed to the user's primary call sign and any enabled tactical addresses.
- CMS server will not accept creating a tactical address already registered in system.
  - Once you have obtained a tactical address, it is yours until deleted or expires.

Tactical Address Account @ Winlink.org

- Tactical address created with password have login account @ winlink.org.

- Log into tactical address account, provide:
  - Contact information
  - Recovery email address

- Having email address on file provides method to recover forgotten password.

NSH-DULUTH

| View | Edit | Track |

Full licensed name:
Street address 1:
Street address 2:
City:
State:
Country:
Postal code:
E-mail address:
Grid square:
Phones:
Web site:
Comments:
Call prefix:
Call suffix:
PW Recovery e-mail:

Alternate (temporary forwarding) e-mail:
Maximum message size:

What is a Tactical Address

Winlink has specific requirements for tactical addresses:

- Tactical Addresses are all caps 3 to 12 total characters long.

- Tactical Format:
    - May be alpha only characters (minimum 3, A-Z)
    - Optionally a "–" (dash) followed by alphanumeric characters (A-Z, 0-9)
    - No numbers to the left of the "-" (dash)
    - No spaces or special characters

- Examples
    - Valid: NSH-DULUTH, GEMA, LOOKOUT-1, GWINNETT-EOC
    - Invalid: THISISTOOLONG, RESTSTOP1 (missing "-" before numeric)

Tactical Address: Add Entry

1. Open Winlink Express Settings

2. In Auxiliary Call Signs and Tactical Addresses select Add Entry

Tactical Address: Complete Entry

1. Enter Tactical Address, Password, Enabled then select Save

2. Tactical Addresses window will indicate with a check mark the enabled aux call signs and tactical addresses

Tactical Address: Enable / Disable

1. Select Tactical Address to enable or disable

2. Select **Edit Entry**

3. Check **Enabled** or uncheck as needed then **Save**

Auxiliary Callsigns and Tactical Addresses

- ☐ GAAUXC
- ☐ GNR-HEALTH
- ☑ NSH-DULUTH

Add Entry
Remove Entry
Edit Entry

Auxiliary Callsign or Tactical Address

Callsign/Tactical Address: NSH-DULUTH
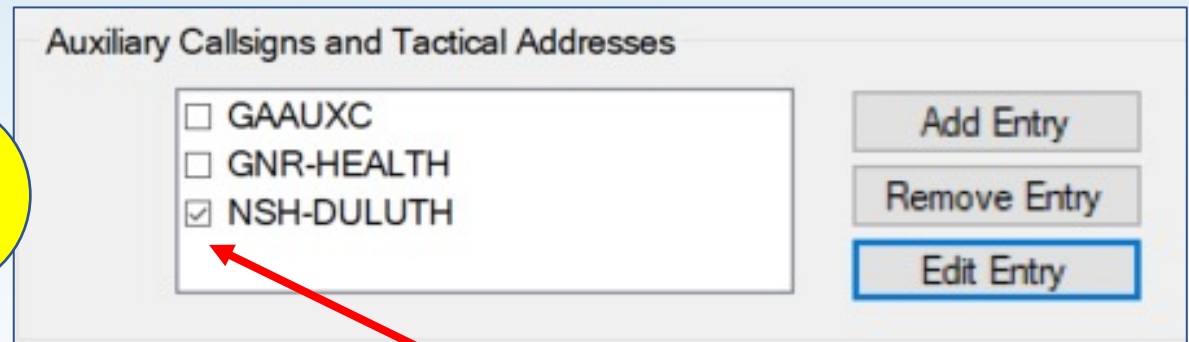
Password: ••••••••
(Case sensitive)

☐ Show password

Enabled: ☑

(Enabled entries download incoming messages)
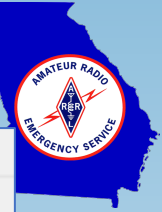
Save   Cancel

Tactical Address: Sending Message

1. N7GRB selects in **From** drop-down list NSH-DULUTH tactical address.

2. W4HBS receives message from sender NSH-DULUTH.

(Note actual call sign of the sender, N7GRB, is listed as **Source** thus FCC is happy.)

1

Enter a new message

Close | Select Template | ICS 213 | ICS214A | Check-In | ICS309 | Attachments | Post

From: N7GRB   Send as: Winlink Message   ☐ Request message rec
       N7GRB
       NSH-DULUTH

To:

Cc:

Subject: 213-Georgia ARES Hospital Net-August Hospital Net

Attach: RMS_Express_Form_ICS213_Initial_Viewer.xml;
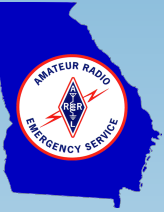
GENERAL MESSAGE (ICS 213)

2

EIG1Z0C397SH - 213-Georgia ARES Hospital Net-August Hospital Net - 2021-08-01

Close | Print | View Attachments | Reply | Reply All | Acknowledge | Forward

Message ID: EIG1Z0C3
Date: 2021/07/18 01
From: NSH-DULUTH
To: W4HBS
Source: N7GRB
Subject: 213-Georgia ARES Hospital Net-August Hospital Net

GENERAL MESSAGE (ICS 213)

Tactical Address Usage Considerations

1. Only enable the tactical address (or auxiliary call sign) when you are the designated on-shift station operator to which the tactical address (or auxiliary call sign) is associated.
   - Two or more users with same tactical address enabled results in races to grab messages from the CMS server.
   - Disable the tactical address when not in use or you otherwise hand-off responsibility to another operator (shift change)
2. Tactical address password
   - Tactical address has a Winlink.org login, password needed for security
   - Changing the password in your Winlink Express may affect ability of others to use the shared tactical address
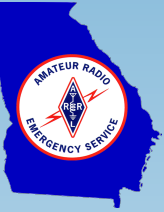
Tactical Address Considerations

3. Tactical Address vs primary Call Sign account
   - A tactical address is associated with the primary Winlink account under which the tactical address is enabled.

Example:
   - NSH-DULUTH is a tactical address created by and usage associated with KK4FGL (a club call sign)
   - N7GRB uses his own primary Winlink account with tactical address HSH-DULUTH enabled
   - N7GRB will receive messages addressed to N7GRB and NSH-DULUTH but not to KK4FGL

4. Peer-to-Peer sessions do not support tactical addresses.

Auxiliary Call Signs

- An auxiliary call sign is a normal (FCC) Winlink call sign account.

- Used as a secondary address for sending / receiving messages.

- Auxiliary call sign entries are entered, enabled and disabled similar to the tactical addresses

Auxiliary Call Sign Example Usage

Usage example (monthly hospital net):

- Due to hospital pandemic access restrictions N7GRB, representing Northside Duluth hospital, is operating remotely at home QTH.

- Northside Duluth has club call KK4FGL and tactical address NSH-DULUTH

- In N7GRB's primary Winlink setup, he has the club call KK4FGL set as an auxiliary call sign and NSH-DULUTH as tactical address

- When N7GRB runs a session, message traffic for his primary call, the auxiliary call and tactical address are sent and received.

Auxiliary Call Sign Example Usage

Edit a draft message entered by N7GRB —

Close   Select Template   Attachments   Post to Outbox   Spell Check   Save in Drafts

From: N7GRB   Send as: Winlink Message   ☐ Request message receipt   Set Defaults
      N7GRB
To: KK4FGI
      KK4FGK
Cc: KK4FGL
      NSH-DULUTH
Subject: 213 Georgia ARES Hospital Net-August Hospital Net - 2021-08-01 16:00
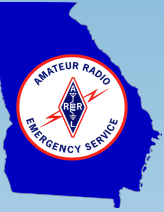Attach: RMS_Express_Form_ICS213_Initial_Viewer.xml;

- N7GRB creates hospital net check in, ICS-213 message, and submits

- In message **To:** field enters **W4HBS**

- In message **From:** drop down list selects auxiliary call sign **KK4FGL**
  (note same process for using tactical address NSH-DULUTH)

Auxiliary Call Sign Example Usage

Date/Time		Message ID	Size	Source	Sender	Recipient	Subject
2021/07/27 17...		MRWWKAQS...	1319	N7GRB	KK4FGL	W4HBS	213-Georgia ARES

- W4HBS receives KK4FGL hospital net check in message
  - **Sender** is listed **KK4FGL**
  - **Source** is **N7GRB** (FCC is happy)

Questions?