

# **Operating procedures and allowances for the Coweta County Amateur Radio Emergency Service® (ARES®) use of the Bill Gremillion Memorial Radio Club (BGMRC) repeaters and infrastructure.**

## **FOREWORD**

The Bill Gremillion Memorial Radio Club (BGMRC) and the Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES)® of Coweta County, Georgia share the common bond of communications in the public interest.

The (BGMRC) is a local 501 ( c ) ( 3 ) tax exempt non-profit service organization comprised of local radio amateurs whose common goals include the management, design, maintenance and operation of radio repeater communications facilities in Western Georgia and more particularly, Coweta County.

The ARES is the local chapter of a national organization of Amateur Radio Volunteers, sponsored by the ARRL. The ARRL is a non-commercial association of radio amateurs bonded together for the promotion of interest in Amateur Radio communication and experimentation, for the relaying of messages by radio, for the advancement of the radio art and of the public welfare, for the representation of the radio amateur in legislative matters and for the maintenance of fraternalism and a high standard of conduct. The Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) consists of licensed amateurs who have voluntarily registered their qualifications and equipment for communications duty in the public service when disaster strikes.

The members of the BGMRC recognize a primary responsibility of the Amateur Radio Service, as established by Part 97 of the Federal Communications Commission's regulations, is the rendering of public service communication for the public, particularly in times of emergency, when normal communications are not available.

Since its inception, the BGMRC has taken the lead in establishing a reliable amateur radio repeater system to serve Western Georgia and more particularly, Coweta County. Through these efforts, the BGMRC operates the following repeaters:

K4NRC - Temple Ave, Newnan	145.130	144.530	156.7
K4NRC - Analog and C4FM Automatic Mode Select (AMS) - Located on the City of Newnan Tower	146.790	146.190	131.8
K4NRC - Located near Madras, Skywarn	147.165	147.765	131.8
K4NRC - Located near Madras	442.250	447.250	141.3
K4NRC - Douglasville	145.110	144.510	88.5
K4NRC - Douglasville (Offline for maintenance)	147.360	147.960	
K4NRC - Douglasville (Offline for maintenance)	444.575	449.575	

## **I. Purpose**

The purpose of this document is to state the terms of repeater use and procedures between the ARES and the BGMRC that will serve as a broad framework within which volunteer personnel of the ARES may coordinate their operations using the repeaters and equipment of the BGMRC.

## **II. Definitions**

A disaster is either a natural or man-made occurrence that **has occurred** and is causing human suffering or human needs that the victims cannot alleviate without assistance and which rapidly depletes the resources of the responding agencies involved. A communications emergency is an event that has occurred where normal wire line and/or radio communications have been disrupted by a natural or man-made incident. The terms may be applied interchangeably within this document.

## **III. Method of Cooperation**

In order that the emergency communications facilities of the ARES and the National Traffic System (NTS) may be coordinated and utilized to the fullest advantage during disasters, the Bill Gremillion Memorial Radio Club (BGMRC) agrees on the following:

A. The ARES will be assigned a club liaison to be chosen by the BGMRC (Public Service Coordinator). This liaison will provide the closest possible cooperation and direct operational participation regarding emergency communications planning, and in the coordination of amateur radio communications facilities for disaster operations.

B. When a disaster occurs requiring the use of amateur radio communications facilities, the BGMRC, agrees to provide the service of its repeater system(s) to the Coweta County ARES as specifically outlined in the sections below (Section B, subsets 1-5) . This assistance will be limited to the following conditions:

*1. Coweta County ARES shall have access to all of the above repeaters to run command and control, net operations, or deployment/mobilization requests in response to a real life event that has occurred and requires action regarding an event that has already taken place. Defining these conditions as set forth above are repeated as follows:*

*2. A disaster is either a natural or man-made occurrence that has occurred and is causing human suffering or human needs that the victims cannot alleviate without assistance and which rapidly depletes the resources of the responding agencies involved.*

3. A communications emergency is an event that has occurred where normal wire line and/or radio communications have been disrupted by a natural or man-made incident. The terms may be applied interchangeably within this document.

4. Regarding potential catastrophic events The BGMRC will authorize the use of the 146.790 and the 442.250 (analog only) repeater as the repeaters for ARES to use in it's preparation for and prior to a potentially catastrophic event and for practice and drills.

5. The 145.130 repeater and the 147.165 are the primary club repeaters and will be allocated exclusively for club use **UNLESS an actual disaster or catastrophe has occurred** (as outlined in section B subsets 1 and 2) and an actionable plan needs to be transmitted. At which time ARES could use these repeaters to transmit survival instructions, an actionable mobilization plan or to pass critical traffic.

D. The Coweta County ARES agrees to supply the BGMRC with lists of it's leadership and emergency contacts on an annual basis.

E. Detailed operating plans for the utilization of the BGMRC communications facilities should be provided by ARES to the appropriate BGMRC personnel (Public Service Coordinator).

G. The ARES will distribute copies of these procedures throughout the leadership of their organization.

This agreement is in force as of the date indicated below, and shall remain in effect unless terminated by written notification by the BGMRC.

Signed unto this 30<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2017

by (Signed copy on file with the BGMRC secretary)

Bill Gremillion Memorial Radio Club (BGMRC)

Public Service Coordinator

Scott Marlowe, WX4SKY

MOU approved by the BGMRC Officers