



ONTARS



Ontario Amateur Radio Service Net

Management and website funding Barry VE3ISX

The net operates 7am to 6pm everyday!



ONTARS assistant net manager
28th December 2021

Growing together: Learning from each other

ONTARS has a 50 year history in Ontario. We have active listeners in many Canadian provinces and in areas of the United States of America. We strive to keep the frequency active between 7am and 6pm with dedicated controllers every hour. Each of our dedicated net controllers take check ins, give signal reports and pass any traffic whether emergent or simply looking for another amateur that may be on frequency. It is because of every Net Controller that ONTARS is active and known by many hams far and wide. Thank you.

When listening to ONTARS and other nets like the Trans Provincial, Trans Canada, local nets and others, I have put together a small list of best practices to aid or refresh all controllers, whether new or experienced. We can learn from each other to improve our 7 day net on 3.755MHz.

Here is what I have learned from other Net Controllers and will strive to include during my hour,

- **Take the time to read out the preamble at the beginning of your hour.** It will help those listening for the first time and helps to reinforce the purpose of our net.
- **Take your time during calls for checks in.** Call for check ins, listen and record.

- **Review aloud your list and ask for any further check ins**, listen, record and repeat. This will allow weaker stations to be heard, reduces pile ups and minimizes break ins.
- **What time is it?** I always enjoy when the Net Controller announces the time during their hour because I am not always paying attention to the clock.
- At least **once during your hour, ask for new or infrequent check ins or new hams**. Be the ice breaker to bring them into a safe environment and test their setup or clear the PTT nervousness.
- **During your hour, include** current ONTARS news, birthdays, coming events, traffic, and any relevant information to pass on.
- **At the end of your hour, give a small turnover** to the incoming Net Controller. It can include the birthdays for the day, available hours or anything that you feel is relevant.

In conclusion, our goal of ONTARS being a friendly meeting place for all amateurs is at the forefront. We can do that by working together, being aligned, minimizing pile ups, giving everyone an opportunity to check in and also providing our individual personality and humour during our hour.

Again, it is each of the Net Controllers that make ONTARS a success. As a listener, participant and Assistant Net Manager, I have learned a great deal from many of you, and I cannot say "thank you" enough.

Richard VE3OZW

P.S. I have noticed and been made aware of new hams checking in lately. This is great news for all of us to celebrate and helps to grow our net. Keeping them checking in and engaged, rests with all of us, the Net Controllers of ONTARS.