



Update from ARRL

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NC Section Manager
State ARES Meeting
October 17, 2009
Morganton, NC



Update from HQ

- Laura Smith comments at Dayton led to new ARRL guidelines on “employee” use of amateur radio.
- Advanced Emergency Communications Course
 - Combines old Level 2 and Level 3
 - Available 4Q '09 (?)
 - ARRL is working with DHS to meet their guidelines for approved courses.



Update from HQ

- ARES challenges with HQ
 - Little progress implementing Katrina report recommendations.
 - ARES database abandoned.
 - No MDEC's appointed.
 - No integration of ICS-213 into NTS.
 - SM's recommended "Emergency Communications Advisor Committee", but was declined by board.



ARRL Mutual Aid Protocol

- Interested volunteers should make their availability known to their home Section Manager and Section Emergency Coordinator.
- The impacted Section(s) and ARRL HQ will post staffing requests to the SM, SEC and the storm Volunteer web page. A brief, specific description of what is requested will be listed.
- SMs and SECs that have volunteers that are available will contact the requesting Section point of contact (POC) listed in the request.
- The requesting Section POC will determine the viability of the resource offering and have the final decision on acceptance.
- Once the request has been filled, a new posting to both e-mail lists and the web page will be made.



Mandatory NIMS Training?

Proposal: Make some NIMS course mandatory for ARES membership.

•ARRL's position:

“Every licensed amateur, regardless of membership in ARRL or any other local or national organization, is eligible for membership in the ARES. The only qualification, other than possession of an Amateur Radio license, is a sincere desire to serve.”

•N4IB poll of Section Managers indicated that two responding section do require NIMS training for ARES membership. Others have two tiers of members, “active” and “reserve”. But most have not made NIMS training a requirement.



ARRL Mutual Aid Protocol

- Specific reporting details will be provided by the Section POC.
- Requesting Sections will utilize the closest ARES resources first
- ARES volunteers not cleared by the requesting POC will not be accepted or allowed entry into the disaster area.

