

*Transmit only with NCS permission*

On a directed traffic net, stations should **transmit only with permission** from the NCS. This may be done in response to net calls by the NCS for general check-ins, calls for specific assistance, for relays, to respond to traffic offers; or by NCS calls to specific stations. For stations already checked into the net such permission is obtained by voicing the station's call sign, waiting for the NCS to acknowledge the request, and then transmitting the request, information or relay, etc.

Failure to have NCS permission to transmit can quickly lead to disorder on directed nets. Listen to the NCS and avoid the impulse to jump in without permission.

Business on a directed traffic net generally consists of "transactions," i.e. exchanges between the NCS and a station or between two or more stations on the net with NCS permission. The NCS also makes open and specific net calls from time to time, checks stations into the net, assigns traffic to recipient stations, dispatches traffic, and excuses stations.

There are generally key words used to conclude such transactions such as checking in a station by the NCS saying the call sign and asking the station to “**stand by**,” or a traffic dispatching operation to an off-net frequency which is concluded by the stations dispatched acknowledging “ their call and going to”, or an exchange of traffic or information on the net concluded by the stations signing their full call signs. Listen to the NCS and wait for any transactions in progress to be completed before breaking into the net for any reason (except for an emergency or urgent need to gain the attention of the NCS such as to catch an excused or dispatched station before it leaves the net frequency).

Most NCS operators will accept tail-ending calls. **When a transaction is completed** on the net frequency a new station checking in, a station on the net requesting permission to transmit, or a station returning from off frequency, can make its call to gain the attention of the NCS. Thus new check-ins, net stations and returning stations do not necessarily have to wait for the NCS to make an open or specific net call to have an opportunity to make the attempt. However, if the NCS makes a specific net call such stations should pause briefly to allow the specific responder(s) time to make their call before tail-ending an attempt. For

example if NCS calls for a station in Podunk a pause should be given for any Podunk responder before a new station, net station or returning station should make their call. A wise NCS should leave gaps between transactions to accommodate such tail-ending calls.