

Texas CW Net (TEX) Information

Net Manager: Steve Phillips, K6JT, Plano TX
Assistant Manager: Don Perese, AC5XK, San Antonio TX

Hello fellow TEX members. First off, as you can see above, TEX has a new manager. I would like to take this opportunity, on behalf of all of us, to thank Doug, KA5KLU, for his many years of service to the net. Doug has asked to semi-retire, as he has had the managership longer than the normal 2 years already. His many schedules each day are starting to be just a bit too much. So it is good that he made the decision to cut back some. He is still with us and participating, thankfully, as his time permits. Don has consented to be the assistant manager, for which I am also thankful.

Below is the schedule, as we currently have it, of NCS and RN5 liaison slots. As you can see, Friday and Saturday are the problem days. Don, AC5XK, has consented to stay in the Saturday NCS slot, but would prefer giving a chance to someone else (so he could make his XYL a little happier on weekends ;-).

TEX CW Net Weekly Schedule

Local	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
NCS #1	AC5Z	KA5KLU	K6JT	AC5Z	?	AC5XK	W5GKH
NCS #2	W5GKH	KA5KLU	K6JT	AC5XK	?	AC5XK	W5GKH
RN5 #1	W5GKH	KA5KLU	W5TFB	AC5XK	?	?	W5GKH
RN5 #2	W5GKH	KA5KLU	W5TFB	AC5XK	?	?	W5GKH

TEX/1: 3643 (7043) at 19:00 local; TEX/2 3643 at 22:00 local
RN5/1: 7045 (3650) at 19:30; CAN: 7052 (3670) at 20:30; RN5/2: 3650 at 21:30 local

If you are the "stay at home" type, perhaps you could take any of these open slots, at least on a trial basis? Just let Don or me know. If you don't hear an NCS or RN5 liaison, please just jump in (NCS QNG after 1 minute has elapsed if one is assigned).

As far as RN5 is concerned, volunteers are solicited during net time if there is no regular. It is more important to make the late RN5 schedule (see above) than the early one if you cannot take both, since that is the source of our incoming traffic. They can hold it until second session if nobody QNI's on the first. Feel free to volunteer for either one, no need to take both if that does not work out in your own personal schedule.

Net control is not difficult, although it is normal to be quite nervous at first. The information below should be enough to get you started. This is the suggested format. You may deviate as you wish as long as the key elements are there (i.e., net name, QND, QNZ, QNN Call, Name, Location and QNA RN5).

Proposed NCS Net Callup:

CQ TEX de _____ Texas CW NTS Section Traffic Net Now Open X All Welcome bt
QND QNZ QNN _____/(Name) in (City) TX bt
QNA RN5, TTN, DFW, CTTN (one after another)

You may have noticed that we (Don and I) have dropped the TTN assignment from the weekly schedule. It is still in the QNA callup, however. For all of the liaisons, TTN, DFW, CTTN, RN5, the first station to answer gets that slot for the net session. Don and I have discussed TTN, which was not clear to me as to how it worked. Don suggests that the TTN liaison brings traffic into the early session and then takes traffic for Texas destinations on the late session for which TTN outlets are known to exist (and there is no direct QNI to TEX to take them). That would be great, as we often have leftovers that persist for longer than the normally allowed 48 hours. If you are unable to QNI to TTN the following day, do not answer the QNA TTN call on the late TEX session.

A net report should be sent to either Don, AC5XK, or myself, K6JT, as soon as practical after you have performed NCS duty. The report can also be in a "free" format. I have noticed a couple of different ones being used, and they are fine. A sample report is shown below for you prospective new NCS candidates:

Nr 1 R AC5XK 26 San Antonio TX Aug 4
Steve K6JT
Bt
TEX/1 Aug 4Z X JT/DFW
KLU/TTN TFB/RN5 XK/NCS/CTTN X QTC Two in seven X late
GKH/TTN JT/DFW TFB/RN5 XK/NCS/CTTN X QTC Zero in five X 73
Bt
Don

The number after the QTC is the net time in session, in minutes (i.e., seven for early session, five for late). It is not necessary to include the full callsigns of regular checkins (you can if you prefer), but if there is somebody you have not heard before, please give the full call/name/QTH in the report. Note that I have listed the calls in alphabetical order (by suffix). That is preferred, since it makes tracking the data easier.

I will be keeping track of all stations checking in as well as traffic count and time in session. I will also probably try to keep some liaison statistics, but that is not finalized yet. The plan is to put out a newsletter every 2 to 3 months, listing all stations that have checked in during that time and their QNI counts. Other news will be in there as well.

NCS procedure is to do the callup asking for the QNA stations, starting with RN5 and in the order shown. As soon as another station checks in that can handle the traffic listed, send both off frequency to get things started. Don't wait any longer than necessary unless there are a LOT of messages listed and you first want to see if you can clear singles before large books. For example, if the TTN station checks in with 3 DFW and 1 that normally goes to CTTN (San Antonio and Austin area), even if the DFW rep checks in first, you may want to wait to see if the CTTN rep is there to handle the single one so

as not to keep him any longer than necessary. Don't be overly concerned about absolute efficiency, though. All that comes with experience. More NCS tips will (hopefully) appear in subsequent net newsletters.

Net Frequencies: Both Don and I agree that we should move back to 80 meters sooner than fall this year. The sunspot cycle low means less E-layer (the absorptive one) at 7 PM local time, so 80 should work OK and has less QRM than 40. Starting on Sunday night, August 7 local time, with Charlie's NCS slot, please do the net callup on 3643 KHz rather than 7043 KHz at 7 PM. The 10 PM net is unchanged at 3643 KHz. If conditions seem poor on 80 after 4 minutes or so, then the NCS, at his discretion, may move the net to 7043 and perform a brief re-callup (TEX de XX QND QNZ QNN ...) starting about 7:05 PM.

Since there is supposed to be a geomagnetic storm this week, conditions on 80 may be poor at 7 PM (and possibly even at 10). Thus, we are sticking with 40 meters to start with until next Sunday. However, if conditions on 40 seem poor, the same applies about moving to 80 meters at 7:05 PM, at the discretion of the NCS.

Hope that did not confuse y'all too much. I also hope there will be enough time to get the word out to those occasional check-ins.

Speaking of Check-ins, the following is a list, as I currently have it, of stations I've heard QNI during the past 2 years. Many of you are still quite active but others may not have been heard in months. NCS stations may use this to welcome each QNI by name, always a good practice on a section net.

Net Stations (QNS)

Call	Name	Location / Notes	Call	Name	Location / Notes
KF9AS	Megan	Dallas	KØKJ	Eric	San Antonio
N5BA	Brian	Houston	KA5KLU	Doug	San Antonio
W5CDX	Wads	Crowley LA	W6LFB	Jim	Denton
AC5CI	Homer	Caldwell	WA5MUF	Bill	Watauga
W5CU	Sam	Edmond OK	KB5NJD	John	Duncanville
N5EL	Floyd	Temple	KA5NNG	Mike	Marshall AR
W5ESE	Scott	Dripping Springs	N5PWG	Jay	Pasadena
W5GKH	Charlie	West Columbia	K5RG	Ken	Houston
K5GM	Pete	Austin	N5SIG	Randy	Huntsville
K5HHS	Roger	Mathis	W5TFB	Jack	College Station
KA5HZV	Ron	Houston	W5TV	Tom	Nacogdoches
KJ9J	Newt	Pharr TX (winter)	KD5TXD	Pat	Kingsville
K5JRN	Si	Denton	KS5V	Ed	Bulverde (SA)
K6JT	Steve	Plano	AC5XK	Don	San Antonio
KA5KAB	Carl	Baytown	AC5Z	Bert	Nacogdoches (Lufkin)

73 for now. Steve K6JT