ATHENS MARATHON

NET OPERATING INFORMATION FOR THE ATHENS MARATHON
The **2018 Athens Marathon** will be run **Sunday, April 15th**, **8:00 AM**

If you worked the Marathon before, this is a refresher of the event activities and procedures. If you are new to this project this will bring you up to speed on our net procedures.

When to Report: Please be at the close-in stations no later than the starting time of the race, 8:00 AM. This is especially important for those aid stations which service the Half Marathon. West State St., Armitage Road and Eclipse stations should be ready by 7:50 AM. Stations toward the full Marathon turnaround can check in later as the Aid Stations are set up. Lead runners will be at turnaround shortly after 9 AM so outlying stations probably should be there by 8:30.

What to Bring Along: Besides your radio, bring paper, pens etc. so that you can record information during the race. Markers may be useful if you need to make a sign. Please wear appropriate clothing for the prevailing weather on race day. Remember that you will be out most of the day and prepare for cold or rainy weather if necessary.

We now have Orange Communication Vests for operators to wear and will be handed out before the race. Eric, WD8RIF will have a supply at the West State Ball Fields and Vickie, KC8MAJ will have some at Eclipse Town. Please wear yours so people at your location know who you are and who to go to with requests.

Bring your maps of the Marathon route. Often, spectators ask the location of other viewing areas. Many are from out of town so please be helpful. There are two maps, one with radio assignments and a generic map that is given to all runners. The generic map is good to give to the public. Maps and other Marathon information is available at
 http://www.ac-ara.org/?page_id=33

The Marathon group intends to provide food for those persons, including radio operators, who work on the race. ***However***, *slip-ups and delays in the delivery of these items do happen*, so it is a good idea to carry a snack and drink for the day. It has happened before, so you are warned to ***be prepared!***

Net Operation:

The Marathon Net will be operated as a "modified" directed net as follows:

1) If you know the call sign of the station you wish to contact, go ahead and call them directly. You can also use their location (Hamley Run e.g.) or assignment (Race Director, e.g.).

2) All other communications must go through the designated Net Control Station, which will be N8SUZ, Jeff, for this year's race.

> **A)** Wait for the repeater reset "beep" before transmitting.
> **B)** Key your mike and give ONLY your callsign, or better yet, only the suffix letters of your callsign. Please do not call the Net Control by its callsign. It is assumed that if you are not calling another station directly, you are calling Net Control.
> **C)** Wait for the Net Control Station to acknowledge you, and then pass your traffic or request.
> **D)** At the conclusion of your exchange with Net Control or another station, give your FULL CALLSIGN, (but not the other station's). This is your required legal ID and indicates that your current traffic is concluded.

Emergencies and Priorities:

If there is routine traffic in progress on the net and you must obtain assistance for an important problem, such as an injury, you should interrupt the net by using the word **"MEDICAL"** or **"PRIORITY."** Do not use "BREAK."

We define "MEDICAL" as an emergency needing immediate medical attention and it is therefore rarely used in this type of operation.

"PRIORITY" is anything less than emergency, but more important than "routine."
This year we are again using APRS (automatic position reporting) via packet radio but on a separate frequency 144.340. Eric McFadden, WD8RIF, will be bicycle mobile with the male leaders and possibly an OU Cycling Club member will be with the female leaders. Both will be outfitted with a voice and a packet radio that will automatically report their position. Their positions will then displayed on a computer map of the Marathon route. This tracking will be on display at Goldsberry Track during the Marathon for public announcement of positions as well as available on the internet at: http://kb9aft.com/amp.
We will also be tracking the last runner with Bob, KD8FRQ and that position will also be available at the same website.

Things for Aid Station Operators to Report to the Net:
1) Report anytime you leave the net for ANY reason. Be sure to log back on the net when you return.
2) Report to the Net Control the numbers of the first three runners of each sex passing your aid station both outbound and inbound for both the Marathon and Half Marathon**.** **Use the runner leader log sheets to help track them.**
Please report in this order: Your location, Full or Half Marathon, Male/Female, 1st, 2nd, and/or 3rd Places. Also report any runner dropping out.
3) Please report the numbers of the last incoming runners passing your aid station for both the Marathon and Half Marathon as best you can.
4) Report the closing of your aid station.
5) Report any traffic requested by the other workers at your aid station.
6) Report any problems at your location, medical or otherwise.

Miscellaneous Items:
1) Try to keep the aid station workers and race officials at your location updated on what is happening in the race both for their own interest and so that they may be prepared for runners approaching your aid station etc. Net Control will be updating race information to all stations as the race goes on.
2) Please enjoy the day! The Marathon is a relatively low-intensity event and is a good chance to enjoy a day out and have fun. Please make sure to introduce yourself to your aid station workers and explain how ham radio is working to assist them. Who knows? We might find a potential new ham or two out there.
3) Maps of the Marathon course and this information can all be downloaded from: http://www.ac-ara.org/?page_id=33
4) If you have questions or concerns, please contact Jeff, N8SUZ, 541-0972 or Eric, WD8RIF, (O) 593-2123, (H) 593-7176.
Runner Bib Numbers & Colors - TBD
1 – 300 = Full Marathon Men & Women–
301 + = Half Marathon Men & Women–

Race Mile Indicators for 2018

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