

INCIDENT RADIO COMMUNICATIONS PLAN (ICS 205)

1. Incident Name	2. Date/Time Prepared	3. Operational Period
Georgia ARES statewide HF and VARA HF P2P operations	Standing plan. Verify before use.	Standing. Supersedes any earlier copy.

4. Basic Radio Channel Use

Zone Grp.	Ch #	Function	Channel Name / Talkgroup	Assignment	RX Freq MHz	RX Tone / NAC	TX Freq MHz	TX Tone / NAC	Mode (A, D, M)	Remarks
	1	75 m primary voice	GA 75 PRI	Statewide	3.9750		3.9750		A	LSB. Primary 75 m emergency frequency, and the GA ARES Section HF Net, Sundays 2200 UTC.
	2	40 m primary voice	GA 40 PRI	Statewide	7.2850		7.2850		A	LSB. Primary 40 m emergency frequency.
	3	60 m calling	GA 60 CALL	Statewide	5.3305		5.3305		A	USB. Channel 1. Amateur radio secondary use.
	4	80 m digital	GA 80 DIG	Digital ops	3.5830		3.5830		D	USB. MT63-1000S or PSK31. Georgia Digital ARES Net, Sundays 2100 UTC, 2000 Hz offset.
	5	80 m P2P primary	80M-PRI	VARA HF P2P	3.5840		3.5840		D	USB/DIG. Center 3585.5 kHz, dial 3584.0 kHz. VARA HF P2P, 500 Hz bandwidth. Moved up 1 kHz in V2.0a to avoid RMS stations.
	6	80 m P2P backup	80M-BKUP	VARA HF P2P	3.5685		3.5685		D	USB/DIG. Center 3570.0 kHz, dial 3568.5 kHz. Contingency if the 80 m primary is unusable.
	7	40 m P2P primary	40M-PRI	VARA HF P2P	7.0820		7.0820		D	USB/DIG. Center 7083.5 kHz, dial 7082.0 kHz. VARA HF P2P, 500 Hz bandwidth.
	8	40 m P2P backup	40M-BKUP	VARA HF P2P	7.0685		7.0685		D	USB/DIG. Center 7070.0 kHz, dial 7068.5 kHz. Contingency if the 40 m primary is unusable.
	9	30 m P2P alternate	30M-ALT	VARA HF P2P	10.1175		10.1175		D	USB/DIG. Center 10119.0 kHz, dial 10117.5 kHz. Alternate band.
	10	Winlink net	GAARES-NET	Digital ops	Any RF mode		Any RF mode		D	GA ARES Weekly Winlink Net. Check-in form addressed to GAARES-NET. Telnet is a last resort.

5. Special Instructions

Voice protocol, times and timing. To conserve battery power the Georgia ARES HF emergency protocol runs at 0800, 1200 and 1600 local. Each slot lasts one hour: HH:00 to HH:15 listen on 3.9750 LSB, HH:15 to HH:30 on 7.2850 LSB, HH:30 to HH:45 on 5.3305 USB, HH:45 to HH:00 on 3.5830 USB PSK31. Attempt contact if another station is heard, and write down anything copied. Stations on battery or generator may shut down between sessions.

P2P primary and contingency. The primary GAARES HF P2P frequencies are 80M-PRI and 40M-PRI above. A contingency backup is established for each band. Should the primary on a given band be unavailable, whether through continuous use from events or contests or through interference, use the backup for that band. The RX and TX columns for the P2P channels are dial frequencies.

P2P addressing. GAARES P2P net control is normally WG4PTP. Messages are addressed to the tactical address GAARES-P2P and sent with a connection to WG4PTP. If the tactical callsign is not working and traffic addressed to GAARES-P2P cannot be passed, revert to contingency procedures and address messages to the designated NCS callsign, normally WG4PTP.

Superseded references. The Georgia ARES and Atlanta Metro Nets Reference, compiled May 2026, says to address P2P traffic to KX4MAT. That is out of date: address to the tactical address GAARES-P2P and connect to WG4PTP, as above. Separately, copies of this plan circulate showing an 80 m primary of dial 3565.0 or 3583.0. Neither is current. V2.0a moved the 80 m primary up 1 kHz to dial 3584.0 to avoid RMS stations, and added the 30 m alternate.

6. Prepared by (Communications Unit Leader)

Transcribed by DeKalb County ARES from the GAARES VARA HF P2P ICS 205 communications plan V2.0a dated 26 November 2025, approved by David Blubaugh, ND1J, Net Manager, and from the Georgia ARES HF Emergency Protocol in the DeKalb ARES Initial Communication SOP. This sheet is a convenience copy and is not the controlling document. Verify against gaares.org before an operational period.

Sources: GAARES VARA HF P2P operations communications plan V2.0a (ICS 205), dated 26 Nov 2025, approved by David Blubaugh ND1J; DeKalb ARES Initial Communication SOP, Georgia ARES HF Emergency Protocol; Georgia ARES and Atlanta Metro Nets Reference, compiled May 2026. Channel names and figures follow V2.0a exactly.