

Golden Triangle Amateur Radio Club

Community Communications Group



Proposal

Golden Triangle Amateur Radio Club Board

1) Concept

Amateur radio operators have an inherent desire to serve their communities in times of need. Often in their search to find an organization to apply their skill sets they quickly become encumbered with requirements that are difficult to achieve without significant inconvenience to the volunteer. Soon their desire to serve the community is diluted as the hardships of meeting arbitrary requirements interferes with their everyday lives.

The Community Communications Group (CCG) is designed to tap into this spirit of community without the burden of certifications that do little to improve the ability of field communicators. The core emphasis of this group is the ability to restore communications to the communities within the Temecula Valley and surrounding areas. Our focus will be to train and provide a service to the community that allows for the movement of information in times of need.

But unlike traditional amateur radio emergency services, our focus will be on all needs of organized communications in our community. This spans the scope from the most devastating disasters to special events that would benefit from our skills. Our focus is to provide skilled and capable communicators that can activate and respond to community needs in a proficient and professional manner.

The CCG will work to forge relationships with partner organizations within the region with the concept that our success is dependent on our cooperative efforts. CCG will support our partner organizations as requested. We hold these relationships as essential to our success.

2) Membership

All members of the Golden Triangle Amateur Radio Club are automatically considered a component of the Community Communications Group. As part of that association the club will provide periodic training and nets to maintain core skills. But it is recognized that in every group there are those that may desire a higher degree of involvement, so the group will be divided into two groups:

- a) Active
- b) Reserve

The only requirement to participate in the Community Communications Group is membership in the Golden Triangle Amateur Radio Club.

3) Tiered Approach

All too often groups subdivide their members into perceived levels of capability and connections within the organization. The Community Communications Group core assumption is that all members are extremely well adapted to the role of emergency communicators and all provide the framework to our success. The tiered approach does not assume there are two levels of operators within our organization, it simply refers to how often you want to be called upon to provide services.

All members will have equal access to training opportunities so there will be no presumption that there is stratification within the ranks. The focus will be friendship and teamwork.

Active: Members requesting to be placed in active status will be placed on a first call out list. This group will be asked to provide availability to respond to situations within the community on short notice. This group may be responsible to formulate initial organization and management of a situation and call upon additional resources as needed.

Reserve: Those members requesting to be placed in reserve status will only be called upon when an officer of the Golden Triangle Amateur Radio Club feels the event exceeds the capability of the initial response of active members. Often this request may be initiated based on the scope and complexity of the incident or the duration of the situation that may require relief crews.

4) Training

All required training will be provided in-house by the Golden Triangle Amateur Radio Club. The training will be provided in the following formats.

a) Nets: The CCG will conduct a radio net twice a month on the Golden Triangle Amateur Radio Clubs repeater. This net will be open to all GTARC members. In addition we will encourage participation from our counterpart organizations within the region. This will include:

*TCC
RACES
LDS Radio Group
ARES*

The focus of the nets will be handling of formal messages, digital capabilities, and operations within a formal net.

b) Quarterly Training: The CCG will provide quarterly training as part of the regularly scheduled GTARC membership meetings. This meeting will focus on skills needed to operate in the field during activation's.

c) Exercises: CCG will conduct a minimum of four field exercises every year. These exercises will be designed to address needed skill sets each member must maintain to be effective during activation's. These events may include, and be coordinated with, our partner organizations in the region.

5) Leadership and Organization

Overall guidance and supervision of the Community Communications Group will be provided by the Board of the Golden Triangle Amateur Radio Club. The Board will be kept apprised of all activities and operations from a monthly report that will be submitted by the program coordinator.

All operating policies shall be submitted to, and approved by the Board.

The Golden Triangle Board of Directors shall assign a Program Coordinator to provide first-line supervision of the program. The Program Coordinator shall be responsible for:

- a) Training and exercises.
- b) Nets
- c) Reports
- d) Maintaining relationships with cooperative groups and organizations.
- e) Program and policy development.
- f) Establishing working relationships with community organizations and groups.
- g) Maintaining activation methods and lists

6) Activations

The CCG can be activated by any member of the Board, or the Program Coordinator. Activation's will be divided into two broad groups:

Planned Need: These include support operations and activation's that are planned and scheduled in advance of the event. These are typically requested through the Board as part of specific request for assistance to a group, organization, or partner organization. The Board will determine the activation level as to inclusion of active and reserve members.

Immediate Need: These include events that are currently impacting the community that require an immediate response to help mitigate the effect on the community. Activation's may be scaled based on the size and complexity of the event.

7) Scope

The CCG is trained and prepared to respond to a range of needs as indicated by the scope of the disaster, from a regional event requiring complex and sustained communications, down to a small contained event.

Unlike some organizations that require complex activation criteria we will seek out and look for opportunities to serve our community. These opportunities may include (but not limited to):

- a) Any seismic event capable of causing damage or disruption.
- b) Monitor any fire event that is a threat to the community.
- c) Community support in response to a wide spread blackout or loss of connectivity to emergency services.
- d) Any event as requested by a cooperating partner organization.
- e) Any request made by a client of the CCG.
- f) Any request made by a governmental organization.
- g) In support of community events.
- h) Any community need that could benefit from coordinated communications and management.

8) Summary

The CCG is designed around community need regardless of scope or size of the event. Our core belief is that communications are an essential part of the safety and stability of our neighbors and friends within the community. We are not weighted down by complex organizational rules and management. We provide people who by the nature of their chosen hobby provide a much needed skill set in the mitigation of emergencies.