Approved: August 8, 2020 v1.0

Emergency Communications Policy - *Lee DeForest Amateur Radio Club*

The purpose of this Emergency Communications Policy is to define and allocate the use of the Lee DeForest Amateur Radio Club repeater during emergency situations or when disaster strikes.

Note: During an emergency
1. Assess YOUR situation - home, family members. Make sure you and your family are safe.
2. If you smell natural gas odor turn off the gas at the main inlet; **otherwise leave the gas ON!**
3. Observe what communications (phones, cable, internet, broadcast radio stations, etc.) are available and use them before trying Amateur Radio because they are faster.
4. Check on your neighbors.
5. When using Amateur Radio; check in but **monitor only,** unless you have a life-threatening emergency or are reporting emergency status for your community as requested by Net Control. Keep the frequency clear for actual emergency traffic.

In the event of a disaster or emergency, the first Club member on the repeater becomes the Net Control station. That role is passed on to the first Board Member that becomes available. A Club member with net control or amateur radio emergency services experience should be a priority before any Club member if one is available. Proper Net Control procedures, including logging, is required.

Net Control will maintain a Directed Net. All traffic is to go through Net Control. A clear frequency is important. Communication should be brief and specific. No rag-chewing.

A Board Member will assume Net Control duties when a Board Member becomes available. A Board Member is defined as a Club Officer (President, Vice-President, Secretary or Treasurer) or duly elected member of the Board of Directors.

Net Control allocates traffic via a directed net to Club members and other organizations during the Disaster Emergency Communication Operation of the repeater.

During an emergency, control of the repeater, and its associated frequencies, will be yielded to any ARES or RACES organization upon request. ARES/RACES will return the use of the repeater back to a Board Member upon completion of their duties.

All other traffic will go through Club Net Control.

To control traffic, certain types of communication may be assigned to simplex frequencies by Net Control.

Disaster Emergency Communication Operation of the Repeater will remain in effect until the repeater is returned to normal use by a majority vote of the available Club Officers and Directors.