

ARES Operations Support Plan
for the Pikes Peak International Hill Climb, June 25, 2005

This plan is Version 1, Dated May 4, 2005

Event: Amateur Radio Support for the Pikes Peak International Hill Climb

Purpose of Event: Public safety. Provide race safety communications between observer locations along course and Race Control at the start line.

Mission Coordinator: Pat Kelly KCOMIR (Ph: 591-0948, cell: 331-7288, e-mail: pwkellysr@juno.com)

Served Agency: Pikes Peak International Hill Climb

Agency POC(s): Race Director: Phil Layton; Race Control: Keith Roberts Jr

Location: Pikes Peak Highway

Date: June 25, 2005

Time: 0400 - 1700 estimated

Reporting Times/Locations: All stations must have received their credentials by 0630, and must be in position no later than 0730. Stations that have not picked up credentials prior to Race Day can pick up credentials with Linda Hedges KBØRKW, who will be stationed in the vicinity of the turnoff from US Hwy 24 and the road to Pikes Peak Highway. Linda will be on station by 0400, and will remain there until 0630.

Event Chronology:

Saturday, June 18:

1300 1st safety/net protocol meeting for all new observers. Optional, but recommended, for past observers.

Monday, June 20:

1830 2nd safety/net protocol meeting for all new observers. Optional, but recommended, for past observers.

Thursday, June 23:

1830 3rd safety/net protocol meeting for all new observers. Optional, but recommended, for past observers.

All safety/net protocol briefings will be held in the Colorado Springs Police Department Falcon Division Community Room located at 7850 Goddard Street (West of the Chapel Hills Mall off Kelly Johnson Blvd.)

**IF YOU ARE NEW TO THE HILL CLIMB,
YOU MUST ATTEND ONE OF THE ABOVE SAFETY MEETINGS!**

June 25 RACE DAY SCHEDULE: (see www.ppihc.com web site for updates)

0400 Highway opens, both lanes are uphill; Linda KBØRKW is available to disburse credentials.

0630 Linda KBØRKW departs. Any volunteers arriving after 0630 will not obtain free access, but may still participate after paying \$35 per person.

0730 All stations must be in position

0830 Pikes Peak Highway closes to all uphill traffic at the Glen Cove.

0845 Pikes Peak Highway closes to all uphill traffic at the Ski Area.

0900 Pikes Peak Highway closes to all uphill traffic at the Halfway Picnic.

0900 Pikes Peak Highway closes to all uphill traffic at the Crystal Reservoir.

0915 Pikes Peak Highway closes to all uphill traffic at the Start Line

1000 Race begins

1600 (approximate) Race ends

1615 (approximate) Racers begin return from top back to Start Line. Spectators allowed to start down after racers pass their location. Hams remain on station.

1630 (approximate) Hams released, usually as a majority of traffic has left their observing location. Higher elevations released first.

Pre-Planning Meetings/Events:

- a. Safety briefing and orientation is **mandatory** for all amateurs that have not worked this event in the past, and is highly recommended for any others that want to attend for a refresher. See Event Chronology above for details about times and locations.
- b. As new information becomes known it is announced on the PPARES Tuesday night net (1900 on the 146.97 PPFMA repeater) and the PPRAA Thursday Night Simplex Net (1900 on 146.58), and at any PPRAA club meetings prior to the race.
- c. Information will be linked from the PPRAA club and PPARES web sites to the site where all information will be updated and maintained, <http://qsl.net/ppraa/ppihc05.html> and also sent out via e-mail to those who have registered to help. At this time all volunteers have e-mail. Due to the large number of volunteers, e-mail is used extensively for routine information distribution.
- d. All participants must complete the volunteer application “Personal Information” and “Release and Waiver of Liability” forms required by the PPIHC. These must be returned to Pat Kelly KCOMIR by June 12, 2005. The application is the basis for the credentials. All participants will be required to sign the liability waiver form in order for credentials to be produced. Forms are available on the above-mentioned web site.
- e.

Participating Amateur Radio Organization/Individual(s):

- a. Pikes Peak Radio Amateur Association (PPRAA)
- b. Pikes Peak Amateur Radio Emergency Service (PPARES)
- c. Invitations are extended to all amateurs from other ham clubs and organizations in the Pikes Peak area to participate, including Denver and Pueblo areas.

Assignments and Maps:

See separate sheets (will be regularly updated on website link).

Estimated Resources Required:

600 Person-hours (50 hams x 12 hours)

Operator Equipment (Required):

Mission plan

Race credentials (Volunteer gets credentials for him/herself, one free admission ticket for a helper; additional guests 13 years and older must pay for \$35 admission)

See an informational packet for Amateur Radio PPIHC Support (See <http://www.qsl.net/ppraa/ppihc05.html> link) for a copy of this handbook – let me know if you don't have web access) **READ THIS PRIOR TO RACE DAY!**

Course map (also on the web site)

Clipboard, log sheets, pens/pencils for logging

2-meter or dual band mobile, or 2m HT with spare batteries, to last all day, and spare fuses. Choice of radio depends on location, as some locations require the higher power of a mobile radio, while other locations allow the operator to access the repeater with an HT. (NO VOX!)

Preprogrammed radio(s). See Frequencies below.

All necessary cables, connectors, adapters, fuses, batteries to operate from the location all day

Food/water for entire day

Inclement weather and winter gear

PPIHC T-shirt

Full coverage headphones for stations assigned to noisy locations (e.g., Start Line)

Operator Equipment (Optional):

Optional mag mount or base, 2 meter or 70cm, antenna if operating from poor coverage area

Headphones or earphone

Spare transceivers

Binoculars

Portable chair

Frequencies:

Primary: VHF: 145.415 MHz (-) repeater (179.9 Hz tone) (KAØWUC)

UHF: 447.625 MHz (-) repeater (179.9 Hz tone) (KA0WUC)

Note: These repeaters are linked.

Alternate #1: 146.820 MHz (-) MARC system (107.2 Hz tone)

(Linked to the 147.015+ in Cripple Creek, and the 146.685- on Badger Mtn)

Alternate #2: 146.970 MHz (-) PPFMA repeater (100 Hz tone)

Alternate #3: 146.475 MHz simplex in case of repeaters failing or unavailable

Talk-in for Credentials on Race Day morning: 146.970 repeater or 146.46 simplex

Net Control during race will use the callsign: KØPPA

Net Protocol – Reporting Stations:

- a. Report each vehicle as it passes, using the format: TACTICAL – VEHICLE NUMBER – TACTICAL.
- b. If your 10 minutes are coming up for identification, then TACTICAL – VEHICLE NUMBER – TACTICAL – CALLSIGN.

Net Protocol – Non-Reporting Stations:

- a. During each race heat, do not transmit unless reporting an emergency or problem.
- b. If an emergency or problem, begin with BREAK, wait for NCS, then BRIEFLY report the problem. BRIEFLY means less than 10 seconds, typically. Report location, then situation, and sign.

STUCK MICROPHONE PROTOCOL:

Most public service events don't have this protocol. We do because of the speed that information must be passed. **IF A STUCK MIC OCCURS FOR LONGER THAN 30 SECONDS – EVERYONE SWITCH OVER TO ALTERNATE #1 FREQUENCY WITHOUT WAITING TO BE ASKED OR TOLD TO MAKE THE SWITCH.**

NCS or a designee will make sure that everyone gets to the new frequency. Only when the problem is fixed will we go back to the Primary repeater.

ABOVE ALL, **DO NOT - DO NOT - DO NOT** - USE ANY TYPE OF VOX! This is the number-one cause of an open microphone. Always hang up your microphone so it doesn't fall between a car seat or you don't sit on it.

Weather Conditions:

Short-Term: Not yet available.

Long Term: All operators should remain aware of weather conditions. Severe weather, to include lightning, hail, snow and cold weather, is common on Pikes Peak. Seek shelter in your vehicle in the event of lightning or hail. Bring clothes for all occasions, a hat, sunscreen, sunglasses, and umbrella.

Additional Miscellaneous Information:

- a. Race Control will be positioned at Start Line again this year.
- b. Traffic will be uphill in both lanes from the gate; *no downhill traffic*. **Please check and confirm your assigned location BEFORE starting up the hill, as it will likely be impossible for you to backtrack if you overshoot your assigned location.**
- c. Of primary concern is health and welfare of the operator. The operator must be prepared to survive all day on Pikes Peak: food, water, shelter, and medications are essential. The operator should develop a checklist of necessary and desirable items ahead of time. A suggested list will be provided in the Informational Packet. Operators that state they have difficulty breathing at higher altitudes, or state an aversion to the higher altitudes, will not be assigned to high altitude positions.
- d. Secondary is providing proper support for the served agency. The operator must be prepared to remain operational during the entire 12-hour period. The operator must provide gear, antennas, power and all necessary accessories for this period. Full coverage headphones, which completely cover the ears, are highly recommended instead of the small earpieces to be able to hear when race vehicles pass. A suggested list of items will be provided in the Informational Packet.
- e. A mandatory safety briefing is required of all amateurs that have not participated in this event before. The date/time/location will be specified on the ARES and PPRAA nets. It's usually held a week to two weeks in advance of the event. (Note that I can work with you if it's impossible to attend one of the meetings; but I prefer to meet with everyone at one time.)
- f. Operators will be assigned to a specific location. Movement after the road is closed is not allowed, unless directed by race safety officials.
- g. Operators will be provided parking permits to allow parking in non-spectator areas. Operators will be required to wear the PPIHC-provided ID, either a badge or wristband. It's taken various forms over the years.
- h. Overnight camping is NOT allowed again this year.
- i. Some sites are primitive and may be without a latrine, but there is usually one close by.
- j. There are many other details, which will be made available in the Informational Packet. The packet can be obtained via the web page mentioned above. If internet access is not available, contact the mission coordinator for a copy.