Marathon Net Operations (roger, WILCO, over and out)

Nets operated during a marathon are directed nets. This means that:

1. Net Control is the controlling authority for the net.
2. All communications are controlled by Net Control.
3. No communications occur with other stations that are not cleared by Net Control.
4. All stations that check into the net must remain in the net until released by Net Control.
5. All stations are to use their tactical call sign during the net.
6. When initiating a contact between stations, the word "over" is not necessary.
7. During an exchange, the word "over" must be used if the transmitting station is expecting a response.
8. At the end of an exchange, the word "out" must be used to signify that no response is expected, and the exchange is complete.
9. When you close a conversation, you must sign with your **TACTICAL** call sign followed by your **FCC** call sign.

When passing information from one station to another, the initiating operator must:

1. Contact Net Control and request permission to contact the other station
   a. "Net Control, <calling station tactical call sign> request comms with <receiving station>, over" such as:
      i. "Net Control, Pinhead request comms Dam, over"
   b. If there is no current traffic being passed, emergency or other reason to delay, Net Control will authorize the communications
      i. "<calling station> Net Control, contact <receiving station> and pass your traffic" such as:
      ii. "Pinhead Net Control, contact Dam and pass your traffic"
   c. If there is current traffic, an emergency or other reason to delay, Net Control will ask the calling station to wait
      i. For a momentary delay: "<calling station> Net Control, wait" such as:
         1. "Pinhead, Net Control, wait"
      ii. For a longer delay: "<calling station, Net Control, wait out" such as:
         1. "Pinhead, Net Control, wait out"
2. Once Net Control has authorized the passing of information
   a. Initiate contact with the intended recipient using tactical call signs only:
      i. "<receiving station>, <calling station>" such as:
         1. "Dam, Pinhead"
   b. The intended recipient will respond finishing their acknowledgement with the word "over":
      i. "<receiving station>, <calling station>, over" such as:
      ii. "Pinhead, Dam, over"

    c. Once communications has been established, each leg of the conversation must:
        i. Begin with "This is <tactical call sign>…" to indicate the source of the communications
        ii. End with "over" such as
            1. "This is Pinhead……….. communications…………, over"
    d. At the end of the communications, the terminating station will signify the end of the communications with "out", such as:
        i. "This is Pinhead……………communications……………., out"

3. Passing information clearly and accurately is essential. Be sure to pass the information clearly and concisely in order to avoid unnecessary repetition of information that may delay other stations from being able to port marathon information:
    a. When reporting runner time information, you need to report the bib number and the time through your reporting station. There will be two pieces of information necessary for properly recording the participants tracking:
        i. The participants bib number
        ii. The participants time through the recording station
    b. The participant's bib number can be either numbers or a combination of numbers and letters.
    c. The time reporting must be in 24 hour military format.
    d. When reporting a runner with multiple digit bib numbers, state:
        i. "BIB FIGURES ONE, TWO, THREE TIME ZERO TWO FOUR ONE" for runner with bib number 123 passing through your station at 2:41 on the morning
    e. When reporting a runner with a single digit bib number, state:
        i. "BIB SINGLE DIGIT FIGURES FOUR, TIME ONE ONE THREE TWO" for runner with bib number 4 passing through your station at 11:32 in the morning
    f. When reporting a runner with an alpha-numeric bib number state"
        i. "BIB MIXED GROUP ALPHA TWO SEVEN NINER, TIME TWO TWO ONE SIX" for runner with bib number A279 passing through your station at 10:16 in the evening.
    g. Once you have completed the list of runners being reported, clearly state "OVER" and wait for the receiving station to acknowledge your report.

4. When reporting an injury or other significant information concerning a participant,
    a. If it is deemed to be critical in nature:
        i. Clearly state "BREAK, BREAK, BREAK" and wait for a clear net from Net Control
    b. If it NOT critical in nature, contact Net Control as stated above
    c. Be sure to collect and report at least the following information:
        i. Bib number

      ii. Gender of the participant

     iii. Approximate age range of the participant

     iv. A short description of the injury/incident

      v. Any aid that is being given and by whom

5. If you need to leave your station for any reason and do not have a relief available, be sure to contact Net Control and let them know you will be off the air for a period of time. Be sure to contact Net Control and let them know when you have returned to your station.

6. If you need to leave the net, be sure to let Net Control know so that they can try to secure a replacement for your location.

Key points to remember:

"Over" means you are expecting a response.

"Out" means that you are NOT expecting a response, and the conversation is finished.

"Wait" means that you will be interrupting the conversation for only a few moments.

"Wait Out" means that you will be interrupting the conversation for a longer period and might possibly lose your place in line.

"Figures" is used to indicate that what follows is numerical digits.

"Mixed Group" means that what follows will be a mixture of letters and numerical digits.

"Time" means that what follows will be military time format.

"BREAK, BREAK, BREAK" means that you have an emergency and need a clear operating frequency.