

Wildflower Triathlon Communications Emergency Usage of CALCORD

CALCORD (the California On-Scene Coordination channel) will be used this year to facilitate interagency communications during emergency situations which may arise during the course of the triathlon festival.

San Luis Ambulance Service, American Medical Response, the California Highway Patrol, Monterey County Park Rangers, CDF/SLO County Fire and CHP Air Operations/H-70 have all been made aware of operations on CALCORD at the Wildflower Triathlon festival, and have CALCORD capabilities on their radios. We will be operating a cross-band repeater, authorized by the California Office of Emergency Services, with which we will repeat all traffic from the UHF "Medical Net" channel to CALCORD, and vice versa. Triathlon Dispatch ("Communications") will operate a base station with CALCORD capabilities.

In the event that you must communicate with CHP, CDF/Co Fire or and ambulance, CALCORD is an option if you have equipment capable of operation on that channel. If you feel you need to contact a public safety unit on CALCORD, first request clearance to do so through Control.

CALCORD is a discrete VHF-Hi simplex frequency of 156.075 MHz, with no CTCSS authorized.

The UHF simplex Medical Net frequency for 1999 is 464.750 MHz, with a CTCSS of 88.5 Hz.

Should you operate on CALCORD, keep the following in mind:

- Your amateur callsign is not to be used on CALCORD. Use your tactical call prefaced with "Wildflower" (e.g. "Wildflower Chase 1") when communicating with other agencies.
- Communications between units of the same agency are strictly prohibited (no intraagency use, interagency use only).
- Keep your communications brief and to the point, and please no ten-codes. Use plain English.
- Your authorization to use CALCORD comes from the County of Monterey Parks Department, and the FCC callsign appropriate for use is KB82490.

Keep in mind that there are three priority usage levels established by State OES:

- Priority 1: Disaster and extreme emergency operations, for mutual aid and interagency communications. (Doesn't apply to us unless something REALLY bad happens)
- Priority 2: Emergency or urgent operations involving imminent safety of life or property. (This is the one that may apply to us)
- Priority 3: Drills, tests and exercises of a civil defense or disaster nature. (Doesn't apply to us)

Please remember that CALCORD is for emergency use only, and that our authorization to use CALCORD starts at 0730 hours on the Saturday of the event and terminates at 1700 hours on Sunday.