MAG COMMUNICATIONS PLANNING SERIES · MAG-03

MAG-03 MAG Communications Planning

Turning individual PACE plans into one working plan for your whole group

BLUF: A MAG where every member has a solid PACE plan can still fail at the one thing that matters in an incident: reaching each other. This course scales COM-01's PACE plan to the group level -- one shared plan, roles assigned by function, and a way to prove it works before you need it.

WHY THIS MATTERS

Five good household plans do not add up to one working group plan.

A household plan answers questions for one household. A MAG needs a single shared answer at every PACE tier: one channel, one net control, and one trigger -- not five uncoordinated choices that happen to share a roster.

- **This course builds that one shared plan, assigns it to real people, and tests it before an incident forces the question.**

THE GROUP PACE MATRIX

TIER	CHANNEL / FREQUENCY	NET CONTROL	ACTIVATION TRIGGER
PRIMARY	Group repeater / Channel A	Net control (standing)	Always-on daily use
ALTERNATE	GMRS simplex Channel B	Net control (standing)	Repeater unreachable 15 min
CONTINGENCY	Ham simplex Channel C	Alternate net control	Alternate fails / COMCON escalates
EMERGENCY	Pre-briefed last resort	Alternate net control	Contingency fails

COURSE LESSONS

1	**From Household PACE to Group PACE** Why several good household plans still leave a MAG unable to coordinate, and what a group plan has to solve.
2	**Mapping Member Function to Radio Role** Assigning net control, alternate net control, liaison, mobile, medical, and security roles by function and equipment, with a named backup for every seat.
3	**Building the Group PACE Matrix** The core deliverable: one shared PACE matrix with real channels, net control assignments, and activation and fallback triggers.
4	**From Matrix to Form** What the matrix needs before it is ready to become a formal ICS-205 (COM-05).
5	**Designing and Running a Communications Exercise** Capstone: design and run a validation drill, then feed the after-action review back into the matrix.

DOCTRINAL SOURCES

CODE	TITLE	RELEVANCE
COM-01	PACE Communications Planning	Prerequisite. Individual/household PACE tier fundamentals this course scales up.
COM-02	Net Procedures & Prowords	Net discipline used in the Lesson 5 exercise.
COM-05	ICS-205 Communications Plan	Formats this course's Group PACE Matrix into the standard incident-communications form.
COM-06	Authentication & Challenge/Reply	Optional added validation for the Lesson 5 exercise.
PLN-04	PREP-CON	Overall readiness posture; a source of activation triggers in the matrix.
PLN-05	COMCON	Communications-specific readiness condition; a source of activation triggers in the matrix.