

# SC4ARES Simplex Test Instructions

Saturday, February 9, 2019

On Saturday, February 9, 2019, beginning at 0900 hours PST. we will conduct two simplex propagation tests. The 2-meter test starts at 0900 hrs, and the 6-meter starts approximately 5 minutes after the 2-meter test. We will have an active net during these tests. Remember to pass all traffic through net control.

The tests will ONLY include stations that register in advance. Stations may also participate in listen only mode, without checking in. Additional information is on the SC4ARC web site at <http://www.sc4arc.org> The registration form is at: <https://goo.gl/forms/8bFDV0NYKVKtDYz2>

## 2-METER TEST INFORMATION

### Check-In

The 2-meter test will use the CMD31 repeater to coordinate the test.

CMD31 / W6SCF is 146.730 MHz / - offset / PL 114.8

### Test Transmission

The 2-meter simplex propagation test will use CMD31D for transmission. Some radios may have this programmed as CDM31\*.

CMD31D is 146.730 MHz / simplex, no offset / PL 114.8

## 6-METER TEST INFORMATION

### Check-In

The 6-meter test will use the CMD31 repeater to coordinate the test.

CMD31 / W6SCF is 146.730 MHz / - offset / PL 114.8

### Test Transmission

The 6-meter simplex propagation test will use LTAC91 for transmission.

LTAC91 is 51.5 MHz, PL 114.8 Use FM mode. *A vertical antenna is recommended for the 6 meter test.*

## TEST SEQUENCE

For both tests, the sequence is:

1. Check-in on the repeater when net control calls your callsign. The sequence will be in callsign alphabetical order For stations that register for multiple tests, we will run through the second test at the end of the main list to allow time to switch stations / radios.
2. Switch to simplex when instructed by net control and follow the script. For your location, something general like 'La Honda' or 'South Skyline' is adequate. There will be no replies on simplex.
3. Switch back to the repeater and let net control know you have completed your test.

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Saturday, February 9, 2019

## LISTEN-ONLY INSTRUCTIONS

You can follow the 2 meter test entirely in simplex mode on CMD31D. For the 6-meter test, you will need to switch frequencies or channels to LTAC91 to hear the simplex transmissions.

CMD31D is 146.730 MHz / simplex, no offset / PL 114.8

LTAC91 is 51.5 MHz, PL 114.8 Use FM mode

1. Follow the activity on CMD31D
2. When the test station switches to simplex, listen for a signal on the simplex and log the results.

## AFTER THE TEST IS COMPLETED

3. After the tests are complete, please the result forms to [kj6vcp@arrl.net](mailto:kj6vcp@arrl.net).
4. You will receive the results by email about a month after the drill.

## SIMPLEX SIGNAL QUALITY SCORING

Use the following *Circuit Merit* table to classify the signal from each station on simplex.

Circuit Merit Rating	Description
Circuit Merit 5	readable signal, audio loud
Circuit Merit 4	readable signal, audio medium to low
Circuit Merit 3	scratchy signal, audio loud
Circuit Merit 2	scratchy signal, audio medium to low
Circuit Merit 1	squelch broken, no audio
Circuit Merit 0	nothing heard from the simplex station
N/C	listed station did not check into the net

For reference, 3,4,or 5 is good, 0, 1 and 2 are unusable.

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## SCRIPT FOR 2-METER AND 6-METER Tests

**Field Station** – Participant

**NC** – Net Control

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### On Repeater - CMD31

**Instructions:** Net Control will call your call sign. When called please use the following script. Fill in the blanks with your call sign:

**NC:** [your callsign], Net Control

**Field Station:** Net control, this is [\_\_\_\_\_]

**NC:** [your callsign], are you ready to transmit on simplex?

**Field Station:** Yes, I am ready to transmit on simplex.

**NC:** [your callsign], switch to simplex transmission.

**Field Station:** Acknowledged, starting simplex transmission.

**Instructions:** Switch to Simplex Transmission Frequency.

### On Simplex Frequency

(2 Meter Drill: CMD31D) (6-Meter :LTAC91).

**Field Station:** This is [\_\_\_\_\_]. My location is [physical location].

**Field Station:** [Count out loud] 1, 2, 3, 4, 5

**Field Station:** This is [\_\_\_\_\_]. My location is [physical location].

**Instructions:** Switch back to the repeater.

### On Repeater - CMD31

**Field Station:** Net control this is [\_\_\_\_\_]. I have completed my simplex transmission

**NC:** [your call], this is Net control. I acknowledge that [your call] has completed their simplex transmission.

**Instructions:** You're done. Please continue signal strength logging for all stations until drill is complete, and remember to send it in. Thank you for participating!