MARC 2020 Check-in Contest
(Revised 01/01/2020)

Purpose:

The goals of this contest are:

1. Increase the awareness of the activities of the Murgas Amateur Radio Club by attracting more individuals to MARC Thursday Night Net. A) By announcing our club activities.
   B) Soliciting participation to join MARC in these activities
   C) Keeping MARC in front of the area Amateur Radio Operators by making the MARC Thursday Night Net a fun activity.
2. Increase the number of participants in the MARC Thursday Night Net by creating a "contest" like atmosphere with some friendly competition.
3. Increase the number of stations who can run the net by allowing Amateur Radio Operators to act as "stand-in" Net Control Stations.
4. Draw on the increased attendance of the MARC Thursday Night Net by encouraging those participants to join us at the monthly MARC meetings.

Method:

The method of increasing the MARC Thursday Night Attendance will be a check-in contest. The Ham Radio Operator with the most number of check-ins is the winner with two runner-up winners. The rules for the contest will follow.

Contest Rules:

1. The number of Check-In points awarded to the ham radio operators who check-in to each net will be total number of stations in the net including the Net Control Station if the Net Control Station is a "stand-in" Net Control for the Net. If the Net Control Station is a "regular" Net Control Station then the Net Control Station is not included in the count. Currently the "regular" Net Control Stations are:
   A) K3ZK
   B) WN3LIF
   C) KB3VQK
   D) KC3KRE
   E) K3DBG
2. The Check-In Points will be awarded to each Amateur Radio Operator for each checkin to a regularly scheduled Thursday Night Session of the Murgas Amateur Radio Club Net which starts at 9PM Local Time and continues to the issuance of the "Final Call For Check-ins" by the Net Control Station.
   A) In order for the Check-in Points to be awarded the Amateur Radio Operator must:
      1. Check-in after the net is activated by the Net Control Station (NCS) for that net session and before the net is declared closed by the NCS.

2. The Amateur Radio Operator must remain in the net for the duration of the net and be available for comments. In/Out check-ins will not be awarded any credit for the net.
3. If an Amateur Radio Operator uses a different callsign to check-in to the Thursday Night Session of the Murgas Amateur Radio Club Net then the checkin points will be awarded to that callsign and not to the Amateur Radio Operator's previously used callsign. (Revision Added for clarity: January 1, 2020)
3. Additional Check-in Points will be awarded for any station who acts as a stand-in NCS for a net session with the exception of item D below. (Revision Added: January 1, 2020)
   A) The number of additional Check-in Points for stand-in NCS stations will be 8 points.
   B) Stations who are have been regular NCS's for the past calendar year are not eligible for this extra point.
   C) Stand-in NCS's will be positioned in a rotation as listed below to allow all stand-in NCS's to have equal opportunity to act as NCS and accumulate extra points.
   D) A Stand-in NCS who misses the net that he/she is supposed to run will lose 8 Check-in Points from their yearly check-in total unless they contact the Net Manager, K3ZK, 24 hours before the net and inform him that he/she cannot take the net.
4. The tallies for the Contest will be maintained by the Net Manager, K3ZK.
5. The results of the Contest will be announced on the first net session of the New Year following the year of the contest. The counts and decisions of the Net Manager will be final.
6. All Stations in the top 3 check-in positions as determined by the count at the end of the year will receive certificates indicating their finishing position. If there are ties the certificates will indicate the tie and the callsigns of the stations who also finished in that position.

Stand-in Net Control Rotation:

Stand-in Net Controls Stations are stations that are not assigned to the normal NCS rotation and at the present time there are 3 stations taking those positions. These three stations are not eligible to be Stand-in Net Control Stations.

Any station who is not a normal NCS may volunteer to be a Stand-in NCS with the following conditions:

1. The stand-in NCS will be added to a "current" list of stand-in NCS. The stand-in NCS will remain on this list until the station has had a chance to run the MARC Thursday Night Net once and only once. The station will be removed from list after the station has run the net.
2. The normal NCS's will run the MARC Thursday Night Net in their normal assigned rotation. At the point when the "regular" Net Control rotation is finished then the standin NCS's will be assigned to run the Net in the order that they volunteered for the NCS position.
3. Once the list is exhausted then the normal NCS's will resume their rotation. If the list is started then any new stand-in NCS's volunteering will be added to a new list that will be implemented at the end of the next normal NCS rotation.

4. If a stand-in NCS wants to volunteer again to run the net again then they will put on a new list that will start at the end of the normal NCS station rotation.
5. The position of the stand-in NCS's on the list will be done on a first come first served basis.
6. The Net Manager will provide a net preamble and instructions well in advance of the time that the stand-in NCS's assigned net time.

Awards:

1. A certificate will be awarded to the first, second, and third place stations based on the number of check-in points accumulated over the period of the contest. In the event of a tie the stations tied for a particular position will receive a certificate indicating the tie.

Certificates:

1. The Certificates will be designed and printed by K3ZK and WN3LIF and awarded at the February Meeting of the Murgas Amateur Radio Club.