

AMATEUR RADIO INFORMATION
27TH ANNUAL
2007 MILLER LITE RIDE FOR THE ARTS
SUNDAY, JUNE 3, 2007

Thank you for volunteering to provide communications for the 2007 Ride for the Arts. The Ride for the Arts is comprised of five bicycle rides of 5, 15, 25, 50 and 75 miles, all beginning at the Marcus Center for the Performing Arts in downtown Milwaukee and finishing at the Summerfest Grounds. Typically, it has 10,000 riders, mostly on the 25 mile route. Our role is to provide communications for the event organizers, aid stations, sentry captains overseeing the routes and SAG vehicles assisting tired cyclists and their bicycles.

Volunteer Meeting/Party:

The volunteer meeting and appreciation party is being hosted by United Performing Arts Fund, the ride organizer. The meeting is mostly for all of the other volunteers (we communicators know what we're doing, right?) however it is a great way to learn about the parts of the ride we are expected to oversee! This is another way to get your t-shirt, too. The party will start after the information meeting and will offer free Miller beverages and is catered by Saz's. There will be great door prizes, too.

Wednesday, May 30
5:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.
The Miller Inn
4251 W State Street
Milwaukee, WI, 53208

Assignments and Starting Times:

Determine your assignment from the rosters. The rosters also show the location and time to report. PLEASE BE ON TIME. Allow plenty of time to get to your assigned location. Keep in mind that there will be thousands of participants in this event and that parking will be very difficult around the Start and Finish areas.

Net control operators will be in operation at 5:15 in the Net Control van at the Summerfest Grounds. This is the command post for this event.

Radio Procedures:

All traffic should be directed through net control unless instructed to do otherwise. Use tactical call signs only when calling net control, then sign off with your call sign. The following two frequencies will be monitored continually during the ride:

145.13 Main calling frequency (Monitored)
145.39 Go-To Frequency (Monitored)
146.91 Will be used only if needed - you will be instructed to move from the
monitored frequencies by Net Control

PLEASE KNOW THAT NET CONTROL WILL BE LISTENING ON ALL OF THESE REPEATERS
AT ALL TIMES.

In an emergency, if the primary frequency is busy, you may call net on the "Go-To" frequency. Please program all 3 frequencies into your radios. Because of the 75 mile north route, net control will be agile with these repeaters.

Use high power and a whip type antenna above waist level if at all possible. 20 or more watts are required below the St. Francis High School Oasis, and Grant Park Oasis, in particular, needs a lot of "smoke". All Oasis, SAG vehicle and Sentry Captain closing requests must go to the Route Coordinator (Steve Halmo) through Net Control before being allowed to close.

Accidental transmissions caused by PTT switches that can remain in the "Talk" position are often a problem during events such as this. Make sure your equipment is such that it cannot remain in the "Talk" position accidentally.

SAG Positions:

SAGs travel on a particular part of the route and pick up tired riders and their bikes or riders and their broken bikes. SAG operators may have to use 1/4 wavelength antennas with a good size ground plane to avoid hitting overhead tree branches.

Oasis and Street Intersection Positions:

Oasis positions act as communication liaisons to Oasis Captains and provide information on status of the ride. Street Corner positions act as communications liaisons to Sentries, if present, and provide information on the ride and mishaps on critical corners along the route. *Oasis operators should introduce themselves to the Oasis Captains, medical personnel and bike repair personnel at the Oasis.* It is helpful to show them your assignment sheet, so they can see the people you can contact. *In addition to relaying information or questions from your Oasis Captain to Net Control, you should let Net Control know when the first riders arrive and when the last riders leave your location.*

Assigned Street Corners are the most dangerous intersections on the route. *Please introduce yourself to the Sentry at the intersection. If there are police stationed at the intersection, introduce yourself to them, too.* Give sentries and/or police a brief description of why you are there and what you can do (i.e., 'I have direct access to the Ride Coordinators'.) Hams assigned to intersections may be re-assigned to other locations if last minute vacancies occur. If you are at a post that closes early you may be asked to re-assign to another location.

Sentry Captain Positions (may not be shadowed by hams this year):

Sentry Captain positions are shadows for Sentry Captains who drive along the route, checking on their Sentries. If you are assigned to a Sentry Captain, call him or her before ride day to check antenna mounts and power receptacles.

Refreshments

YOU WILL NEED YOUR T-SHIRT TO PARK AND ENTER THE SUMMERFEST GROUNDS AT ANY TIME DURING AND AFTER THE EVENT. It is your "parking pass" and your "entry pass". (Those arriving early will be allowed to enter without a shirt.)

Food and beverages are available during and after the ride on the Summerfest Grounds. There will also be food available after the ride near the ARES van.

If you have any questions please contact the coordinators.

Thanks again for your help!

John Kopmeier, N9ZJD
Jeananne Bargholz, N9VSV
Gary Bargholz, N9UUR