

Sixth IARU Region II ARDF Championships



Region II championship Pre-event newsletter.

August 2011 edition

To help our competitors know what is going on with pre-event activities the organizers of the 2011 ARDF championships will be issuing a series of pre-event monthly newsletters up to the start of the championships in September.

Forest conditions

Forest closures have been lifted and conditions continue to improve as the monsoon season is under way. We are still assessing the conditions at one of the venues located close to the recent large wildfire. The venue has not received any direct damage from a recent wild fire, but there is possibility of secondary damage caused by flash flooding from nearby areas that did receive fire damage. In the event conditions are not acceptable in time for the championships we do have a backup venue. We should know in 2 to 3 weeks as the monsoon rains progress if the venue condition changes.

Course design

The courses for both meet days have been vetted. All control locations on both venues have now been visited to make sure that they are good safe locations to place a control. A course design at a backup venue will be vetted in the next week to provide a backup in case conditions changes at one of our forest locations.

Safety note

New Mexico is now in the summer monsoon thunder storm season. If you have any questions regarding thunder storm safety, please take some time to look at the following websites. We will also provide some additional instructions during the course setters notes / safety section of the opening meeting on Friday September 16th.

http://www.sierrapacktrip.com/lightning_safety.htm

<http://www.lightningsafety.noaa.gov/outdoors.htm>

<http://www.fs.fed.us/recreation/safety/safety.shtml> Some good tips are near the bottom of this page

<http://www.eoearth.org/article/Lightning>

Event calendar

The Event calendar will be updated very soon and posted on the website in the first week in September.

On Friday September 16th we plan to have example transmitters on the air on both bands for equipment checkout. This will occur in a green belt area near the hotel. There have been requests to keep the transmitters on the air until 5 PM.

For a real event like experience consider attending Marvin's pre event training camp. This will provide an opportunity to try out your equipment under real conditions in the forest.

If you are new to ARDF and there is something you want us to explain during the opening meeting please send us an email to 2011ardf@wb8wfk.com and we can add your topic to the agenda. Normal pre-event items such as the impound sequence, start sequence, start order, how to use the EPUNCH system and wild life encounters will be covered in Fridays meeting.

Pre event training camp

For those people who will be attending the 2011 US ARDF Championships, registration is now open for the training camp that is being hosted by Marvin Johnston KE6HTS. The Training Camp website link is:

<http://ke6hts.com/training-camp>

To prevent spam issues the registration page needed to be password protected.



Please do not post the password in plain text on any website or email reflector.

This two day training event will be held on September 14 and 15 near Albuquerque, NM. While registration is not strictly required, people who will be attending are encouraged to register as it will help with the planning process. After filling out the online registration, you will receive an email confirmation. Marvin Johnston is the training camp organizer and will be supported by both non local and local volunteers. More details will become available in upcoming pre-event newsletters and via email as they develop. The tentative camp location is on USFS land south of I-40 and east of Albuquerque. A waiver will be extended to attendees to enter the embargo area to attend the training camp on September 14 and 15th. Directions and the approved access route will be provided to camp attendees.

Event center Hotel

Important news

If you have not yet booked your rooms with the event hotel please do so soon. We have released the block of rooms that we had on hold so that event organizers won't be held financially responsible for any rooms not sold. We had a block of 40 rooms on hold and as of July 15, 2011 less than 10 rooms were sold. Rooms will be on as available bases if hotel is not booked up. If you plan to stay at the hotel please book now to ensure that you can get a room.

Registration update

As of August 6th there are ~32 persons listed (registrations received or registrations are on the way) on the event website. Please visit the event website for the current listing of persons registered and registrations that are on the way. Also please let us know if any items in your listing needs changed.

73's

The 2011 region II ARDF championships organization committee.