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Prepared by ak6z@arrl.net

Kevin Walsh

**Radio Merit Badge**

**Be A Scout Fair**

**Mission Vista High School**

**April 1, 2024**

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**HOW TO PREPARE FOR THE RADIO MERIT at the Be A Scout “Fair”**

These instructions are intended for the Scouts that have registered for the Radio Merit Badge that will be presented at the Be a Scout Fair.

We will be covering the amateur radio choice for this Radio Merit Badge course. Many of the requirements can be satisfied by the Scout in advance through independent study by reading the Radio Merit Badge pamphlet or viewing the YouTube videos prepared by adult Scouters. We recommend that Scouts view the YouTube videos. See link below.

***The requirements that cannot be satisfied independently are #7 (visit a radio installation) and #9A-6 (making radio contacts). You will complete these requirements at the Be A Scout Fair***

For requirement 9A 6, Scouts will be divided into groups and escorted different locations at Mission Vista High School to make contact over the radio with designated net control operators.

***To BE PREPARED, Do the actions enumerated below:***

1. Download the Merit Badge Blue card if you do not have one already. Link to Blue Card PDF below. Fill in your information (Name, Troop, etc.) and have your Unit Leader sign if possible.
2. Download the Radio Merit Badge worksheet. Link below.
3. Download the Radio Merit Badge pamphlet. Link below.
4. **MOST IMPORTANT –**

Print out the Radio Merit Badge worksheet, and view each of the YouTube videos that cover each merit badge requirement – ***AND WHILE YOU ARE WATCHING THE VIDEOS FOR EACH REQUIREMENT – FILL IN YOUR WORKSHEET FOR THE CORRESPONDING REQUIREMENT.***

**link for Radio Merit Badge YouTube videos**
https://youtu.be/PTnptz5HMIM

*Do this 20 - 30 minutes a day for the next 3 or 4 days, and you will be prepared to complete the radio merit badge program that we have designed for you at the Be a Scout Fair.*

***Focus on Requirements 2 and 3.*** We recommend that you create your own electromagnetic spectrum chart that is larger, on a whole sheet of paper, so it is easier to visualize the radio spectrum. ***The merit badge instructors will go over requirements with each Scout in the classrooms at the Be a Scout Fair.***

***YouTube video links for the Radio Merit badge below -***

**link for Radio Merit Badge YouTube videos**

https://youtu.be/PTnptz5HMIM

**Workbook**

http://usscouts.org/mb/mb093.asp

**Radio Merit Badge Pamphlet [may be dated, but information is accurate]**

https://www.troop109nj.com/merit-badge-library/

**Scout Blue Card PDF**

https://bsa-la.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/01/BLANK-Electronic-Merit-Badge-Blue-Card.pdf

We will also cover information on the Radio Scouting program, which is a roadmap for a Scout to pass the FCC Technician exam and receive a free radio transceiver from the Palomar Amateur Radio Club.

We will have information on jobs and careers in radio engineering in San Diego, as well as scholarships ranging from $500 to $25,000. See

http://www.arrl.org/scholarship-program

***SEQUENCE OF EVENTS ON DAY OF THE RADIO MERIT BADGE***

1. ***ARRIVE AT THE Be A Scout Fair, CHECK IN, AND BE ESCORTED TO CLASSROOM.***
2. ***INTRODUCTIONS, PROGRAM OVERVIEW, DIRECTIONS TO HEAD, SAFETY, AND WHAT TO DO IN THE EVENT OF AN EMERGENCY***
3. ***REVIEW OF SCOUTS MERIT BADGE WORKSHEETS by RADIO SCOUTING VOLUNTEERS FOR APPROXIMATLY ONE HOUR***
4. ***REQUIREMENT 1 OVERVIEW*** “***What is radio?”***
5. ***REQUIREMENT 2 OVERVIEW*** “***Propagation”***
6. ***REQUIREMENT 3 OVERVIEW*** “***Electromagnetic Spectrum”***
7. ***REQUIREMENT 4 and 5 OVERVIEW*** “***How Radio Waves Carry Info” and*** “***Block Diagram”***
8. ***REQUIREMENT 6*** “***Safety”***
9. ***REQUIREMENT 7 and 8*** “***Visit a radio installation” and*** “***Careers.”***
10. ***REQUIREMENT 9A 1 – 5*** “***Amateur Radio”***
11. ***SCOUTS ESCORTED TO OPRATING STATIONS AT THE Be A Scout Fair TO EXPLAIN LOCATION OF THE ANTENNA IN THE BLOCK DIAGRAM REQUIREMENT***
12. ***REQUIREMENT 9A 6*** “***Amateur radio contacts for 10 minutes or 5 QSOs (contacts) ON THE CAMPUS***
13. ***RETURN TO CLASSROOM UNDER ESCORT - Wrap up and define next steps on signing*** “***Blue Cards” for Scouts***

If you have any questions, please contact

Kevin Walsh, ak6z@arrl.net