



WC4DC Site User Guide

Public Beta Edition

A practical guide to finding your way around wc4dc.org, joining club activities, using learning resources, and reporting feedback.

Living guide + printable snapshot

The online Site User Guide is the version that can be updated as the site changes. This PDF is a convenient August 2026 beta snapshot for printing, sharing, and offline reference.

[Visit \[wc4dc.org\]\(https://wc4dc.org\)](https://wc4dc.org)

Dickson County Amateur Radio Club | WC4DC

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1. Getting Oriented

The site is organized around what you want to do rather than around club technology.

The main navigation is grouped into six areas. You can use the menu from any page, and most pages also include links to related activities and resources.

Menu	Use it for	Good first stop
Start Here	Licensing and getting started	Get Licensed
On Air	Nets, repeater activity and propagation	Nets Overview
Events	Meetings, calendar and club activities	Events Center
Learn	Library, guided paths, quick references and Radio Lab	Radio Library
Serve	ARES and emergency communications	ARES / Emergency Communications
Club	About, photos, equipment, membership and member resources	About WC4DC

Useful controls you may see

- Feedback floater - opens the Website Feedback form and carries the current page address with it.
- Take this page with you - provides a quick way to move the page to another device using the page QR utility.
- Member Login / Resource Center - appears near the top of the site for member-only information.
- Site Admin - appears only for users who have club-management access.

2. Start Here: New to Amateur Radio

You do not need an amateur-radio license to browse the site, attend most club activities, or start learning. Start Here is designed for prospective hams and newly licensed operators.

1. Open Get Licensed to understand the Technician license path and how testing works.
2. Use the Exam Trainer and current question-pool resources to practice.
3. Check Events for the next VE test session, club meeting, breakfast, demonstration, or other activity.
4. Use the Radio Library and the New Ham Starter Pack guided path to fill in gaps at your own pace.

New hams are welcome

You can visit a meeting, attend an activity, or listen to a net before you are licensed. Transmitting on amateur frequencies requires the appropriate license and operating privileges.

3. On Air: Nets, Repeaters and Propagation

Nets Overview

The Nets area is the central place for recurring on-air club activity. Individual pages explain the purpose and operating details for the 2 Meter Net, ARES Net, and Simplex Net.

- 2 Meter Net - regular local check-ins, club information, discussion, and participation.
- ARES Net - emergency-communications practice and readiness.
- Simplex Net - direct station-to-station operation without relying on a repeater.

Net Question of the Day

The home page may feature a current Net Question of the Day. The question is an invitation to check in to the next appropriate net, hear the discussion, or share your own answer live on the air.

Other On Air tools

- Repeater Activity helps show recent activity and usage information where available.
- Propagation Center helps connect solar and propagation conditions with what operators may hear on the bands.
- Repeater and net pages should be treated as the site source for current club operating information.

4. Events and Club Activities

Use Events when you want to know what is happening in person or on a specific date. The Events Center and Calendar bring together meetings, breakfasts, VE testing, field activities, public-service events, and special club activities.

- Events Center - browse upcoming activities and open individual event details.

- Club Meetings - meeting information and related club records.
- Calendar - date-focused view of scheduled activity.
- Special event pages - Field Day and other larger activities may have dedicated pages.

Before driving to an event

Open the event details shortly before leaving. Dates, locations, times, weather impacts, or participation instructions can change.

5. Learn: Radio Library, Guided Paths and Radio Lab

Radio Library

The Radio Library is a curated collection of club-created material, official references, manuals, links, books, forms, and technical learning resources. Use categories and resource details to decide what fits your current goal.

Guided Learning Paths

Guided Paths turn several resources into a recommended sequence. Examples include New Ham, antennas, satellites, emergency communications, digital modes, DMR, Winlink, and this Site User Guide.

- Each path shows the intended audience, skill level, estimated time, and learning outcome.
- Work through the numbered steps in order, or jump directly to the resource you need.
- The web version can be updated as resources and club procedures change.

Winlink learning path

The Winlink - Radio Email Starter Path is designed to move from understanding Winlink, to a first Telnet message, then toward RF gateway operation and emergency-communications use.

Youth Radio Lab

The Radio Lab provides hands-on browser activities that connect radio with Morse code, antennas, direction finding, satellites, weather, and other STEM concepts. It is useful for youth, families, new hams, and anyone who prefers learning by trying something.

6. Serve: ARES and Emergency Communications

The Serve area explains the club's emergency-communications activities and provides access to ARES information, the ARES Net, and Structured Emergency Test (S.E.T.) results.

- ARES / Emergency Communications - overview of local emergency-communications participation.
- ARES Net - recurring practice and coordination.
- ARES S.E.T. - structured exercises, expected locations, check-ins, radio tests, and measured simplex/repeater coverage results.

Measured coverage is not a prediction map

S.E.T. coverage results represent actual recorded exercise measurements at tested locations.

Conditions can change, so an old result should not be treated as a guarantee that a path will work during a future incident.

7. Club, Membership and Resource Center

About and club information

- About WC4DC - club history, purpose, and community context.
- Photo Gallery - club events and activity photos.
- Borrow Club Gear - equipment available through the club lending workflow.
- Constitution & By-Laws - the club's governing documents when published.

Membership

Membership and resources are intentionally separate. Membership is about your club account and access. The Resource Center is where private club documents, presentations, training material, forms, and useful member links live.

- Membership Application - apply for or renew club membership.
- Member Login - sign in with your site account.
- My Account - review basic account information and password options.
- Resource Center - member-only club documents and resources.
- Meeting Records - protected meeting-minutes content for authorized members.

Callsigns and privacy

Amateur-radio callsigns may appear in appropriate participation records. Private contact information is not made public simply because a callsign is public. See the site Privacy Policy for details.

8. Site Utilities and Website Feedback

Website Feedback

During public beta - and after launch - use Website Feedback to report anything that makes the site harder to use. You can report a bug, feature idea, wording correction, broken link, accessibility issue, or general suggestion.

1. Click the small Feedback control in the lower-right corner of the page.
2. The feedback form opens with the page you were viewing already identified.
3. Choose the feedback type and describe what happened or what you would improve.
4. If you are signed in, your name, callsign/username, and email can be filled from your account. You still choose whether WC4DC may contact you.

5. Submit the form and keep the reference number if you want to refer to the report later.

You can also open Website Feedback from the footer. Do not include passwords, credentials, medical details, or other sensitive information in a feedback report.

9. For Public Beta Testers

A beta tester does not need to test everything. Use the site normally and report anything that feels confusing, slow, broken, hard to read, or difficult to find. The most useful reports explain what you were trying to do and what happened instead.

High-value things to try

- Open the site on both a computer and a phone.
- Use each main navigation menu and move into at least one submenu.
- Follow the New Ham path from licensing information into a learning resource.
- Open Nets, a net detail page, and the Net Question of the Day.
- Browse Events and open an event detail page.
- Open the Radio Library and at least one Guided Path.
- Open the Photo Gallery and an album.
- If you have a member account, sign in and open the Resource Center and My Account.
- Try the Feedback floater from the page where you find a problem.
- Use keyboard Tab navigation on at least one page and verify that links/buttons are visible when focused.

A useful bug report answers four questions

- What page were you on?
- What were you trying to do?
- What happened?
- What did you expect to happen?

10. Quick Help and Contact

When you are not sure where something belongs, start with the main navigation or the site search. The online Site User Guide under Learn is intended to remain the current version of this document.

- General site: wc4dc.org
- Website issues and suggestions: Website Feedback link/floater
- Club contact: info@wc4dc.org
- Member-only information: sign in and open Resource Center

Thank you for helping WC4DC make the site useful to new hams, members, volunteers, and the Dickson County community.