

After action report for Nevada open Road Challenge May 19, 2019

North narrows Hilltop KI6CCW MESH site

Left my QTH Saturday May 18 at approximately 0800 hours, and arrived at the rally point for the team in Alamo, at the Alamo Dinner at approximately 1048 Hours. We had a meal and discussed the team plan for the day and round table discussion. We departed for our respective assigned locations at 1205 hours. I arrived at my assigned area, the hill top north narrows repeater location at 1315 hours. I had some introductions and discussion with the repeater team. At 1400 hours I had issues with my Channel 1 Rocket. K7HTA came up to assist on the trouble shooting effort. The result was a patch cable had an open in the line, 2 blown fuses, and a connector power failure. In other words multiple cases of trouble. The hilltop north narrows site came on line at 1545 hours. End to end testing was completed at 1850 hours. Batteries were charged via generator and that was completed at 2130 hours, which also was the end of my day and I turned in for the night.

Sunday at approximately 0300 I was woke up by a weather system that had high winds and rain. At 0530 Sunday May 19, 2019 I went to inspect my node on the ridge. The high winds and Rain did not move the antenna system and a realignment was not necessary. I went back to retrieve the battery to connect to the antenna Node system and to find something to "water proof" it. Using a trash bag from my vehicle I wrapped the battery supply box and the nodes were on line at 0630 hours. Finish /Start reported good video at 0635 hours. Rain was on and off. Not until 1015 hours was I able to set up a node at my vehicle and make a make an IP call to K7HTA at Finish/Start. I also made contact with the other MESH team member's using the IP phone system. At 1100 hours I logged into the network to look at the levels of the nodes I could see. I observed good LQ and NLQ numbers end to end. I was surprised to view that I was going through the Stage 8 Node rather than the Lower fossil node as we had planned it to route. The ARDEN software looks at the network node link quality numbers and automatically routes to the better node route by design. We were given the "OK to take down" at 1147 hours. I was back on pavement at approximately 1240 hours.

At approximately 1400 hours we arrived at Sinclair's in Alamo to have a meal and debrief the event.

At approximately 1800 hours I arrived at my home QTH

On Monday 5 20, 2019 I went through all nodes to verify their operation. I checked all connectors and cables under load to verify their connectivity on power and data transfer. Cleaned and repacked all equipment to make ready for next deployment. The 3 patch cable with issues are on the work bench to be assessed. The fuses used have been replaced with new spares. Battery's will be recharged prior to next deployment to assure full charge going into the field.

Submitted By

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