RADIO COMMS GUIDE - CHASE OFFICIALS

Communication Stations
Control - Race control
Start
Timing
Catch (usually answered by Control)
Chase
Sweep
Traffic control / Flaggers
Ranch road 1
Ranch road 2 (Badger Ranch)
Alternatively- All stations

Chase vehicle radio person to control communication
1. Start by identifying yourself and specify who you are trying to reach
Example: *This is Chase vehicle for Bike x to Control, come in Control*
2. Release the button and wait for the station to confirm they are available to listen
Example: *This is Control, I read you Chase vehicle Bike X, come in*
3. Hold down the button and transmit your message. Go for short and sweet

In the event of an incident, Control wants to know these things foremost:
- What is the incident? [bike stopped / crashed / off the course?]
- Is/are the rider(s) ok?
- Is an EMT / ambulance needed?
- Is the course clear for upcoming bikes?
- Is the bike off the course?
- Is the chase vehicle continuing down the course, or pulled over? (Note that the vehicle is expected to continue down the course to Catch once helpers have gotten out)
- Are the team members off the course?
- Is there debris on the course?
- Where on the course is the issue? (By which mile marker or station)

Tips and tricks to improve transmission quality:
Face the mountain - turn towards the mountain to the right (east) of the course, towards the repeater
Move to the shoulder (only if road is closed - no upcoming traffic)
Wait for heavy traffic to pass before transmitting

Tips and tricks to improve communication clarity:
Hold down the transmission button, then start talking.
Note that the beginning sometimes gets lost (e.g. say *Come in Control* vs *Control come in*)
Use *Roger* or *Copy that* to acknowledge that you have received a message
Copy the message if it is very important to confirm that you have received it, or to relay to other stations
Hold the radio close to your mouth
Speak slowly and clearly - don't yell
Repeat or acknowledge instructions if applicable
Ask for a relay if you can't reach the intended station
Hold your message until any active communication is finished
During heats: only control, start and timing communicate during heats, unless there is a very, very important message (ie. emergency). No weather reports, chit/chat, or other announcements.

Typical vernacular we use
Radio = transmitting device (walkie talkie)
Channel = transmission channel, i.e. different channels for race control, chase vehicles, traffic control
Dial = Knob on the device for changing the channel
Button = the button to press down when transmitting and release when listening for reply
Course = the road, specifically the section between start and catch
Bike = the racing vehicle
Rider(s) = the occupant(s) of the Bike
Team = the support team of the Bike
Chase vehicle = the car/truck following the Bike
Shoulder = the side of the road (off the paved roadway)
Catch = the area where the Bike is caught
Down the course - in direction of Catch (Northbound)
Up the course - in direction of Start (Southbound)
To the left/right of the course - from the perspective of start to catch
The bridge - just after Timing, there is a bridge across a usually empty riverbed
EMT - Emergency Medical Team (ambulance)
Opening / closing the road - traffic controllers allow vehicles to pass or stop between our Heats
The road is hot - we are NOT closed, there may be vehicles coming
The road is closed - traffic is stopped on both ends, traffic may still be moving towards each end
Sweep is rolling - the sweep car has left Catch behind the last southbound traffic, heading for Start
The course is clear - no more traffic on the road. Determined by the sweep car when arriving at Start and by control when the last northbound vehicle passes at Catch
Session - multiple planned heats, e.g. Monday A.M. Session
Heat - single heat within the session in which the Bikes start in the defined order
Run - single run (ride) of a bike within a heat
Launched - successful start
Did not start / failed to launch - unplanned drop out of a Bike
Scratch - announced drop out of a Bike
On the course - in transit between Start and Catch

Basic Codes
Affirmative = Yes
Negative = No
Copy = Message understood
Disregard = Ignore the previous message
Roger or Roger that = Message understood
What's your 20? = What's your location
Do you copy? = Can you hear me
Radio Check = Is my radio working
Loud and Clear = Your radio is working
Say Again or Go Again = Say your message again
Over = I'm done with my transmission, ready for your reply
Out = I'm done transmitting for now
10-4 = Transmission is received
Stand by = I have heard your call, will respond as soon as I can
Relay = I am repeating the transmission from another station
See y'all back at the Ranch = let's meet at Civic Center