

ARISS

Moderator Script for



Tele-bridge ISS Contact

For: Madison High School

Contact Date: 2025-05-20

Version: 1

Made Using Python ARISS Moderator Script Generator Version 3.1.0
Based on [ARISS Moderator Script Template Master Universal](#) - Version N3FZX_20250520

Event Schedule Outline for Madison High School

Moderator Script Version 1

Event local time zone..... EST

Conference start time..... 2025-05-20 03:00 EST (01:00 UTC)

ISS Rise Time..... 2025-05-20 04:00 EST (02:00 UTC)

Tele-bridge station..... K6DUE, in Greenbelt, MD, USA

All times are local event time (24hr), event durations & times to ISS rise are in minutes (m).

Pre-contact preparation..... ~20m

School/group program..... ~21m

ARISS program/contact..... ~32m

Total event duration..... ~73m

<u>Time</u>	<u>Dur.*</u>	<u>Rise</u>	<u>Event Block Description</u>
03:00	3m	60m	#1 - Start conference
03:03	2m	57m	#2 - Moderator ground station checklist
03:05	5m	55m	#3 - Contact preparation checklist
03:10	10m	50m	#4 - Practice run through with all students and ground station
03:20	21m	40m	#5 - School/group program, or slack time
03:41	1m	19m	#6 - Start ARISS program
03:42	4m	18m	#7 - ARISS introduction
03:46	6m	14m	#8 - Optional video from student perspective - YES
03:52	3m	8m	#9 - Optional video from the ISS perspective - YES
03:55	3m	5m	#10 - Introduce the ground station
03:58	1m	2m	#11 - Handover to ground station
03:59	1m	1m	#12 - ISS rise and Acquisition of Signal (AOS)
04:00	<11m	0m	ISS Contact!
04:11	---	---	ISS set and Loss of Signal (LOS)
04:11	3m	---	#13 - Closing remarks & end of ARISS program

** Events with 0 minute duration have been eliminated from the program, but not the report.*

Based on conference call start time at 03:00, ISS rise time at 04:00, and ARISS portions (prep and program), the school/group program time, or slack time, is estimated to be no more than 21 minutes starting at 03:20.

Event Timeline - All event times are approximate and in school/group local time.

Event #1	Starts at 03:00	3m Duration	60m to ISS Rise
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CALL IN CHECKLIST

Everyone should be on-time at **01:00 UTC** & **03:00 EST** (local time at the event).

- ☐ Mentor dialed in.
- ☐ Moderator dialed in.
- ☐ Ground station dialed in.
- ☐ School/group dialed in.
- ☐ Live stream operator dialed in.
- ☐ Verizon Operator Name: _____

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Event #2	Starts at 03:03	2m Duration	57m to ISS Rise
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MODERATOR GROUND STATION CHECKLIST

Verify the ground station is ready to go with the checklist below.

MODERATOR TO GROUND STATION:

- ☐ Time check (synchronize).
- ☐ Are your Keps up-to-date?
- ☐ Tracked ISS recently?
- ☐ Antenna slews in azimuth and elevation?
- ☐ Flip mode enabled if required?
- ☐ Check ISS AZ/EL and rise (AOS) time.
ISS rise expected at **02:00 UTC**, which is **04:00 EST** (event time).

- ☐ Check and confirm the uplink frequencies the ISS will be using.
- ☐ Telebridge Station is ready to provide a brief overview just before the contact.
Note that ground station hands back to moderator after overview in **Event #10**.
- ☐ Telebridge Station initial check of audio levels. Include opening radio squelch.

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CONTACT PREPARATION CHECKLIST

Verify the following with school/group, ground station and moderator.

MODERATOR:

- [] Verify everyone is using moderator script version 1. Also see cover page.
- [] Work out how the school will cue the moderator after the school program and the end of the videos. Note that the moderator cannot rely on a live stream feed for such cues.
- [] Moderator and ground station coordinate handovers per the script **Events #10 & #11**.
- [] Final checks for any video streaming from the ground station.
- [] If using Verizon, coordinate when the recording will start.
- [] Plan a group cheer if there is extra contact time. May want to practice at the run through.
- [] Final coordination discussion with everyone. Any last minute changes to script?

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PRACTICE RUN THROUGH WITH ALL STUDENTS AND GROUND STATION

All students should be present at this time. This is where audio problems can surface. The sooner this can be completed the better.

MODERATOR:

- [] Verify the school can hear the moderator clearly.
- [] Verify school can hear ground station audio clearly.
- [] Verify ground stations can hear school/event audio clearly with no feedback issues.
- [] Remind students to speak clearly and directly into the microphone, and to say “OVER” at end of each question. May need to use outdoor voice.
- [] Have each student ask at least one question, in order, and have ground station simulated astronaut report on audio quality. Adjust as needed.

Do not change any audio settings once this has been completed.

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Event #5	Starts at 03:20	~21m Duration	40m to ISS Rise
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SCHOOL/GROUP PROGRAM, OR SLACK TIME

School/group program is an optional event. If there is no program, then this is slack time.
The program should have a hard cutoff time to start the ARISS portion.

SCHOOL/GROUP:

[] School/group host hands off to ARISS moderator at the end of the their program.

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Event #6	Starts at 03:41	~1m Duration	19m to ISS Rise
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START ARISS PROGRAM

This needs to start on-time.

MODERATOR:

“Before we get started, I want to remind everyone, that this contact will be recorded.”

[] If using Verizon, moderator requests Verizon Operator starts recording.

[] Live stream goes live: audio from conference call; video from Zoom.

MODERATOR:

“Hello everyone, this is **Margaret Davis**, callsign **KM1DAV**, your ARISS moderator for today for our ISS contact with **Madison High School** in **Springfield, USA.**”

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MODERATOR:

“Through the help of amateur radio volunteers and the crew on the ISS we soon hope to establish radio contact with the International Space Station as it flies more than 250 miles (400km) above the Earth over **Greenbelt, MD, USA**. This is all accomplished through ARISS, Amateur Radio on the International Space Station. The ISS is currently approaching today’s ARISS ground station traveling along at around 18,000 miles per hour (28,000km/h).”

“The contact for today will be performed using the ARISS telebridge network, a world-wide network of amateur radio ground stations that enable students to contact the ISS. ARISS is an International consortium of volunteers from several nations that assist to develop and operate the amateur radio equipment on board the International Space Station.”

“Some of those agencies that support ARISS are, The American Radio Relay League, The worldwide AMSAT Amateur Radio Satellite Corporations, The Canadian Space Agency, The European Space Agency, The Japanese Space Agency (JAXA), Roscosmos, the Russian Space Agency and NASA.”

Our linkup today will be with the student participants at **Madison High School** in **Springfield, USA**, now let’s check in with the group. We’ve asked **Miss Brooks** to please tell us about the students that are taking part today.

SCHOOL/GROOUP:

[] Usually ad-lib about student events, where are the students from, how many visitors do you have at the venue, etc. for no more than 2 minutes.

[] School/group presenter hands back to the ARISS moderator.

MODERATOR:

Thank you **Miss Brooks**.

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Event #8 Starts at 03:46 ~6m Duration 14m to ISS Rise

MODERATOR:

“We will now take a look at a video presentation produced by the American Radio Relay League which shows students what to expect during our upcoming contact with the ISS.”

SCHOOL/GROUP:

[] School/group plays video for auditorium, run time ~5 minutes 25 seconds.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EH688q92AjY&t=68s>

[] At end of video, school/group host hands back to the ARISS moderator.

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Event #9 03:52 ~3m Duration 8m to ISS Rise

MODERATOR:

“We will now look at a short video showing how an ARISS contact looks from the perspective of Astronaut Tim Peake.”

SCHOOL/GROUP:

[] School/group plays video in auditorium, run time ~3 minutes.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Z-yHD9IVbH8>

[] At end of video school/group host hands back to the ARISS moderator.

MODERATOR:

“Now that we have seen what a contact looks like from the ground side and what it looks like on-board the ISS, now comes the most exciting part, your contact with astronaut **Major Tom** on the ISS!”

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MODERATOR:

“Our contact for today is with astronaut **Major Tom**, amateur radio callsign **KM5TOM**, who will be using the ISS amateur radio callsign **NA1SS**.”

“The amateur radio ground station that will establish radio contact with the ISS today is ARISS Ground Station **K6DUE** located at **Greenbelt, MD, USA** and operated by **Harriet Conklin, KH3CON**.

“**Harriet Conklin**, before the contact begins, please tell us a little bit about the **K6DUE** station and how you will handle today’s contact with the ISS.”

GROUND STATION:

- [] Mention any additional people assisting at ground station.
- [] Ground station describes station. Limit to ~2 minutes.
- [] Ground station reports time to ISS rise and predicted AOS.
- [] **Ground station hands back to the ARISS moderator.**

MODERATOR:

“Thank you **Harriet Conklin**.

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Event #11 Starts at 03:58 ~1m Duration ~2m to ISS Rise

MODERATOR:

[] Moderator should be prepared with filler material if ahead of the timeline.

MODERATOR:

“We are now about 2 Minutes before the planned acquisition of signal from ISS. With the time for the ARISS contact quickly approaching, we want to remind all to please mute your cell phones and be as quiet as possible when not asking Astronaut **Major Tom** a question.”

“Remember, what we are doing on ISS is an experiment, so we can never tell the results, positive or negative until the experiment is over. And students, please don’t forget to say OVER at the end of your question.”

“The International Space Station will soon come into radio range of the **K6DUE** ARISS ground station in **Greenbelt, MD, USA** so, **Harriet Conklin**, it’s all yours. Good luck!, OVER!”

MODERATOR:

[] Handover to ground station at least one minute before ISS ride time.

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Event #12 Starts at 03:59 ~1m Duration ~1m to ISS Rise

GROUND STATION:

[] Open squelch, rushing noise is heard.

[] Ground station calls ISS. This may take a few minutes.

[] Confirm that contact is solid and say “Over to the school for first question.”

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SCHOOL QUESTIONS

[Copy/paste the list of school/group questions from ARISS Ops Uplink file here.]

GROUND STATION:

[] IF TIME PERMITS, thank astronaut and invites all attendees to cheer in appreciation.

No additional ad-lib questions are permitted.

[] Contact ends at LOS, ground station signs off.

[] **Ground station hands back to the ARISS moderator.**

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CLOSING REMARKS AND END OF ARISS PORTION OF THE PROGRAM

MODERATOR:

“Ladies and Gentlemen we have just shared a “wow” moment of history. Amateur radio ground station **K6DUE** located at **Greenbelt, MD, USA** and operated by **Harriet Conklin, KH3CON**, contacted astronaut **Major Tom (KM5TOM)** aboard the International Space Station, and spoke with students at the **Madison High School** in **Springfield, USA.**”

“Now, for the international volunteer team of ARISS, including the Amateur Radio Satellite Corporations around the world, the American Radio Relay League, The Canadian Space Agency, The European Space Agency, the Japanese Space Agency, Roscosmos, and NASA, this is **Margaret Davis, KM1DAV** your ARISS moderator, sending my salutation to all of you in amateur radio terms, 73's, which means best wishes.”

MODERATOR:

- [] If using Verizon, moderator requests Verizon Operator stop recording.
- [] If using Verizon, moderator thanks Verizon Operator for the help.
- [] Any live stream from the moderator and tele-bridge station is stopped.
- [] Moderator releases ground station from conference or asks them to standby.
- [] **ARISS moderator hands off to school/group.**

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Logistics

Important Dates and Times

Date of Contact (YYYY-MM-DD): **2025-05-20**

Event local time zone: **EST**

Start of Conference (HH:mm): **01:00** UTC / **03:00** school local time

ISS Rise time (HH:mm): **02:00** UTC / **04:00** school local time

School/Group Information

School/group name: **Madison High School**

School/group location: **Springfield, USA**

Coordinator/teacher at venue: **Walter Denton**

School principal name: **Osgood Conklin**

School teacher name: **Miss Brooks**

School/group presenter name: **Miss Brooks**

ISS Information

Astronaut name and callsign: **Major Tom, KM5TOM**

ISS callsign to be used: **NA1SS**

ARISS Mentor Information

Mentor name, callsign: **Philip Boynton, KP2BOY**

Mentor will be On-site or Remote for the contact: **Remote**

ARISS Moderator Information

Moderator name, callsign: **Margaret Davis, KM1DAV**

Moderator will be On-site or Remote for the contact: **On-site**

ARISS Tele-bridge Ground Station

Station callsign & location: **K6DUE, Greenbelt, MD, USA**

Operator name and callsign: **Harriet Conklin, KH3CON**

Audio interface (Verizon/Zoom dial-in/Zoom client): **Verizon**

Video interface: **Zoom**

Live Streaming

Live streaming planned (Yes/No): **Yes**

Live stream operator name, callsign: **Fabian "Stretch" Snodgrass, No Call**

Miscellaneous

None.