

National Capital Trackers at York 2014

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Objectives

- Goals
- Layout
- Technical
- Operations
- What's Next?

Goals

- To display a layout which few clubs are capable of doing
- To provide a layout capable of accommodating any O gauge equipment
 - “Any Train, Any Track, Any Time”
- To be as technically bug free as possible which allows for maximum FUN!

Layout

- 4 loops
 - 3 track portion and 2 track portion
 - 3 Full Command
 - 1 Conventional Only
- Outer loop encompasses entire layout perimeter, command controlled (~350')
- Middle and Inner loops, parts A & B, command controlled (~280')
- Inner loop, part C, conventional only (~80')

Layout

- Minimum instantaneous mainline radius of parts A&B is O96
 - Compound corners, nominal radius of all corners is O108, with increasing center spacing (6”).
 - Minimum Switch is #4 (14 degrees).
- Part C minimum radius is O72 (Creech Corner)
- Over and Under
 - Elevation change of 8”
 - ~1.6% Grade

Technical

- For increased reliability, signal strength, and minimized voltage drops:
 - New harness is required for all modules
 - Harness installation events coming very soon!
 - Layout will be blocked and star wired into 6 isolated blocks (reducing wire run length)
- Both power cabinets will be used
- Plan to place at least one cabinet outside the layout for “examination”

Operations

- All trains originate from yard
- Special York operations roles:
 - Yardmaster/Dispatcher
 - Controls all activity in and out of yard
 - Controls interlocking switch set, releases trains per sign-up sheet, confirms TMCC/DCS address.
 - Possibly use 2nd person to man transformer handles as needed.
 - Spotters
 - Located at either end of the layout for issue spotting
- Use of radios
 - Connect spotters to yardmaster/dispatcher

Operations

- Run Sheet
 - 1 Hour Slots on 20 minute intervals
 - 2 Trains per track
 - Be On Time!
 - 5:00-Close “Run Time, Fun Time” Slots
 - Designated Conventional Hours on Big Loops
- Yard Operations
 - Yard divided into halves, one for loading, one for unloading.
 - Next time slot setup begins when previous slot leaves yard
 - No parking in yard!

What's Next?

- Harness installation events
- Module transportation “ferry”
 - Runs from VA and MD, to move tables and legs, leaving room in cars for personal items, trains, new purchases, etc...
- Setup – Wednesday, April 23
 - Please come on this date if at all possible (we need time to get such a large layout assembled and functioning properly)