

## **Rules: North American QSO Party (NAQP) CW/SSB/RTTY**

1. **Eligibility:** Any Amateur Radio licensee may enter.
2. **Object:** To work as many North American stations as possible during the contest period.
3. **North American Station:** Defined by the ARRL *DXCC List* with the addition of KH6.
4. Contest periods:

January/February 2012 Events:

- ◆ **CW:** 1800 UTC January 14 to 0600 UTC January 15, 2012 (Second full weekend in January)
- ◆ **SSB:** 1800 UTC January 21 to 0600 UTC January 22, 2012 (Third full weekend in January)
- ◆ **RTTY:** 1800 UTC February 25 to 0600 UTC February 26, 2012 (Starts on last Saturday in

February)

July/August 2012 Events:

- ◆ **RTTY:** 1800 UTC July 21 to 0600 UTC July 22, 2012 (Third full weekend in July)
- ◆ **CW:** 1800 UTC August 4 to 0600 UTC August 5, 2012 (First full weekend in August)
- ◆ **SSB:** 1800 UTC August 18 to 0600 UTC August 19, 2012 (Third full weekend in August)

5. Entry Classifications:

a) Single Operator:

i) One person performs all transmitting, receiving, spotting, and logging functions as well as equipment and antenna adjustments.

ii) Access to spotting information obtained directly or indirectly from any source other than the station operator, such as from other stations or automated tools, is prohibited.

iii) Only one transmitted signal allowed at a time.

iv) May operate 10 out of the 12 hours of the contest. Off times must be at least 30 minutes in length.

b) Multi-Operator Two-Transmitter.

i) More than one person performs transmitting, receiving and logging functions, etc.

ii) A maximum of two transmitted signals at any given time, each on a different band. Both transmitters may work any and all stations.

iii) Each transmitter must have at least 10 minutes between band changes.

iv) May operate for the entire 12 hours of the contest.

6. **Output power must be no more than 100 W for eligible entries.** Use of external amplifiers capable of more than 100 W output is not allowed. QRP (5 W) entries will be recognized in the results.

7. **Mode:** CW only in CW parties. SSB only in phone parties. RTTY only in RTTY parties.

8. **Bands:** 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 meters only, except no 160 meters for the RTTY contest. You may work a station once per band. Suggested frequencies are 1815, 3535, 7035, 14,035, 21,035 and 28,035 kHz (35 kHz up from band edge for Novice/Tech) on CW; and 1865, 3850, 7225, 14,250, 21,300, and 28,500 kHz (28450 for Novice/Tech) on SSB. When operating on 160-meters, please respect the DX window of 1830 to 1840 kHz and keep SSB operations above 1840 kHz. When operating RTTY on 20 meters, please respect the PSK window, 14,070 to 14,073 kHz, and the NCDXF beacon frequency of 14,100 kHz.

9. **Station:** All radio transmitters, receivers and antennas used by an entrant must be associated with one station, either at a fixed geographical location or as a mobile/portable station. A station may be operated remotely. Use of multiple stations during the contest, whether directly or remotely operated, is prohibited.

10. **Exchange:** Operator name and station location (state, province or country) for North American stations; operator name only for non-North American stations. If the name sent is changed during the contest, as sometimes happens with multi-operator stations, the name used for each QSO must be clearly identified in the log. The use of non-Amateur Radio means of communication or the use of Amateur Radio modes or bands different than those specified for the contest to solicit contacts during the contest period is prohibited.

11. **Multipliers:** All US states (including KH6 and KL7), 13 Canadian provinces/territories (British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba, Ontario, Quebec, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, PEI, Newfoundland/Labrador, Yukon, NWT and Nunavut) and other North American countries. District of Columbia counts as Maryland. Non-North American countries, maritime mobiles and aeronautical mobiles do not count as multipliers but may be worked for QSO credit.

12. **Valid Contact:** A valid contact consists of a complete, correctly copied and legibly logged two-way exchange between a North American station and any other station. Proper logging requires including the time in UTC and band for each contact. Regardless of the number of licensed call signs issued to a given operator, one and *only one* call sign shall be utilized during the contest by that operator.

13. **Scoring:** Multiply total valid contacts by the sum of the number of multipliers worked on

each band.

14. **Team Competition:** You may wish to form a team with fellow NAQP participants. If so, your team must consist of two to five single-operator stations whose individual scores are combined to produce a team score. Although clubs or other groups having more than five members may form multiple teams, there are no distance or meeting requirements for a team entry.

Teams must be registered prior to the start of the contest. Use one of the following online forms to register your team:

◆ CW team registration: [www.ncjweb.com/cwnaqpteamreg.php](http://www.ncjweb.com/cwnaqpteamreg.php)

◆ SSB team registration: [www.ncjweb.com/ssbnaqpteamreg.php](http://www.ncjweb.com/ssbnaqpteamreg.php)

◆ RTTY team registration: [www.ncjweb.com/rttynaqpteamreg.php](http://www.ncjweb.com/rttynaqpteamreg.php)

These team registration forms automatically provide confirmation of team registration by return e-mail.

15. **Log formatting:** All logs containing more than 200 QSOs must be submitted electronically (Web upload, CD, 3.5-inch floppy etc). The file format for electronic logs for *NCJ*-sponsored contests is Cabrillo (Ver 2.x or 3.x). For those participants who use paper logging, please use the manual log entry Web-to-Cabrillo online forms available at the links below to submit your logs. Paper log forms are available on the *NCJ* Web site, [www.ncjweb.com/naqpforms.pdf](http://www.ncjweb.com/naqpforms.pdf), for the convenience of those who log on paper during the contest. Printouts of computer logs will *not* be accepted, regardless of the number of QSOs.

Please confirm that your output power is properly stated in the header portion of the Cabrillo log before submission. “LOW” indicates the use of 100 W or less, while QRP indicates 5 W or less. Submissions that indicate the use of high power will be used as check logs.

Name your files with your call sign (ie, *<yourcall>.log*). Please do not send binary files produced by a contest logging program (eg, *<yourcall>.bin*, *<yourcall>.qdf*, etc).

16. **Log submission:** *Entries must be dated/stamped/postmarked no later than 14 days after the contest.* Methods of log submission in order of preference are as follows:

a) Upload Cabrillo-formatted log via Web form (preferable): All modes:

[www.ncjweb.com/naqplsubmit.php](http://www.ncjweb.com/naqplsubmit.php)

b) Mail CD or 3.5-inch floppy disk containing Cabrillo log file to the appropriate address listed below.

c) Manually convert paper or computer log to Cabrillo log using one of the following tools:

◆ CW: [www.b4h.net/cabforms/naqpcw\\_cab.php](http://www.b4h.net/cabforms/naqpcw_cab.php)

◆ SSB: [www.b4h.net/cabforms/naqpssb\\_cab.php](http://www.b4h.net/cabforms/naqpssb_cab.php)

◆ RTTY: [www.b4h.net/cabforms/naqprtty\\_cab.php](http://www.b4h.net/cabforms/naqprtty_cab.php)

d) Mail original paper log to the appropriate address listed below.

◆ CW/SSB logs: Bruce Horn, WA7BNM, 4225 Farmdale Ave, Studio City, CA 91604 USA

◆ RTTY logs: Mark Aaker, K6UFO, 300 Berry St. Unit 1009, San Francisco, CA 94158-1668

USA

17. **Disqualifications:** Entries with score reductions greater than 5 percent may be disqualified. Any entry may be disqualified for illegibility or for illegal or unethical operation. Such disqualification is at the discretion of the contest manager.

18. **Information:** Questions regarding the contests may be addressed to the appropriate contest manager at the e-mail addresses list below:

◆ CW: Bruce Horn, WA7BNM, e-mail: [cwnaqpmgr@ncjweb.com](mailto:cwnaqpmgr@ncjweb.com)

◆ SSB: Bruce Horn, WA7BNM, e-mail: [ssbnaqpmgr@ncjweb.com](mailto:ssbnaqpmgr@ncjweb.com)

◆ RTTY: Mark Aaker, K6UFO, e-mail: [rttynaqpmgr@ncjweb.com](mailto:rttynaqpmgr@ncjweb.com)

19. **Awards:** Plaques will be awarded for the high score in each of the categories given below, provided there are a minimum of five entries in the category. If a plaque is not sponsored, the winner may purchase it. Certificates of merit will be awarded to the highest scoring entrant with at least 200 QSOs from each state, province, or North American country. Certificates of merit will also be awarded to the overall second and third-place finishers in the multioperator category for each mode.

Plaques will be awarded as follows:

<b>Mode</b>	<b>Category</b>	<b>Sponsor</b>
CW	Single Op, North America	Florida Contest Group
CW	Multiop, North America	MWA in memory of Dave, KTØR
SSB	Single Op, North America	South East Contest Club
SSB	Multiop, North America	Tennessee Contest Group
Combined CW/SSB	Single Op, North America	Southern California Contest Club
RTTY	Single Op, North America	ICOM
RTTY	Multiop, North America	ICOM

RTTY

Team

ICOM

**TABLE:**

<b>Mode</b>	<b>Times/Dates</b>	<b>Logs Due</b>	<b>Log Submittal</b>
CW	1800 UTC Jan 14 to 0600 UTC Jan 15	January 28	<b>NCJ Web site:</b>  <a href="http://www.ncjweb.com/naqplogsubmit.php">www.ncjweb.com/naqplogsubmit.php</a>  <b>Alternative submission methods:</b>  See Rule 16 in text.
	1800 UTC Aug 4 to 0600 UTC Aug 5	August 18	
SSB	1800 UTC Jan 21 to 0600 UTC Jan 22	February 4	
	1800 UTC Aug 18 to 0600 UTC Aug 19	September 1	
RTTY	1800 UTC Feb 25 to 0600 UTC Feb 26	March 10	
	1800 UTC Jul 21 to 0600 UTC Jul 22	August 4	

The 2012 NAQP calendar

*[Revised: Nov 15, 2011]*