

Rules: North American Sprint (CW/SSB/RTTY)

1. **Eligibility:** Any Amateur Radio licensee may enter.

2. **Object:** For North American stations to contact as many radio amateurs as possible. For non-North American stations to contact as many North American stations as possible.

3. **Entry Classification:** High power, low power (100 W) and QRP (5 W). Single operator only. Use of spotting information obtained directly or indirectly from any source other than the station operator, such as from other stations or automated tools, is prohibited.

4. Contest periods:

February/March 2012 contests:

◆ **CW:** 0000-0400 UTC, February 5, 2012 (Sunday of first full weekend in February)

◆ **SSB:** 0000-0400 UTC, February 12, 2012

◆ **RTTY:** 0000-0400 UTC, March 11, 2012 (Sunday of second full weekend in March)

September/October 2012 contests:

◆ **CW:** 0000-0400 UTC, September 9, 2012 (first Sunday following first Monday in September)

◆ **SSB:** 0000-0400 UTC, September 16, 2012 (second Sunday following first Monday in September)

◆ **RTTY:** 0000-0400 UTC, October 14, 2012 (Sunday of second full weekend in October)

These are entirely separate four-hour Sprints. Note that the CW Sprint now comes *before* the SSB Sprint in both February and September.

5. **Mode:** CW only in CW Sprints, SSB only in SSB Sprints, RTTY only in RTTY Sprints.

6. **Bands:** 80, 40 and 20 meters only. Suggested frequencies are around 3540, 7040 and 14,040 kHz on CW; 3850, 7225 and 14,275 kHz on phone; and 3580, 7080 and 14,080 kHz on RTTY. You may work the same station once per band.

7. **Exchange:** To have a valid exchange, you must send all of the following information: The other station's call sign, your call sign, your serial number, your name and your location (state, province, or country). You may send this information in any order. For example:

N6TR DE K7GM 154 RICK NC K

K7GM NR 122 TREE OR DE N6TR K

8. **Valid Contact:** A valid contact consists of a complete, correctly copied and logged two-way exchange between a North American station and another station. Proper logging requires including the time of each contact. Serial numbers must begin with serial number one and be sequential thereafter.

9. **North American Station:** Defined by the rules of the CQ WW DX contests. Note that KH6 is *not* in North America.

10. **Scoring:** Multiply total valid contacts by the sum of the US states, Canadian provinces and other North American countries to get final score (do not count US and Canada as countries). District of Columbia counts as Maryland. KH6 is *not* counted as a state and is *not* a North American country (but it does count for QSO credit). The eight Canadian multipliers are Maritime (VE1, VE9, VO1, VO2 and VY2), VE2 through VE7, and Yukon-NWT (VYØ, VY1 and VE8). Non-North American countries do *not* count as multipliers but *do* count for QSO credit for North American stations.

11. **Special QSY Rule:** If any station solicits a call (by sending “CQ,” “QRZ?” “going up 5 kHz” or any other means of soliciting a response, including completion of a QSO where the frequency was inherited), that station is permitted to work only *one* station in response to that solicitation. The station must thereafter move at least 1 kHz before calling another station, or at least 5 kHz before soliciting other calls. Once a station is required to QSY, that station is not allowed to make another QSO on the vacated frequency until or unless at least one subsequent QSO is made on a new frequency.

12. **Additional Rules:** Simultaneous transmission on more than one frequency is prohibited. All contacts must be sent and received using means requiring real-time human intervention, detection and initiation. Each operator must use only one call sign during the contest.

13. **Log Formatting:** All logs must be submitted electronically (Web upload, e-mail, CD, 3.5-inch floppy, etc.). The file format for electronic logs for *NCJ*-sponsored contests is Cabrillo (Version 2.x or 3.x). Entrants who do not use computer logging are encouraged to use the manual Web-to-Cabrillo online forms available at the links below to enter the QSO info from their paper logs.

14. **Log Submission:** *Entries must be received no later than 7 days after the Sprint.* Methods of log submission in order of preference are:

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

www.ncjweb.com/sprintlogsubmit.php

- b. E-mail log (ASCII text file):

◆ CW: **cwsprint@ncjweb.com**

◆ SSB: **ssbsprint@ncjweb.com**

◆ RTTY: **rftysprint@ncjweb.com**

- c. Mail CD or 3.5-inch floppy disk, containing ASCII log file, to the appropriate address listed below.

- d. Manually convert paper log to Cabrillo log using one of the following tools:

- ◆ CW: www.b4h.net/cabforms/nasprintcw_cab.php
- ◆ SSB: www.b4h.net/cabforms/nasprintssb_cab.php
- ◆ RTTY: www.b4h.net/cabforms/nasprinrtty_cab.php

e. Mail log to the appropriate address below:

- ◆ CW logs: Boring Amateur Radio Club, 15125 Bartell Rd, Boring, OR 97009 USA; e-mail:

cwsprintmgr@ncjweb.com

- ◆ SSB logs: Jim Stevens, K4MA, 6609 Vardon Ct, Fuquay-Varina, NC 27526 USA; e-mail:

ssbsprintmgr@ncjweb.com

- ◆ RTTY logs: Ed Muns, WØYK, PO Box 1877, Los Gatos, CA 95031-1877 USA; e-mail:

rttysprintmgr@ncjweb.com

15. **Team Competition:** Team competition is limited to a maximum of 10 operators as a single entry unit. Groups having more than 10 team members may submit more than one team entry. To qualify as a team entry, the team registration form on the *NCJ* Web site must be completed before the contest starts. Use one of the following links:

- ◆ CW team registration: www.ncjweb.com/cwsprintteam.html
- ◆ SSB team registration: www.ncjweb.com/ssbsprintteam.html
- ◆ RTTY team registration: www.ncjweb.com/rttysprintteam.html

16. **Penalties and Disqualification:** Contacts with incorrect received information will be removed. Contacts not found in the other station's log will be removed with a one-QSO penalty. Entries with score reductions in excess of 5 percent may be disqualified. Any entry also may be disqualified for illegibility, illegal or unethical operation.

TABLE

Figure 1 — The 2012 NA Sprint calendar

Mode	Times/Dates	Logs Due	Log Submittal
CW	0000-0400 UTC, Feb 5	February 11	NCJ Web site: www.ncjweb.com/sprintlogsubmit.php Alternative submission methods: See Rule 14 in text.
	0000-0400 UTC, Sep 9	September 15	
SSB	0000-0400 UTC, Feb 12	February 18	
	0000-0400 UTC, Sep 16	September 22	
RTTY	0000-0400 UTC, Mar 11	March 17	
	0000-0400 UTC, Oct 14	October 20	

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