

# British Columbia QSO Party 2020



Certificate photo for top score in each category of entry:  
The Empress Hotel, at Victoria Harbour

## Inside

- Page 1 Behind the Scenes: Coordinator's perspective
- Page 8 Plaque Winners
- Page 9 Soapbox
- Page 10 Crunching the Numbers
- Page 14 Results: BC
- Page 16 Results: Outside BC

### Sponsor Information

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## Behind the Scenes

By Rebecca VA7BEC, Contest Coordinator BCQP

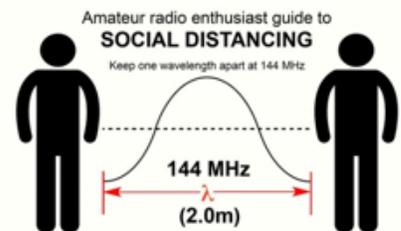
### What a different world

Before I get into the usual reflections post-BCQP, I must comment on what is now affecting every aspect of daily life, including amateur radio activity. I had all the logs checked and scores confirmed quite a while ago but COVID-19 related restrictions on travel, even within the province, dashed my plans for a photo-taking road trip to get nice pictures for BCQP certificates. And I always like to include the photos in the post-party report with all the results. So I waited...

When BCQP 2020 took place back in early February 2020, the novel coronavirus was far away—distant both literally and figuratively. Outside the initial hotspots, it was hard to grasp the gravity of the unfolding situation or the need to be prepared for what would eventually become a global pandemic. Different jurisdictions took different steps at different times based on different perspectives.

By mid-March, non-essential travel was strongly discouraged, with many countries recommending that citizens who were travelling abroad come home ASAP as borders began to close. In cities everywhere, citizens were encouraged to stay home as much as possible and limit contact with people outside their own immediate family. Schools closed. Parks, beaches and other public spaces were roped off.

Restaurants shifted to takeout and delivery. Social-distancing became a requirement, whether you were at the grocery store or on a walk. “Wash your hands. Don’t touch your face. Stay 2 meters (6 feet) apart”—the mantra of public health officers whose daily briefings provided updates and guidance on how to adapt to this new normal.





From an amateur radio perspective, the spread of COVID-19 has impacted activities big and small, from weekly club meetings and monthly lunches to local swap meets and major crowd-drawing events like SEA-PAC and Dayton hamventions. Beginning in March, many state QSO parties dropped their mobile category due to restrictions on non-essential movement even at the local level. International travel restrictions prevented operators who would normally fly down to the Caribbean for a weekend marathon contest from going to those destinations. This was quite evident during CQ WPX SSB back in March. Similarly, single-op and team-op DXpeditions were put on hold or, sadly, required the travelers to return home en route and/or before QRVing because borders were closing. Months of planning turned into a demoralizing waste of time, money and effort. And who knows when certain opportunities will present themselves again?

Let's hope that the new normal offers more and better opportunities.

### Silver lining?

Digital technology has enabled us to stay connected while staying apart. In fact, whether it's for radio or non-radio purposes, people are checking in with friends and family a lot, maybe even more than before. Clubs are still meeting, through cloud-based video conferencing software or on the air for a net-control-directed chat. Dayton Hamvention® was canceled, but the Hamvention QSO Party (scheduled for May 16, 2020 — the Saturday of the event had it not been cancelled) still brought people together to celebrate the Hamvention experience, albeit virtually. QSO party enthusiasts still got on the air for state QSO parties, seeking to amass points for the State QSO Party Challenge. And while requests to stay home put the kibosh on mobile operations in many jurisdictions, the Florida QSO Party organizers came up with a grand idea—virtual mobiles.

### Virtual Mobiles—A timely idea

The virtual mobile concept is really ingenious—a little complicated, maybe, particularly from an administrative perspective—but a fabulously creative way to increase the number of stations on the air given lockdown restrictions. When I first heard about the idea, I thought it might be a way to activate districts in BC that rarely get activated. Alas, that's not really how it works. There can be no imaginary operators in districts. Fixed stations and real operators in each district are required.

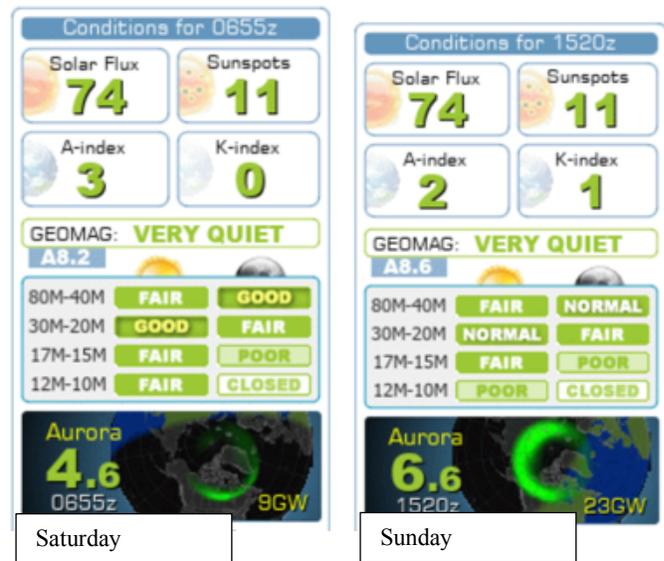
What turns fixed stations in virtual mobiles is that the operators involved in this effort entrust each other with the use of their callsigns. That is, Operator B is entrusted to use Operator A's callsign in Operator B's district. If there is an Operator C, then s/he can represent Operator A in a third district. And so on.

The virtual mobile concept doesn't necessarily increase the number of districts on the air. Rather, it simulates mobile operations and thus increases the number of stations to contact. In the case of the Florida QSO Party, there were 10 callsigns and seven operators, so three callsigns were silent each hour. The seven operators were at fixed stations and, by entrusting their callsigns to the others, were able to rotate through different counties, as if they were mobile. Obviously, the operators had to trust each other—yes, there was some paperwork involved—and the group had to stick to a predetermined operating schedule so that a virtual mobile station wasn't operating in two different counties at the same time.

I don't know if it's possible or even practical to apply the concept to BCQP. Changes are easier said than done. We'd certainly need a deeper reservoir of stay-in-the-chair kind of operators in BC to tap for a mobile team. As with many potential changes that I've considered over the years, including the special guest idea I had hoped to implement in 2020, so much is contingent upon a solid base of BC operators and a sustained level of participation to support a new structure. Otherwise, it's just a lot of extra work behind the scenes..

### BCQP 2020 activity

As for BCQP 2020, the fun factor depended greatly on mode and location. Propagation data indicated sunspots—yeah!—but the bands were really no better





than they were last year when the data indicated minus -1 sunspots.

Operators outside BC—and inside BC, too, for that matter—often ask “Where were the BC stations?” and this year was no different. The answer? On the air at various times across productive bands with an emphasis on CW.

It seemed that the number of BC stations on the air was down year on year. But an analysis of submitted logs reveals that the number of BC stations was actually up, albeit slightly. So why did it seem as if there were fewer BC stations on the air? Three key reasons.

First, the number of operators—not stations—was down, quite significantly in fact. The decrease reflects fewer multi-op stations as well as fewer operators on active teams and/or less time in the chair(s), which essentially limited callsign profile concurrently across different bands and/or modes.

Second, many single-op stations worked two modes, which meant the operators had to split their time between modes, and the callsign “disappeared” from one mode whenever the operator switched to the other mode.

Third, several regular participants who often run two modes, opted for just one mode this year, which had the effect of boosting QSO potential on that one mode but curbing QSO potential on a second mode.

CONDX also affected on-air presence, but this varied by QTH. I heard from several BC operators who started out with great enthusiasm and called and called and called some more but just weren’t heard as extensively as they would have liked. With mediocre returns, some operators opted to take a break and try again later. The unplanned off-time undoubtedly added to the perception of fewer stations on the air.

Other factors that affect activity include antenna setup, equipment issues, operator ears, experience, local QRM, operator availability or timing when a particular band is less noisy than it has been, antenna direction, being lucky enough to get spotted, choosing the right time to switch between PH and CW for those ops doing mixed mode, conflicting commitments (work, family), health issues, weather... The list goes on because factors impacting participation are as varied as the people who get involved.

#### **At VA7ODX**

At the sponsor station, we set up his and hers radios this year. Two radios allowed us to maintain a high profile across multiple modes and bands and

generated steady pileup activity. 20m was the workhorse band. 10m was a complete blank. 15m was next-to-impossible for PH and only slightly better for CW. 40m provided some good moments, mostly in the late afternoon/early evening, as would be expected for a low band. 80m was mediocre, but that might just have been bad timing.

The run rate was pretty good but keeping the rate up was challenging. Some stations responded to our CQs with 59+20 signals while others were mere whispers in the wind, regardless of antenna direction, regardless of mode. There’s very little DX in the sponsor station log but not for lack of trying and turning the beam to listen in many directions.

#### **CW the popular mode despite challenges**

The overall tally of CW QSOs was higher year on year. In 2019, as well, the depth of CW participation was very noticeable. Maybe a new trend?

NA Sprint in the last four hours of the first segment of BCQP and the FOC Marathon over the whole weekend made the going rather tough for BCQP participants on CW. NA Sprint is fast-paced and has a QSY requirement, so it’s difficult for BC stations to hold a frequency to “CQ BCQP”. The FOC Marathon is a members-only event and is not listed in contest calendars, so non-members probably didn’t know about the event nor did they know that members “would prefer not to be called by non-members since a QSO with a non-member can’t be counted” (according to the First Class CW Operators’ Club website).

Operators just learning CW or whose skills are a little rusty need to practice, and QSO parties are wonderful opportunities for this. It would be great if the NA Sprint and FOC Marathon organizers could set aside a quiet zone like in the 10-10 Winter SSB Contest so that anyone who is not in the sprint or the marathon has the chance to pursue CW opportunities at a QSO party pace.

#### **Rewards for Perseverance**

BCQP offers many incentives for getting on the air, from the camaraderie of team operation and the chance to polish skills or help others learn about HF operation to potential pileups and surprise DX (for BC participants able to contact anyone anywhere).

For operators seeking tangible rewards, BCQP has lovely BC scenery- or notable landmark-inspired certificates and plaques, different every year and therefore collectible.

Certificates recognize top scores by stations in BC and outside BC in all categories of entry, and special



certificates are awarded for particularly noteworthy results even if these results aren't top scores. In addition, a certificate category recognizing top scores in each district is maintained to spur greater participation from operators throughout BC since VE7/VA7s are quite literally the life of the party.

The number of logs received soared to 233 in 2020, from 166 in 2019, with most logs—about 88%—coming from outside BC. The consistently small number of logs submitted by stations in BC given the much larger number of stations on the air—based on an analysis of submitted logs—is baffling, especially since BC stations have a better chance of picking up a lovely certificate in BCQP than in any other on-air event.

To reflect the immense number of logs submitted by stations outside BC, certificates will be sent to stations achieving top score in their category of entry by state, province and DX entity. The only requirement for eligibility is that the submitted log have at least 10 valid QSOs.



District certificate: En route to Swartz Bay from Tsawwassen



Top state/province/DX certificate: En route to Swartz Bay from Tsawwassen

## Results

Some repeat BC participants did better than last year. Others did not. Scores by many repeat participants outside BC were not at the level of last year, either. Sluggish results for BC stations may reflect QTH-related CONDX, time on the air, and the degree of success in calling “CQ BCQP.” For stateside operators playing in all three same-weekend QSO parties, low QSO counts might be a consequence of focusing on one or both of the other QSO parties where activity seemed higher and would naturally generate a better QSO count for the State QSO Party Challenge.

To keep the size of this post-party report manageable, the results section has been abridged. Pages 14 – 18 show all BC results—there are only 28—as well as results for certificate and/or plaque recipients outside BC. For a complete list of logs received and a detailed breakdown of scores, please go to [BC Results](#) and [Outside BC Results](#) on the BCQP website.

## Plaques

Plaques are awarded in sponsored categories. Thanks to the support of clubs and individuals, there were 10 plaques available in 2020: Top BC (single-op), Top BC (multi-op), Top Canada outside BC, Top YL, Top US, Most Federal Electoral Districts Contacted, Top DX, Top Mixed Mode, Top CW and Top BC Club.

Given the small number of BC stations sending in logs, certain stations tend to place highest in several plaque categories. But the rule is one plaque per station, with priority given to geographically based categories.

The sponsor station is not eligible for a plaque or certificates but just as a reference point, Team VA7ODX posted the highest multi-op score in BC, at 655,662, which was also the highest mixed-mode score, and collected the most districts (23).

Team VA7TU qualified for the Top BC (multi-op) plaque as well as the Top Mixed Mode plaque, with a score of 473,180. As per the Plaque Allocation Policy\*, Team VA7TU will receive the geographically based plaque, which opens the mixed mode plaque to the next-highest score, 357,250, achieved by Keith VE7KW. However, the score by Keith VE7KW was highest in the Top BC (single-op) category, so he will get the geographically based plaque. The Top Mixed Mode plaque will therefore go to Toby VA7EU, with a score of 54,364, and the category will be renamed Top Mixed Mode Low-Power to reflect his category of entry. Keith VE7KW



tied with Team VA7TU for the most districts contacted (18), but since both stations are taking other plaques, the plaque would go to the next-highest result, which is a tie (15) between Team VE7SAR and Kevin VE7XY. Team VE7SAR qualified for the Top CW plaque and will receive that one, leaving the district plaque to VE7XY. The plaque will be appropriately retitled, "Excellent Achievement: Districts Contacted." Elizabeth VE7YL retains her hold on the Top YL plaque, with a score of 29,460. Aki JH2RMU returned to the Top DX position. Possibly due to changing strategies to maximize QSO potential for a higher standing in the State QSO Party Challenge, the Top U.S. plaque and Top Canada outside BC plaque go to first-time recipients: Axel KI6RRN, with a score of 3,502, and Bill VE9OA, with a score of 1,030.

**State QSO Party Challenge**

The new State QSO Party Challenge has attracted an immense following, right from the first qualifying QSO parties, of which BCQP was one. After examining submitted logs, I could tell many participants, particularly in the U.S., were dabbling in all three weekend QSO parties. If only CONDX had been better, I'm sure all these U.S. stations would have been able to hear the CQing VE7/VA7s and build even bigger BCQP logs. Maybe next year?

I'd like to thank the State QSO Party Challenge organizers for coming up with this competition and for including BCQP in the list of eligible QSO parties. It definitely helped raise awareness of BCQP among operators that I would not have been able to reach through emails, contest calendars, forums and other PR channels.

For information on the State QSO Party, check out the [website](#).

**BCQP 2021**

Mark your calendars. BCQP 2021 will run in two segments over the first full weekend of February: 1600z Feb 6 – 0359z Feb 7 AND 1600z Feb 7 – 2359 Feb 7.

A total of 20 hours: 12 on Saturday and 8 on Sunday.

The objectives remain the same: Stations in BC, contact anyone anywhere, and stations outside BC, contact as many VE7/VA7s as possible during the 20-hour event.

Hope to see you again. Until then, as the provincial health officer in BC says at the end of her media updates, "Be kind. Be calm. And be safe."

**BCQP 2021**  
**Saturday/Sunday: 1600z Feb 6**  
**- 0359z Feb 7 AND**  
**Sunday: 1600z Feb 7 - 2359z**  
**Feb 7**

**February 2021**

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
31	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13

### Plaque Winners in 2020

**Team VA7TU** (VA7QD VA7TU VE7TI VE7FAW VE7IO VA7NF) captured the **Top BC (multi-op)** plaque, with a score of 473,180.

**Keith VE7KW** broke the single-op record he set in 2019 and secured the **Top BC (single-op)** plaque, with a score of 357,250.

**Team VE7SAR** (VA7XB VA7OM VA7VJ) took the **Top CW** plaque, with a score of 343,868.

**Toby VA7EU** is awarded the **mixed mode** plaque, with a score of 54,364. Note: Plaque category retitled as Top Score: Single-op Low-Power Mixed Mode.

**Elizabeth VE7YL** kept the **Top YL** plaque with a CW-only score of 29,460.

**Axel KI6RRN** captured the **Top US** plaque, with a score of 3,502.

**Aki JH2RMU** reclaimed the **Top DX** plaque, with a score of 460.

**Bill VE9OA** earned the **Top Canada outside BC** plaque, with a score of 1,030.

**Kevin VE7XY** will receive the plaque for **districts contacted**, renamed Excellent Achievement: Districts Contacted.

**ORCA DXCC** maintained **top club** status, with an aggregate score of 1,356,044 from 17 submitted logs with Orca DXCC as the participant's affiliated club. Note, this does not include sponsor call VA7ODX



**Photo for sponsored plaques:  
Sunken Garden at The Butchart Gardens  
(National Historic Site of Canada)**

#### **Note: Plaque Allocation Policy**

Under BCQP rules, only one plaque is awarded per station.

The BCQP Contest Committee believes that in the event a station qualifies in multiple plaque categories, including top score in BC, the US or other geographical location, the priority should be placed on the top score geographically, as applicable. Special plaques are awarded to stations with the next highest scores in the applicable sponsored plaque categories, which may be top scores in specific categories of entry and will be acknowledged as such.



*Thank you to the following 2020 plaque sponsors:*

**Fleetwood Digital Products (Top BC – Single-Op)**

**Burnaby Amateur Radio Club (Top YL)**

**Orca DXCC (Top US)**

**Cowichan Valley Amateur Radio Society (Top Canada outside BC)**

**Surrey Amateur Radio Club (Most Federal Electoral Districts Contacted)**

**Rebecca VA7BEC and Koji VA7KO (Top DX)**

**North Shore Amateur Radio Club (Top Mixed Mode)**

**Elizabeth VE7YL (Top CW)**

**Coquitlam Amateur Radio Emergency Services Society (Top BC – Multi-Op)**

**Delta Amateur Radio Society (Top BC Club)**



VA7BEC & VA7KO

VE7YL





## Soapbox

**DL3DXX:** Only station I heard.

**JH2RMU:** I enjoyed the contest. Was looking to QSO many BC stations. CONDX was poor.

**KF3G:** Thank you for the 2020 British Columbia QSO Party.

**KV8Q:** Just put a few Q's into the log in between MN and VT QSO Parties. Thanks - 73 Tom

**N7MZW:** Worked everyone that I heard, or saw spotted. I think the digital modes are killing Phone contesting. Not sure that it's worth trying to give out the rare Wyoming mult during weekend state QSO Party Contests anymore, with such a pathetically low SSB presence.

**NW5Q:** Conditions were challenging at best.

**W4ZPR:** At age 90, I enjoyed the qso party. TNX es 73, Jack

**OM2VL:** I was QRV only first day. Unfortunately 20m closed so early I heard and made only 1 QSO. On 40m I had about 40min when I heard some VE7 stations. Thanks for the QSOs!

**VA3RKM:** Very poor conditions here in Ottawa this year.

**VE9BEL:** I like the challenge of reaching my fellow ham ops in BC with just 5w, a dipole antenna in CW mode. Great fun!

**VY1KX:** Conditions seemed pretty good and I really enjoyed operating in the contest even though I didn't hear too many BC stations. I really appreciate the effort involved in organizing the event. For logging, I use the program SD, which works well for me.

**W1END:** Always enjoy this party. Very good signals from BC. Nil on 15M.

**W8AKS:** I'll be back!

**WB8WKQ:** Not my best performance. Lowest score since 2013, but I have an excuse. I usually concentrate on this contest exclusively on this weekend. But, with the new "QSO Party Challenge", I figured I'd better participate in all three. So with much more activity in the MNQP, I concentrated more on Minnesota on Saturday. Bands didn't seem great here. Only one Q on 15M, with VA7ODX and then prop disappeared on that band. Didn't hear anything on 75/80M, but had snow noise Saturday night. This is always a fun one, but I had to use a different strategy this time. Thanks to all and see you next year.

**VA7EU:** Using an icom ic-7410 at 100w with a 50 foot top-loaded vertical wire antenna and AH-4 auto-tuner. Very surprised to have OM2VL reply to my call on 40m on Saturday afternoon.

**VE7BGP:** I had a lot of fun operating our QSO Party this year. I used a vintage IC-735 for a few QSO's then my newly obtained IC-756Pro.

**VE7KW:** It seemed to be harder work to get contacts this year especially Saturday on phone. I also had a series of equipment problems which caused me to go through three rigs! Good fun! Thank you for the contacts.

**WA5SWN:** Woo hoo! Big gun contesting! Cutthroat competition! Questionable and impolite on-air behavior! Win at all costs! OK, OK, it wasn't quite like that this year. Maybe next year? Thanks to the two stations (both YLs, interestingly enough, who worked hard to complete our QSOs in a noisy band. And thanks to the sponsoring club for still taking paper logs!

**W4ZPR:** At age 90, I enjoyed the QSO party. TKS es 73, Jack

**KI4MZC:** KX3 to a dipole, 5w. Tough conditions and a lot of other competing (so to speak) contests. I worked almost everyone I heard!



## Crunching the Numbers

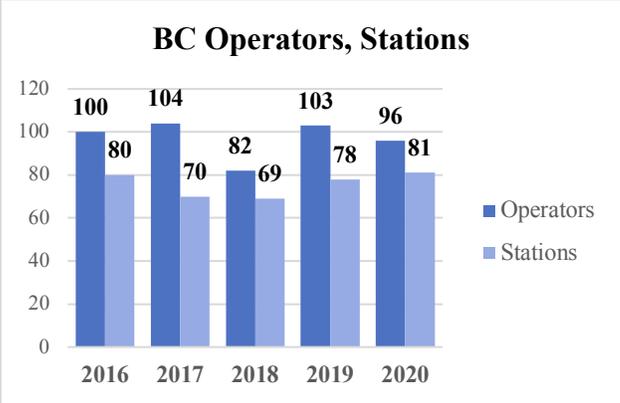
**An analysis of log content can reveal trends that might otherwise be missed.**

Indicators of success come from many sources. Pre-event emails, for example, could be a sign that the promotion bandwagon has kindled active interest, and post-event comments—positive as well as negative—often mean that some aspect of the event was important enough from a participant’s perspective to warrant special mention. But it’s logs—and their content—that provide concrete data for analyzing results and tracking progress from year to year.

Log submission is not a requirement of participation, but the more logs received, the more accurate the analysis will be.

**BC Stations/Operators on the Air**

Based on the content of submitted logs, the number of in-province stations on the air reached 81, up three from a year ago. The number of operators involved in BCQP 2020, at single-op stations or in multi-op teams, hit 96, a decrease of seven year on year, largely due to a significant drop in the number of people on teams this year—21 operators on six team in 2020 vs. 35 operators on seven teams in 2019.



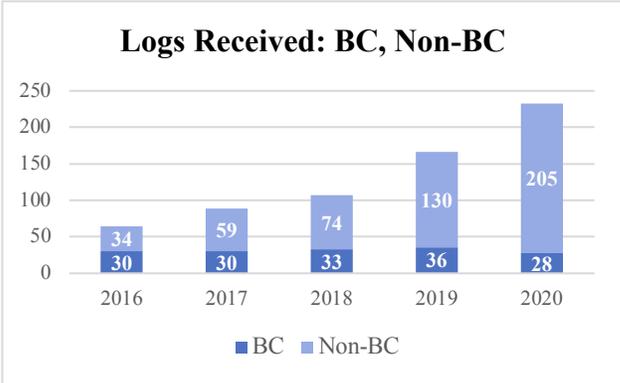
**Logs Received**

The number of logs received in 2020 jumped 67 over 2019, to 233. As usual, the number of logs received from outside BC comprised a significant percentage of the total—88.0%—up from 78.3%.

The low number of logs received from BC stations is not necessarily indicative of participation level. It appears that the vast majority of operators in BC do not submit their logs. Possible reasons include not properly logging the QSOs or feeling that a log of less than a certain number of QSOs is somehow not worth the effort of submission or falls too short of expectations to go beyond shack walls.

Meanwhile, operators outside BC tend to send in logs regardless of how many QSOs were made.

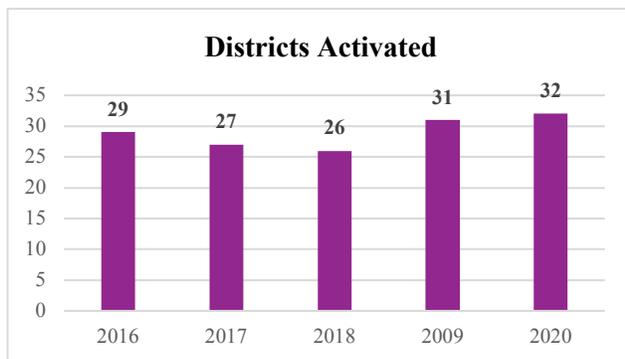
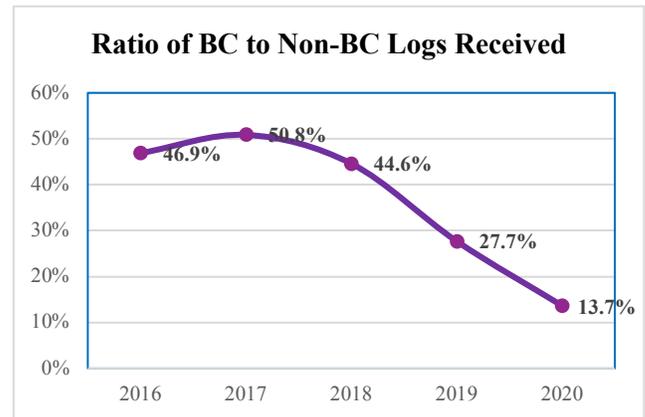
In 2020, the start of the State QSO Party Challenge undoubtedly raised awareness of BCQP among stateside operators who would typically direct 100% attention to MNQP and/or VTQP where activity is perceived to be more





constant. In the Challenge, ranking is based on QSOs not score so every opportunity for a QSO is valuable. This meant QSO party enthusiasts took part in all three same-weekend parties and were eager to find VE7/VA7s. Since they had to record their QSO numbers for posting to 3830scores.com—that’s the requirement for eligibility in the Challenge—they had the data for BCQP and thoughtfully submitted logs.

Given the immense number of logs from outside BC, the BC-to-outside-BC ratio shrank to 13.7%, from 27.7% a year ago. The number of logs from other parts of Canada increased to 17, from 11. The outside-BC list of logs includes one from Puerto Rico—a first—thanks to a traveling operator from BC on an IOTA adventure.



**Coverage in 2020: 32 out of 42 (76%)**

BNS BUS CML COA CPC CPG CSN DEL ESQ  
 KEL KOC KTC LAA MMF NAL NOS NPR  
 NVA NWB PMC PMM PPN RIC SBV SGI  
 STR SUC SUN SWR VAC VAQ VIC

**Coverage in 2019: 31 out of 42 (74%)**

BNS BUS CLC CPG CPC COA CML CSN  
 DEL ESQ KTC KEL MMF NAL NWB NPR  
 NVA PMM PPN RIC SGI SBV STR SUC SUN  
 SWR VAG VAK VAQ VIC WVS

**Districts Activated**

The number of activated federal electoral districts—the multipliers in BCQP since the province does not have the typical QSO party county exchange—inched up one, to 32<sup>note</sup>, and the coverage ratio moved into the 76% range, from 74% a year ago.

A look at log content shows that in-province stations and out-of-province stations found many of the same districts, but not all, which underscores the impact of location and a little bit of luck in catching the attention of accidental participants. Sometimes, accidental participants provide a lovely rare multiplier. But there is risk as well. Accidental participants are often not aware of the required exchange and may not know their federal electoral district or get it mixed up with their provincial riding. The CQing operator can help figure out the necessary information by asking for the operator’s postal code, plug it into the elections.ca website, and find the corresponding three-letter code in the BCQP Multiplier List. As in any contest, info should be confirmed BEFORE the QSO ends. Looking up a busted callsign on QRZ to extrapolate district will lead to an incorrect multiplier, which will be evident in the log-checking process.

Unique callsigns are common in contest logs, either due to an unfortunate typing error or, when CONDX is bad and phonetics aren’t used, the consequence of operators not being able to correctly distinguish callsign letters. The same holds true for district multipliers. A careful check of logs turned up numerous three-letter entries that do not correspond to any districts in the BCQP Multiplier List as well as busted districts. The number of activated districts excludes invalid entries.

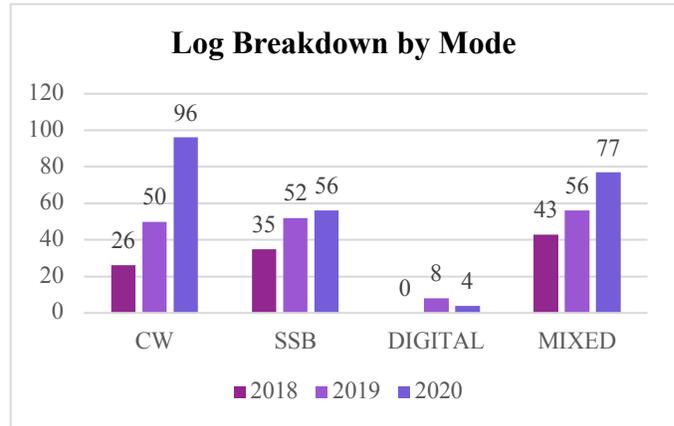


### Breakdown of Logs by Class of Entry (Mode)

The breakdown of logs by class of entry reveals 96 CW-only logs—compared with 50 in 2019; 56 SSB logs, compared with 52 in 2019; and 77 MIXED logs, compared with 56 in 2019. There were 4 DIGITAL-only logs, compared with eight in 2019.

In 2019, the breakdown of SSB, CW and MIXED logs was fairly evenly split, with the majority of mixed logs comprising SSB and CW. But year-on-year, CW-only logs were nearly double the previous year's level. In 2020, CW and MIXED logs greatly exceeded the number of SSB-only logs, with a particularly large increase in CW-only logs. The number of logs in the MIXED category continued to grow, undoubtedly

because more participants have realized that activity across at least two modes provides a more efficient way to increase Q count, capitalize on multipliers for new band/mode QSOs and achieve a bigger score.



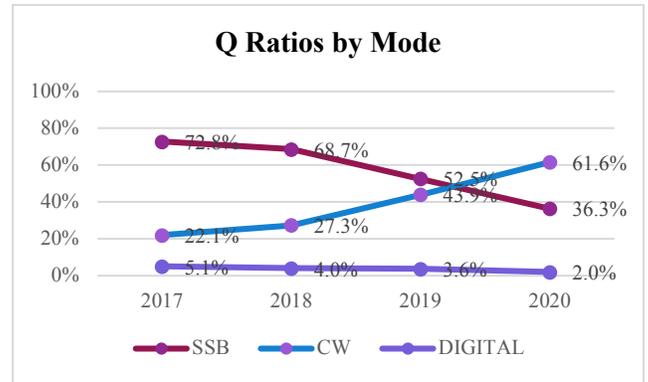
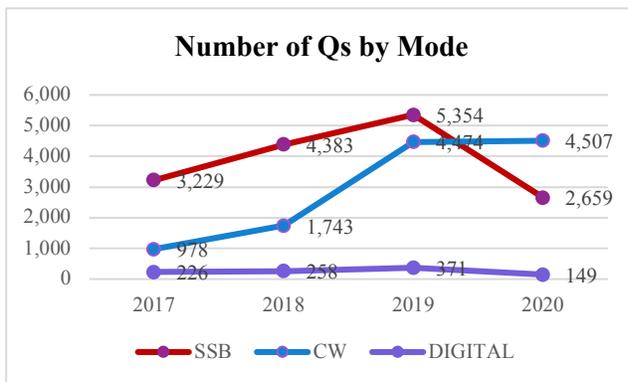
### Q Ratios/Number of Qs by Mode

A breakdown of valid QSOs by mode, based on data in logs received, shows 4,507 QSOs on CW, 2,659 QSOs on SSB, and 149 QSOs on DIGITAL—almost exclusively, RY.

The CW ratio (number of CW QSOs as a percentage of all QSOs in all submitted logs) maintained a steady upward path, surging 17.7 points, to 61.6%.

The SSB ratio (number of SSB QSOs as a percentage of all Qs in submitted logs) continued to drop, settling at 36.3%, down 16.2 points year on year.

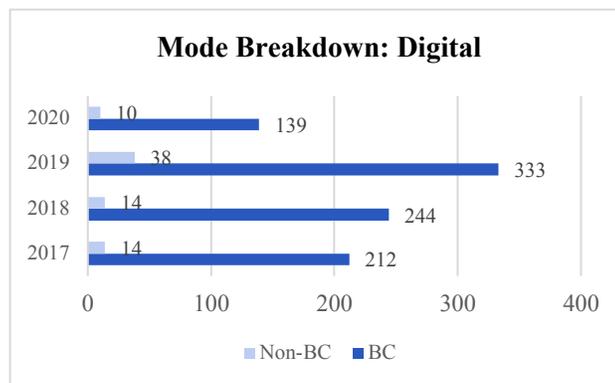
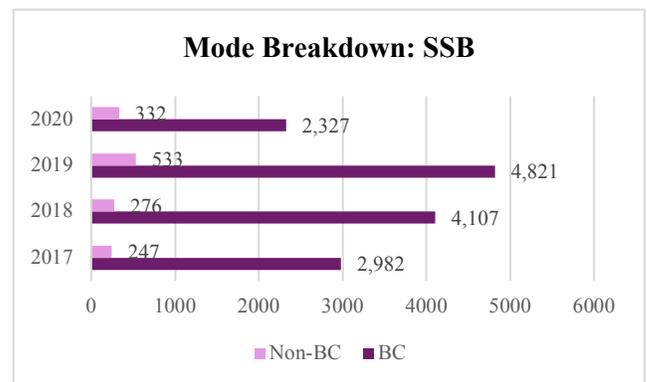
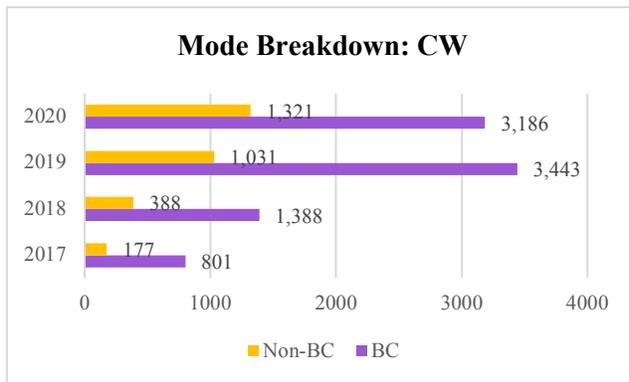
The DIGITAL ratio (number of DIGITAL QSOs as a percentage of all QSOs in submitted logs) continued to drop, settling at 2.0%, down 1.6 points year on year.



CW overtook SSB as the most productive and popular mode for the first time ever.



## Breakdown by Mode

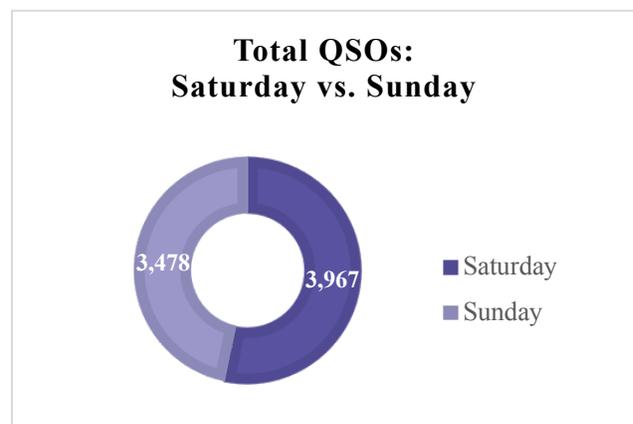


## Saturday vs. Sunday

The addition of Sunday hours—a second segment—was added to BCQP in 2018 and has been well received. It appears that both segments attract about the same amount of activity but not necessarily from the same operators.

The total number of QSOs in submitted logs came to 7,445\*. Of this number, 3,967 QSOs occurred on Saturday and 3,478 QSOs occurred on Sunday. Given that the Saturday segment is 12 hours and the Sunday segment is only eight hours, QSO activity per day was fairly even. But a difference appears in activity by mode over the two days.

\*Note: Total number of QSOs is higher than the sum of QSOs by mode, as described on page 11, because the two-segment analysis draws on all QSOs, including invalid QSOs and QSOs in checklogs.



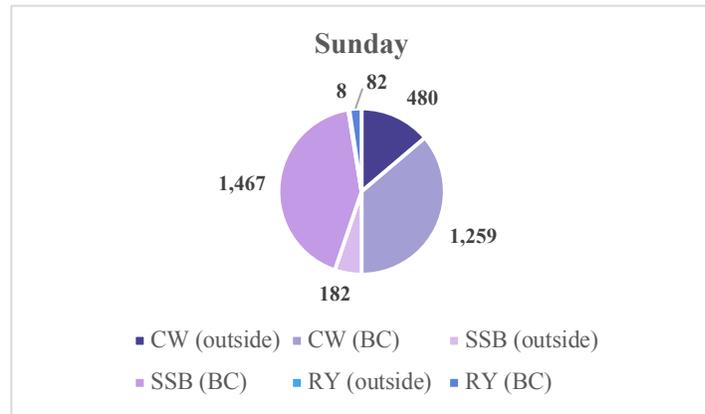
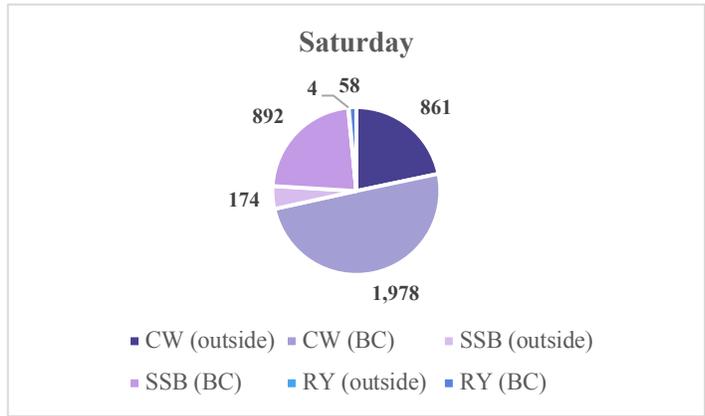


### Modes by Day

For CW, the two-day total was 4,158 QSOs, with 2,839 on Saturday and 1,739 on Sunday. Of the Saturday amount, 1,978 QSOs were in BC logs and 861 QSOs were in non-BC logs. Of the Sunday amount, 1,259 QSOs were in BC logs and 480 QSOs were in non-BC logs. This breakdown indicates that Saturday drew more CW activity than Sunday.

For SSB, the two-day total was 2,715 QSOs, with 1,066 on Saturday and 1,649 on Sunday. Of the Saturday amount, 892 QSOs were in BC logs and 174 QSOs were in non-BC logs. Of the Sunday amount, 1,467 QSOs were in BC logs and 182 QSOs were in non-BC logs. SSB activity was the opposite of CW activity, with Sunday drawing considerably more SSB activity than Saturday.

For DIGITAL—essentially, RY—the two-day total was 152 QSOs, with 62 on Saturday and 90 on Sunday. Of the Saturday amount, 58 QSOs were in BC logs and four QSOs were in non-BC logs. Of the Sunday amount, 82 QSOs were in BC logs and eight QSOs were in non-BC logs. The XE RTTY Contest has made RY efforts during BCQP very challenging.



### Outlook for BCQP 2021

Band conditions are often a determining factor in an operator’s decision to participate, and it’s impossible to accurately predict now what band conditions will be like for BCQP 2021 or how conditions will be interpreted by individual operators on event day.

The State QSO Party Challenge raised awareness of BCQP in 2020, which should translate into greater participation in 2021, too.



\*For a more detailed breakdown of BC scores, please go to [BC Results](#) on the BCQP website.

## BC STATIONS

Callsigns in **bold** are top-category certificate winners; *italics* indicate sponsored plaque winners; \* denotes district award in BC.

Callsign	Category	District	Total QSOs	Total Points	Mults	Bonus	Total Score	Club
<b>VE7CMR</b>	MO QRP PH	PMM	4	8	1		8	Maple Ridge ARC
<i>*VE7SAR</i>	MOHP CW	SWR	544	2,176	158	60	343,868	Surrey ARC
VA7ODX	MOHP MIXED	DEL	1096	2,814	233		655,662	Orca DX and Contest Club
<i>VA7TU</i>	MOHP MIXED	SWR	1015	2,308	205	40	473,180	Orca DX and Contest Club
VE7DB	MOHP MIXED	SWR	57	196	42	40	8,272	White Rock ARC
<b>VE7AA</b>	MOLP PH	DEL	16	32	11	40	392	Delta Amateur Radio Society
<i>*VE7KPM</i>	SO QRP PH	SGI	27	54	22	40	1,228	Orca DX and Contest Club
<i>*VA7ST</i>	SOHP CW	KEL	366	1,464	103	40	150,832	Orca DX and Contest Club
<i>*VA7RN</i>	SOHP CW	COA	316	1,264	106	40	134,024	Orca DX and Contest Club
<i>*VE7AHT</i>	SOHP CW	DEL	245	980	66	40	64,720	
<i>*VA7GI</i>	SOHP CW	VAQ	177	708	54	20	38,252	Orca DX and Contest Club
VA7MM	SOHP CW	CPC	111	444	61	20	27,104	Orca DX and Contest Club
<i>*VE7BC</i>	SOHP DIG	SUN	102	408	31	20	12,668	Orca DX and Contest Club
<i>*VE7KW</i>	SOHP MIXED	CPC	564	1,870	191	80	357,250	Orca DX and Contest Club
<i>*VE7VR</i>	SOHP MIXED	BUS	84	330	41	40	13,570	Orca DX and Contest Club
<b>VA7VF</b>	SOHP PH	NPR	23	46	11		506	Orca DX and Contest Club
<i>*VE7YL</i>	SOLP CW	STR	160	640	46	20	29,460	Orca DX and Contest Club
<i>*VA7VJ</i>	SOLP CW	SUC	45	180	30	60	5,460	
<i>*VA7GEM</i>	SOLP DIG	NVA	33	132	16		2,112	
<i>*VA7EU</i>	SOLP MIXED	BNS	163	646	84	100	54,364	Orca DX and Contest Club
<i>*VE7XF</i>	SOLP MIXED	NPR	94	344	75	80	25,880	Orca DX and Contest Club
<i>*VE7BGP</i>	SOLP MIXED	NAL	53	170	53	20	9,030	Nanaimo Amateur Radio Association
<i>*VE7CV</i>	SOLP MIXED	KTC	15	56	18	40	1,048	Orca DX and Contest Club
<b>VE7DX</b>	SOLP PH	COA	219	438	82		35,916	Orca DX and Contest Club



Callsign	Category	District	Total QSOs	Total Points	Mults	Bonus	Total Score	Club
VE7XY	SOLP PH	KEL	59	118	43		5,074	
*VA7YJJ	SOLP PH	CML	36	72	25	20	1,820	
VE7YAH	SOLP PH	COA	19	38	9		342	
VE7KX	SOLP PH	NWB	9	18	8	20	164	

**Helpful Hint:** Don't lose out on a rare multiplier.

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Don't rely on QRZ.com data to fill in the blank later because full addresses aren't always provided or may not be current. Besides, if you've busted the callsign, the district won't be correct, either. And so often, it's these accidental participants who provide a rare multiplier.



\*For a detailed breakdown of scores for all stations outside BC submitting a log in 2020, please go to [Outside BC Results](#) on the BCQP website.

### CERTIFICATE/PLAQUE WINNERS — OUTSIDE BC

Callsigns in **bold** are top-category certificate winners; *italics* indicate sponsored plaque winners; \* denotes high score in US state/Canadian province other than BC/DX entity.

Callsign	Category	District	Total QSOs	Total Points	Mults	Bonus	Total Score	Club
* <b>N1SOH</b>	MOHP MIXED	MA	21	80	16	40	1,320	Yankee Clipper Contest Club
* <b>W1NVT</b>	MOHP PH	VT	11	24	9	20	236	Radio Amateurs of Northern Vermont
* <b>W4SNF</b>	MOLP CW	FL	9	36	8		288	Contest Club Ontario
* <b>K0MKL</b>	MOLP MIXED	MN	5	16	5		80	Minnesota Wireless Assn
* <b>VE9BEL</b>	SO QRP CW	NB	11	44	7	20	328	Club de Radio Amateur Du Madawaska
* <b>W6MZ</b>	SO QRP MIXED	CA	20	74	17	20	1,278	
* <b>VY1KX</b>	SO QRP MIXED	YT	15	54	13	60	762	
* <b>K8ZT</b>	SO QRP MIXED	OH	12	44	11	20	504	North Coast Contesters
* <b>N5SJ</b>	SOHP CW	NM	23	92	19	40	1,788	Albuquerque DX Association
* <b>K4NMR</b>	SOHP CW	FL	14	56	13		728	Florida Contest Group
* <b>K3TN</b>	SOHP CW	MD	15	60	11	40	700	Potomac Valley Radio Club
* <b>KR2AA</b>	SOHP CW	NY	14	56	10	20	580	
* <b>WA3AAN</b>	SOHP CW	PA	13	52	11		572	Frankford Radio Club
* <b>VE9AA</b>	SOHP CW	NB	12	48	11		528	Maritime Contest Club
* <b>W6OAT</b>	SOHP CW	WA	10	40	10	40	440	Western Washington DX Club
* <b>KI6RRN</b>	SOHP MIXED	CA	34	118	29	80	3,502	Southern California Contest Club
* <b>W1AJT</b>	SOHP MIXED	NC	28	104	20	80	2,160	Contest Club Ontario
* <b>K1RO</b>	SOHP MIXED	NH	25	88	22	60	1,996	Yankee Clipper Contest Club
* <b>N9SE</b>	SOHP MIXED	IN	24	86	20	20	1,740	Society of Midwest Contesters
* <b>WB8WKQ</b>	SOHP MIXED	MI	25	82	20	100	1,740	Mad River Radio Club
* <b>KA6BIM</b>	SOHP MIXED	OR	24	84	20	20	1,700	Northern California Contest Club
* <b>W5XX</b>	SOHP MIXED	MS	21	80	17	40	1,400	
* <b>K4BAI</b>	SOHP MIXED	GA	22	84	16	40	1,384	South East Contest Club
* <b>N02C</b>	SOHP MIXED	NY	18	64	16	40	1,064	Great South Bay Amateur Radio Club



Callsign	Category	District	Total QSOs	Total Points	Mults	Bonus	Total Score	Club
*VE9OA	SOHP MIXED	NB	19	66	15	40	1,030	Maritime Contest Club
*N7EPD	SOHP MIXED	WA	17	64	15	60	1,020	Pacific Northwest VHF Society
*W3LL	SOHP MIXED	MD	17	52	16	40	872	Potomac Valley Radio Club
*JH2RMU	SOHP MIXED	DX	12	42	10	40	460	
*KP4/ VE7ACN	SOHP MIXED	DX	12	46	9	40	454	Orca DX and Contest Club
<b>VE3HED</b>	SOHP PH	ON	7	14	7	40	138	
<b>*K6PB</b>	SOLP CW	CA	25	100	19	20	1,920	
*K9CW	SOLP CW	IL	21	84	16	40	1,384	Society of Midwest Contesters
*N9NM	SOLP CW	TX	19	76	15	40	1,180	Central Texas DX and Contest Club
*W1END	SOLP CW	NH	18	72	13	40	976	Yankee Clipper Contest Club
*AD5VC	SOLP CW	LA	16	64	14	40	936	
*KN4Y	SOLP CW	FL	17	68	13	20	904	Florida Contest Group
*W3WHK	SOLP CW	PA	15	60	13	40	820	Frankford Radio Club
*K0RY	SOLP CW	CO	16	64	12	40	808	
*AC3BU	SOLP CW	MD	14	56	12	40	712	Potomac Valley Radio Club
*W8BZY	SOLP CW	OH	14	56	12	40	712	
*K0WRY	SOLP CW	KS	13	52	12		624	
*W2CVW	SOLP CW	NJ	13	52	11	20	592	
*K1VUT	SOLP CW	MA	10	40	9	40	400	Yankee Clipper Contest Club
*W4ZPR	SOLP CW	VA	11	44	8	20	372	
*W4NBS	SOLP CW	AL	10	40	8		320	Alabama Contest Group
<b>*WB2COY</b>	SOLP DIG	NY	1	4	1		4	
<b>*AD5LU</b>	SOLP DIG	TX	1	4	1		4	DFW Contest Group
<b>*N8II</b>	SOLP MIXED	WV	35	108	27	80	2,996	Potomac Valley Radio Club
*N7KRN	SOLP MIXED	WA	26	94	21	60	2,034	Stanwood Camano Amateur Radio Club
*AC0W	SOLP MIXED	MN	25	86	18	60	1,608	Minnesota Wireless Association
*K4VBM	SOLP MIXED	GA	18	66	16	60	1,116	Georgia Contest Group
*WA2JQK	SOLP MIXED	NY	18	64	14	40	936	Hudson Valley Contesters and Dxers
*W6NKR	SOLP MIXED	CA	16	62	14	40	908	



Callsign	Category	District	Total QSOs	Total Points	Mults	Bonus	Total Score	Club
*W0YJT	SOLP MIXED	KS	14	52	14	20	748	
*N3CKI	SOLP MIXED	NC	13	46	13	20	618	
*W9QL	SOLP MIXED	IL	11	40	10	20	420	Society of Midwest Contesters
*KC2WUF	SOLP MIXED	NJ	10	40	10	20	420	New Providence ARC
*WN4AFP	SOLP MIXED	SC	10	38	10	40	420	Swamp Fox Contest Group
*KS4X	SOLP MIXED	TN	11	38	10	40	420	Tennessee Contest Group
*W4UT	SOLP MIXED	TN	11	38	10	40	420	Tennessee Contest Group
*WA8ZBT	SOLP MIXED	TX	11	42	9	40	418	DFW Contest Group
*K2MK	SOLP MIXED	FL	10	40	9	20	380	
*K3MAW	SOLP MIXED	MD	11	42	8	40	376	Potomac Valley Radio Club
<b>NW5Q</b>	SOLP PH	TX	7	14	7	40	138	DFW Contest Group

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