

2016 Virginia QSO Party Rules

SPONSOR

Sponsored by the Sterling Park Amateur Radio Club, Call Box 599, Sterling, VA 20167.

OBJECTIVE

To promote amateur radio activity in the 95 Virginia Counties and 38 Virginia Independent Cities.

DATES

Saturday, 19 March 1400 UTC - Sunday, 20 March 0200 UTC and Sunday, 20 March 1200 UTC - 2400 UTC.

(For Virginians, this is Saturday 10 AM - 10 PM and Sunday 8 AM - 8 PM Virginia local time.)

ENTRY CATEGORIES

Operator Categories

Single Operator - One person performs all operating and only one transmitter may be on the air at a time.

Multi Operator / Single Transmitter - Two or more operators with one transmitter on the air at one time.

Multi Operator / Multi Transmitter - Two or more operators with two or more transmitters on the air at one time.

Station Categories

Fixed Station

Mobile - Single or Multiple individuals operating Mobile under a single call sign with only one transmitter on the air at a time. A mobile station is self-contained and capable of legal motion (land, water or air) while operating. Motion is optional, and discouraged, during operation.

Expedition - One or more operators of a station that moves between two or more Virginia locations during the course of the contest. All equipment, power supplies and antennas must be transported to each operating site.

Power Categories

High (greater than 150 watts), Low (150 watts or less) and QRP (5 watts or less)

Band Categories

Multi-Band or Single Band

Mode Categories

Phone, CW, Digital, and Mixed

Club Entry

Club - Minimum of three valid contest entries each indicating club affiliation.

VALID CONTACTS

Virginia stations work all stations. Out-of-State stations work Virginia stations only. Work fixed stations once per band/mode.

Work Virginia Expeditions and Mobiles in each Virginia County or Independent City from which they operate. Stations on County or Independent City lines count as one QSO and one County/Independent City multiplier. Mobile and Expedition stations must use appropriate suffix in call sign.

Satellite contacts allowed.

No cross-mode or repeater QSO's. Spotting nets, DX clusters, etc., may be used to locate other stations - no self-spotting permitted.

EXCHANGE

Exchange QSO number and QTH (Virginia County or Independent City for VA stations; State, Province or "DX" for others).

Virginia Mobile and Expedition Stations log QSO's by Virginia Independent City or County of operation.

Identify all QSO's with band/mode, sequential QSO number sent/received and date/time of contact in UTC.

Please follow standard contest practices by making and responding to "CQ Virginia QSO Party" calls.

Multiple Transmitter stations may maintain sequential QSO numbers independently for each transmitter.

SCORING

QSO Points:

QSO's count 1 point per Phone, 2 points per CW, 2 points per digital mode (RTTY, PSK31, etc.), and 3 points per contact made with a Virginia Mobile (Phone or CW or Digital).

Multipliers:

Multipliers are only counted once, i.e., contacting the same Virginia County, Independent City, State, Province or Country using a different band or mode counts only as a new QSO, not as a new multiplier.

Virginia Mobile, Expedition, and Fixed Station multipliers are the total number of Virginia counties, Virginia Independent cities, U. S. States (except Virginia), Canadian Provinces, and DX entities. No extra DX multiplier for U.S. (including Alaska and Hawaii), Virginia, and Canada.

Mobile and Expedition stations that contact 10 (ten) or more different stations while operating from a county or independent city may claim it as a multiplier, if not otherwise worked.

Outside of Virginia station multipliers are the total number of Virginia Counties (95) and Independent Cities (38) worked.

Bonus Points:

Virginia Mobile and Expedition stations receive a bonus of 100 additional points for each Virginia County/ Independent City from which they log a valid QSO.

All stations add 100 points for the first contact with each of the 15 bonus stations. See website for complete list of bonus stations.

Final score:

Final score is the number of QSO Points multiplied by the number of Multipliers plus Bonus Points.

FREQUENCIES

160 meters and up, except no WARC band QSO's permitted.

Suggested frequencies:

CW - 1805 KHz and 50 KHz up from band edge on others.

PHONE -1845, 3860, 7260, 14270, 21370 and 28370 KHz.

Novice/Tech Plus - 10 KHz up from the edge of the CW band and 28370 KHz on PHONE.

VHF - 50.130, 144.200 (CW & SSB), 146.580 and 223.50 MHz.

UHF - 446.00 MHz.

Digital contacts should use normally accepted sub-bands for these modes.

ENTRIES

For award purposes, Fixed, Expedition, and Mobile operation will be considered separately. Please submit separate logs for Fixed, Expedition, and Mobile operation.

Multiple operator stations should indicate all operators by call sign.

Electronic (preferred) or paper logs, summary and dupe sheets

(200 or more QSO's) are required for all entries. The summary and 'dupe sheet' requirement is waived if recognized contesting software is used. Paper forms are available at the contest web site.

For Club Competition purposes, be sure to indicate club name on summary sheet and log.

Submit log entries by 15 April 2016 by mail to the VA QSO Party, Call Box 599, Sterling, VA 20167 or by email to vqp@verizon.net. If you have problems, please send an email to nq4k@arrl.net.

A \$1.00 donation to help defray the costs of printing and mailing is encouraged.

AWARDS

All participants submitting a log will receive a certificate.

The Plaques to be awarded are identified on the contest web site.

INFORMATION

Additional information may be obtained by mail at VA QSO Party, Call Box 599, Sterling, VA 20167; from the SPARC website www.qsl.net/sterling; or by contacting Gordon, NQ4K, at nq4k@arrl.net.

Plaques

Virginia Stations Only
Virginia SO High Power
Virginia SO Low Power
Virginia SO Phone High Power
Virginia SO Phone Low Power
Virginia SO Phone/ Mixed QRP
Virginia SO CW QRP
Virginia Mobile Multiple Operator
Virginia Mobile Single Operator
Virginia Expedition
Virginia Club - Combined Score
Virginia Club - Virginia QSOs Only
Multiple Operator Single Transmitter Station
Multiple Operator Multiple Transmitter Station
Virginia SO CW High Power
Virginia SO CW Low Power

Any Single Operator Station
SO VHF Only
SO Novice/Tech/Rookie
SO Single Band
SO Virginia Counties/ Independent Cities Contacted
SO Digital Mode
SO Youth (18 or younger) (Enter age in soapbox or on summary sheet)
SO Young Adult (19-24) (Enter age in soapbox or on summary sheet)
SO VA QSOs Only
Single Operator stations Outside of Virginia
Outside Virginia SO
Outside Virginia Phone/ Mixed QRP
Outside Virginia Single Operator CW QRP
Single Operator DX station (outside US and Canada)
DX Station