

Results: North American QSO Party CW — January 2017

“Turn off the amp, turn off the Internet, enjoy the radio!”

One of the most heated discussions surrounding the NAQP is whether or not to add a Single-Operator Assisted category. As the rules stand, any single op using assistance is placed into the Multi-Two category. Those advocating change argue that including such assistance as the DX Cluster or *Skimmer* will only mean more contacts for everyone and up the fun factor. Those favoring assistance argue that operators who wish to stay in the Stone Age and operate without assistance can still compete with their peers, who are also stuck in the 1980s and using obsolete methods.

The reasoning seems sound enough. But why isn't there a SOA category in the NAQP yet? After watching the exhaustive debating on various e-mail reflectors and having countless conversations with new and old ops alike, I kept coming back to this basic question. Does the NAQP *need* another category? The answer is not as easy as it may appear.

I decided to try looking at things objectively and take my personal opinion out of the picture entirely. The log data from January 2001 until January 2017 (see Figure 1) show a very clear upward trend. January 2017 saw a record-breaking number of submissions! For the first time

ever, the NAQP CW broke 1,000 submitted logs across all categories. The August 2016 event saw a record number of logs for the somewhat less-popular summer running. The number of M2 entrants also increased dramatically from 2012 to 2013 — right around the time that many popular logging programs started make SOA the default category.

Based on log submissions alone, the NAQP is doing just fine! Many ops reported, “Never running out of guys to work.” or “The low bands were a bottomless pit of callers!” The argument for a High Power NAQP category still pops up every now and then too, and the reasoning is the same as for adding an assisted category: More QSOs. Those advocating for rule changes or additional categories seem to be in the vocal minority. Each contest has its own niche and flavor. The NAQP puts more of an emphasis on turning the Big Knob and good old fashioned operating. The bottom line is that the NAQP is thriving with the current set of rules, and the vast majority of participants enjoy it just the way it is. I encourage anyone who has not participated or has just participated casually to really push yourself next time. Everyone is running the same power (sorry QRP guys!), so you can save some electricity by keeping

that Alpha off. Finding multipliers yourself is still a skill that separates operators during friendly cross-town rivalries. Disconnect from the Internet for two Saturdays a year; it will still be there when you get back. There is still magic in ham radio, and the NAQP looks to at least preserve some of that magic.

Single Op Low Power

As the sunspots wane, we say the same thing every year, “I hope 10 meters holds on for one more season!” It seems as though the NAQP CW might be a 5-band contest for a while longer, if this year was an indicator of things to come. The most 10 meter QSOs by a top 10 single op was a whopping six. Fifteen meters was worse than usual, but at least supported some decent QSO totals from many parts of North America. The low bands took up a lot of the slack, and stations from coast to coast reported outstanding rates, even with marginal antennas.

Steve, N2IC, logged both the most QSOs and most multipliers among the single ops and came away with a solid win. Ninety QSOs and two multipliers behind Steve was Pat, N9RV, in second place. With more than 1,100 miles separating them, these two are always battling for the

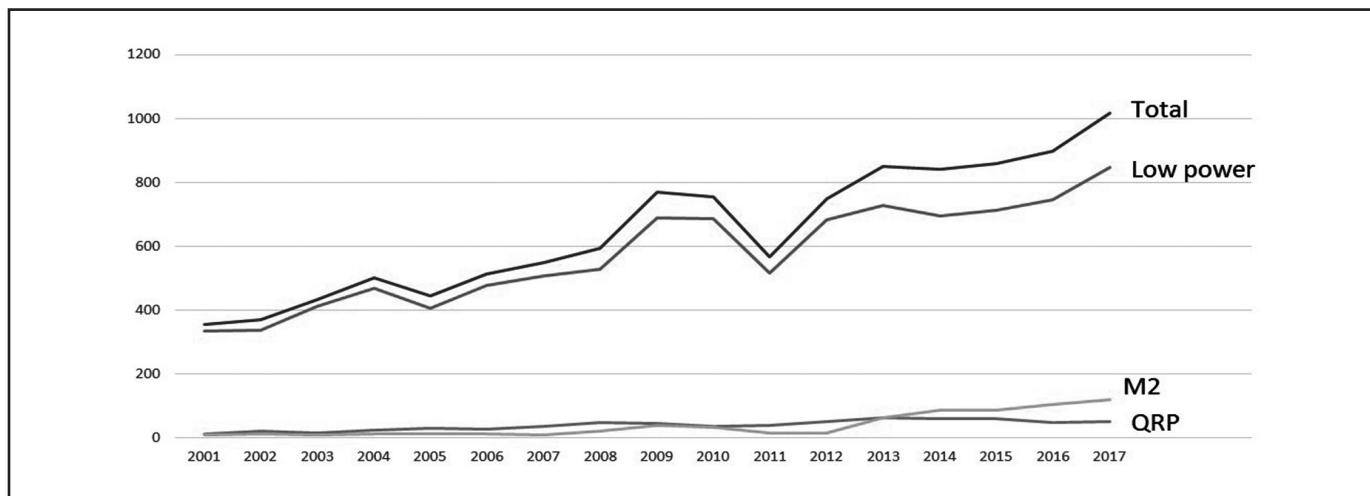


Figure 1 — Logs submitted for the January NAQP, 2001 through 2017.

Team Scores

	<i>Team</i>	<i>Operators</i>	<i>Total</i>
1. Arizona Outlaws - Bobcats			
N2IC	369,305	W9RE, N9CK, K9CT, K3WA, K9NR	903,335
K8IA	271,712	N4BP, N4OGW, NP2X, K5KU	885,408
N7CW	224,334	K4RO, N4ZZ, WO4O, K1GU, W4NZ	875,896
K6LL	211,280	N3ZZ, K6SRZ, K9YC, W1RH, N6ZFO	767,634
KB7Q	190,920	K6NA, XE2MX, AC6T, W6TK, NC6K	748,625
Total	1,267,551	K5RT, W0UO, K5AX, WQ5L, W8FN	737,527
2. DFWCG STOUT		NAØN, KØ, ACØ, KØPK, KØMPH	699,911
NR5M	275,628	NO3M, NA8V, K3UA, W1NN, K8AJS	692,491
K5WA	220,968	N9RV, K7BG, KJ9C, AB5ZA/7	668,089
K5TR	217,490	VE3JM, VE3EJ, VE3XB, VA3DF, CG3KI	643,209
N5NU	193,188	AA3B, K9OM, AB3CX, NA3D	629,801
W5KFT	175,724	K7SV, NR4M, KA4RRU, KG3V, K4GMH	608,479
Total	1,082,998	K5KG, NO5W, N8BJQ, W5TM, NN5O	601,604
3. NCCC Team #1		K4BAI, KU8E, K2SX, N4IQ, WH6YH	583,095
W6YX	260,712	NP4Z, NP3A, KP3W, CO8ZZ	507,411
N6TV	204,001	N5ZO, K6NR, WN6K, WQ6X	500,405
NA6O	191,948	N6DE, W1SRD, ND2T, W6JTI, AD6E	449,137
AE6Y	180,744	N4AF, W4AU, KE4S, W4RM	445,092
K6MR	172,020	K5TU, K5CI, N5KWN, K0NM, N5AW/Ø	433,465
Total	1,009,425	N4OX, N4KH, WA1FCN, K4IQJ	424,543
		KIØI, KØVBU, NWØM, K3PA	401,780
		K3SV, KG5U, N4EEB, K4AFE, K1DW	388,798
		VE3CX, VE3RZ, VE3VN, VE3IAE, VA3EC	388,724
		K9NW, K8BKM, K8RYU, AF8A	357,311
		N3QE, KE3X, K8GU, W3DQ, NN3RP	355,395
		WA7LNW, K7FA, K6WSC, AA7V, KE2VB	347,476
		N9NB, W4NF, KC4D, K4HQK, N4DXS	346,775
		K7WP, W6RW, N7IR, KØMP	337,633
		K2NV, W2GR, W2RR, K2QB, K2ZR/4	299,579
		N2AN, K5ZD, W1KM, K1KI	295,353
		WB9Z, N7US, N9EP, K9OR, WB8BZK	295,230
		KØSN, W7KF, K7ABV, NE4RD	293,158
		W5MX, K4FT, ND4Y, N4QS, K4FXN	289,799
		K1TR, W1UJ, K1U, W1HIS	288,837
		NJ8M, WM9Q, WW9R, WT2P, K9MMS	286,861
		WC7Q, N7QT, W7GKF, W9PL	281,079
		KA6BIM, K9JM, K6RIM, K6LRN	280,861
		N4PN, WA1S, WA2MBP, ND4K	271,831
		N5QQ, WØVX, WA8ZBT, KT5V, K5BG	260,520
		N7WA, NN7SS, N7BV, K5TRI, K7WA	257,482
		W4OC, WN4AFP, AA4GA	256,027
		KØEJ, KS4X	245,963
		W9CF, N9NA, WU9B, KC7V, N5SJ	234,384
		KØOU, AAØFO, W7FB	229,854
		N6MJ, N6NC, W6KY	226,060
		K3AJ, W2CDO, K3KU	222,133
		K1EBY, N1IX, W1FJ	220,155
		KD4D, K3EW, WR3R, W3SFG	216,386
		N9CO, N9LQ, N9TF, N9LJX, N9GUN	206,933
		NS0R, KC9EE, K9CC, W9YS, N9AFU	198,537
		K2LE, K2QMF, K2RB, N2GA, NA2M	197,278
		W19WI, WD9CIR, WE9V, KEOL, WT9U	154,575
		KØHB, NØIJ, NØBUI, WGØM	149,024
		W6OAT, K6DGW, N3RC, K6GHA, NC6RJ	148,851
		N6WM, AJ6V, KR6N, K6XN, W6VMW	148,192
		K3IE, W4NBS, N4SDB, W4ER	143,256
		N3UA, K4ORD	139,143
		N6EE, N0KQ, WU6X, N6AJS, K6CSL	135,999
		W4YE, N3KN, K1GG, N8AID	129,767
		N5TJ, N5OE, WBØTEV, K5SS	125,217
		K7IA, HP1XT, KE8G	124,480
		W9SMC, WB8RFB, WB9HFK, W9XT, WB9TFH	120,753
		NM5M, W5JMW, AF5DM, K5IID	114,177
		HI3TT, HI3Y, AD4Z, HI3CC	113,238
		W4UT, AB4GG, N4NA	108,234
		VE9AA, VA1MM, VE9CB, VY2LI	102,964
		W9ILY	101,996
		K7LVJ, K07I, NG7W, N7KRN	92,973
		NJ4F, KS4YX, K7OM	90,244
		W2EG, WA2JQK, NG2D	87,876
		WB5TUF, KJ5Y, AJ4F, N5XZ	80,705
		K4MI, W3TB, N4DJ, AI4QQ	74,977
		KE7X, N7DXT, W7IWW	70,637

77. CCO 3	VE3HG, VE3MV, CF3RKM, VA3WR	66,835
78. SMC 1010	W9QL, WØGX, NJ9R, W9DCA, NG9R	63,073
79. The Braille Team	K5XU, W3IUU, KW3A	60,134
80. RSM1	W6NF, VE4ET	54,680
81. KCG-PT	KM4FO, KE4KY, N4JRG, K4AVX	53,617
82. DELARA Contest Team	K8MP	52,096
83. SMC 1101	K9FO, KB9BIB, AJ9C, KC9UJS, AF9J	48,772
84. SMC 0110	K9IG, K9LA, K9GY, K9DUR	46,973
85. PVRC Tidewater	W4VIC, K5VIP	46,520
86. Barred Owl Radio Club	K4VD, K4STU	46,467
87. Order of Boiled Owls B-Team	KA2D, W2YK, KS2G, KC2KY	46,439
88. SMC 0111	K9ZO, KC9QQ, KG9X, KK9EJ	44,984
89. Metro Mayhem	N9TK, W9OA	44,463
90. PVRC Northwest 2	K4FTO, WA3AER, N1SZ	41,608
91. NCC/MRRC Team 4	KT8K, NF8M, W3USA	39,420
92. NCC/MRRC Team 3	K8MR	37,200
93. PVRC Colonial Capital 2	KK4R, NR4C, K8LF	37,097
94. SMC 0101	K9CW, AI9T	32,420
95. NCCC Team #11	KZ2V, KA6W, KE6GLA, K6MM	25,926
96. SMC 1000	KK9V, KW9U	22,664
97. PVRC Annapolis	K3CCR	20,856
98. DFWCG Lager	W5RZ	19,285
99. NCCC Team #8	KE6QR, KI6OY, NJ6G, NM6E, N6NUL	16,240
100. NCCC Team #10	W6RD, K6XX	10,711
101. PVRC DC Metro	K3STX	9,828
102. Cornwall CG	N3RM	6,048
103. NCCC Team #9	N2NS, KO6LU, W6TCP	2,291
104. Estero Radio Club #1	WA6I	1,890
105. Shenandoah Valley Wireless	AD4TJ	1,682
106. PVRC Laurel	N3XL	275
107. MWA Loons	NØUK	66

Single Operator Scores

Call Sign	Score	QSOs	Mults	QTH	Team	Call Sign	Score	QSOs	Mults	QTH	Team
K1TR	183,264	996	184	NH	YCCC Fluxbusters	NN1AA (K1IR)	9	3	3	MA	
K1RO	162,450	855	190	NH		AB3CX	135,966	731	186	NY	CWOps + FRC
K1MK (@K1TTT)	132,858	549	242	MA		K2NV	124,415	745	167	NY	Niagara Frontier Radiosport
N2AN (WC4E)	107,892	666	162	MA	YCCC SolarWindSurfers	K2KQ	101,752	644	158	NY	
K2LE	104,208	624	167	VT	Order of Boiled Owls A-Team	K2QMF	71,377	521	137	NY	Order of Boiled Owls A-Team
K1EBY	95,312	592	161	CT	YCCC WeCanSeeEuropers	W2GR	69,432	526	132	NY	Niagara Frontier Radiosport
W1SJ	93,492	636	147	VT		W2EG	69,420	534	130	NY	EI Jefe's Pistolas
K5ZD	77,965	503	155	MA	YCCC SolarWindSurfers	NA3D	62,738	494	127	NY	CWOps + FRC
W1KM	77,400	516	150	MA	YCCC SolarWindSurfers	W2RR					
N1IX	69,083	497	139	NH	YCCC WeCanSeeEuropers	(WA2AOG)	47,498	374	127	NY	Niagara Frontier Radiosport
W1FJ	55,760	410	136	MA	YCCC WeCanSeeEuropers	N2UU	44,280	360	123	NJ	
W1UJ	53,019	411	129	MA	YCCC Fluxbusters	K2QB	39,490	359	110	NY	Niagara Frontier Radiosport
KI1U	41,100	411	100	CT	YCCC Fluxbusters	N2WK	29,500	250	118	NY	
NB1N	38,525	335	115	MA		KE2D	26,775	255	105	NJ	
K1KI	32,096	272	118	CT	YCCC SolarWindSurfers	N2GM	18,675	225	83	NJ	
K1ESE	25,536	266	96	ME		WA2JQK	18,126	171	106	NY	EI Jefe's Pistolas
*K1VUT	23,229	261	89	MA		W2SO					
W1WBB	22,989	237	97	RI		(KA2DDX)	17,316	222	78	NY	
K1BV	22,560	240	94	CT		KA2D	16,732	188	89	NY	Order of Boiled Owls B-Team
WW1ME	21,840	240	91	ME		W2YK	15,840	180	88	NY	Order of Boiled Owls B-Team
W1JQ	19,110	195	98	CT		W2LE	12,008	152	79	NJ	
W1HIS	11,454	166	69	MA	YCCC Fluxbusters	K2AL	11,972	164	73	NJ	
W1END	9,880	130	76	NH		WB2PJH	11,457	171	67	NJ	
K1SM	6,576	137	48	MA		WA2FZB	11,060	158	70	NJ	
AB1J	5,616	108	52	MA		K2RB	10,318	154	67	NY	Order of Boiled Owls A-Team
N1DID	4,300	86	50	CT		KS2G	9,438	143	66	NY	Order of Boiled Owls B-Team
KB1ODO	1,560	52	30	VT		W2TF	8,448	132	64	NY	
*K1XS	1,452	44	33	CT		N2GA	7,644	147	52	NY	Order of Boiled Owls A-Team
KC1GSL	480	30	16	MA		KR2Q	7,332	141	52	NJ	
W1BJ	440	22	20	MA		K2KIB	6,780	113	60	NJ	
WA1DRQ	208	16	13	MA		K2RET	5,978	122	49	NJ	
N1NN	208	16	13	MA		KA2FHN	5,824	104	56	NY	
KJ1J	35	7	5	NH		AC2IK	5,252	101	52	NY	
*K8CN	15	5	3	NH		W2DXE	5,232	109	48	NY	

