

Results: North American QSO Party, CW — January 2023

It doesn't get much better than that!

This was a commonly made statement by operators in their 3830score.com postings following the January 2023 running of the North American QSO Party, CW. Increased sunspot activity and quiet low-band conditions made for an excellent situation on all bands — 10 through 160. Despite there being slightly fewer submitted logs than a year ago, many more QSOs were made overall. Of the 1,218 logs submitted, more than 465,000 QSOs were reported. This was 30,000 QSOs more than last January. Nearly 50,000 QSOs were made on 10 meters alone, which was a huge jump over the 13,000 total in January 2022. The net result of the excellent conditions was a record-breaking score in every category but one, with many state and provincial records falling as well.

Single-Operator Low Power

Steve, N2IC, repeated his win from a year prior from his New Mexico station and blew away the Single-Operator Low Power record in the process, turning in more than 2,400 QSOs and 300 multipliers. Imagine averaging a 240/hour QSO rate for the entire contest! N9RV also topped 2,000 QSOs to repeat a second-place finish in the January event. The Mountain time zone seemed to be a pretty good place to operate this time around, with KL9A, operating as KM7W, finishing third, and KØEU in Colorado fourth. It's noteworthy that Chris, KL9A, nearly made 2,000 QSOs with just a Spiderbeam at 35 feet and wires for the low bands. The remainder of the Top 10 all made more than 1,500 QSOs, and included stations across North America, from Tom, W2SC, remotely piloting his brand new station in Barbados, to Tree, N6TR, in Oregon who has been proven to be a quick 2BSIQ (Two Bands, Synchronized

Single-Operator Unassisted Top 10

Call Sign	Score	QSOs	Mults	160	80	40	20	15	10
N2IC	745,668	2421	308	98/37	294/54	500/56	566/58	602/58	361/45
N9RV	660,024	2136	309	93/41	253/48	389/56	449/56	518/58	434/50
KM7W (KL9A)	570,392	1927	296	93/42	198/48	302/52	401/50	548/54	385/50
KØEU	500,815	1745	287	112/41	197/51	298/50	467/57	454/54	217/34
8P5A	478,060	1804	265	17/15	117/33	376/49	413/56	482/54	399/58
WØUA	450,519	1713	263	74/37	172/43	360/48	498/56	431/45	178/34
N6TR	445,924	1702	262	14/9	151/42	295/50	440/59	487/52	315/50
WJ9B	440,684	1682	262	60/24	219/46	315/49	398/53	439/48	251/42
N4OGW	414,901	1531	271	166/40	338/48	342/54	349/54	244/48	92/27
NAØN	409,464	1551	264	69/35	252/46	251/45	430/51	397/52	152/35

Single-Operator Unassisted QRP Top Five

Call Sign	Score	QSOs	Mults	160	80	40	20	15	10
W1UU	85,000	500	170	9/7	71/27	173/46	112/38	82/32	53/20
W6JTI	82,128	472	174	14/5	28/13	131/44	110/38	99/38	90/36
NR3Z	62,431	419	149	9/7	72/22	77/36	155/46	74/22	32/16
W8UE	61,160	440	139	0/0	10/8	171/45	158/52	78/22	23/12
NQ2W	51,623	361	143	0/0	65/31	105/41	75/28	64/22	52/21

Single Op Unassisted Youth (25 years old or younger)

Call Sign	Score	QSOs	Mults	160	80	40	20	15	10
N4JEH	38,860	335	116	0/0	0/0	114/43	165/41	35/20	21/12
AI5IR	4,988	86	58	0/0	0/0	34/21	19/15	24/15	9/7

Single-Operator Assisted Top 10

Call Sign	Score	QSOs	Mults	160	80	40	20	15	10
AA3B	630,036	1892	333	182/48	380/58	422/61	428/63	349/59	131/44
N5ZO	540,876	1644	329	34/25	135/57	337/64	407/63	443/64	288/56
K3WW	487,599	1519	321	69/31	290/60	420/62	377/63	261/59	102/46
VE3EJ	432,563	1409	307	143/43	261/50	278/56	338/60	253/53	136/45
N5RZ	422,241	1451	291	67/37	213/52	208/56	458/59	429/55	76/32
KY7M (@NA7TB)	405,756	1156	351	101/49	177/60	177/64	198/65	182/59	321/54
K3MM	400,180	1177	340	80/45	235/60	292/64	385/60	96/61	89/50
N3RD	399,900	1290	310	105/42	252/54	363/60	293/58	176/55	101/41
AD4EB	398,772	1254	318	140/47	291/59	283/62	367/63	110/56	63/31
NP2X (K9VV)	387,205	1295	299	45/25	151/52	246/58	265/58	353/61	235/45

Single-Operator Assisted QRP Top Five

Call Sign	Score	QSOs	Mults	160	80	40	20	15	10
W2GD	193,734	687	282	47/32	168/55	110/57	199/60	117/50	46/28
N9LQ	114,823	577	199	44/24	102/34	98/42	183/48	97/30	53/21
K4XL	81,174	489	166	49/22	123/36	190/49	43/21	55/23	29/15
W1WBB	56,120	305	184	32/20	58/31	55/42	60/40	73/31	27/20
N5YT	45,296	298	152	15/10	72/31	79/41	44/26	53/25	35/19

Single-Operator Assisted Youth (25 or younger)

Call Sign	Score	QSOs	Mults	160	80	40	20	15	10
WØAAE	262,305	1305	201	42/19	186/39	418/49	390/47	269/47	0/0
NJ4P (KC1KUG)	184,580	839	220	78/36	212/50	277/50	202/52	63/27	7/5
KN4VKW	19,012	196	97	8/7	32/21	75/28	67/29	8/7	6/5
W9HHX	12	4	3	0/0	0/0	4/3	0/0	0/0	0/0

Interleaved QSOs) learner.

Single-Operator QRP

The QRP unassisted category was led by W1UU, who finished, just ahead of W6JTI in second place. Frank battled some heavy weather in Northern California during the contest, with many trees down, but fortunately his antennas stayed in the air. NR3Z rounded out the top three, just beating W8UE by less than 1,500 points.

Single-Operator Low Power Assisted

AA3B remains undefeated in the new low power assisted category with another dominant entry, breaking his own record in the process. Despite being unable to maintain the 10- and 15-meter rates of stations in the western part of the country, Bud was more than able to make up the shortfall in low-band QSOs. Marko, N5ZO, repeated his second-place finish, as he did in both 2022 events. Rounding out the Top Five were K3WW, VE3EJ, and N5RZ.

Interestingly, it seems that the top unassisted and assisted categories use different strategies. While most in the Top 10 unassisted stations operated 2BSIQ, most of those in the assisted category operated classic Single-Op, Two-Radio (SO2R), with only one run radio, and a second dedicated primarily to calling other stations. This makes sense, especially on CW, with *Skimmer* spots painting a picture of activity across the bands. Simply based off the Top 10 scores of both categories, there is probably some ratio where an Assisted operator should mix 2BSIQ with classic SO2R to maximize rate and subsequent score.

Single-Operator Assisted QRP

John, W2GD, primarily searched and pounced his way to a record-breaking score and win in this category. N9LQ and K4XL finished second and third, respectively.

Multi-Two

A milestone was reached in the

Multi-Two category by the crew at ND7K, which broke 1,000,000 points for the first time in this contest. The team quite nearly broke 3,000 QSOs

and apparently swept the bands clear of QSOs and available multipliers. The perennially top-finishing team at W2FU came quite close to breaking

Multi-Two

Call Sign	Score	QSOs	Mults	160	80	40	20	15	10
ND7K (@N6WIN)	1,089,525	2985	365	127/50	422/61	751/64	649/65	630/65	406/60
W2FU	974,520	2707	360	276/54	592/60	656/65	527/65	449/64	207/52
VA2WA	672,282	1989	338	192/47	288/59	494/61	466/64	362/61	187/46

Team Scores

1. AOCC Claim Jumpers

N2IC	745,668
KY7M	405,756
N4ZZ	372,783
K8IA	341,925
K6LL	332,220
Total	2,198,352

2. Big Sky Contesters-Bitterroot

N9RV	660,024
KM7W	570,392
KØSN	341,334
K7QA	278,721
N7IP	147,616
Total	1,998,087

3. FRC Team Charlie

AA3B	630,036
K3WW	487,599
N3RD	399,900
N3AD	221,407
W2GD	193,734
Total	1,932,676

Team

4. PVRC Uno
5. CCO #1
6. GM Downhill Racers
7. The Zoomers
8. W1YL Memorial-1
9. SCCC #1
10. SMC Team Guinness
11. TCG FIDDLES
12. Team Austin
13. Deep Dixie CC Kudzu
14. FRC Team Alpha
15. MWA 1
16. YCCC SFI 209
17. Deep Dixie CC Grits
18. W1YL Memorial-2
19. W1YL Memorial-3
20. MWA 2
21. AOCC Desperados
22. ACG Team #1
23. SMC Team Stella Artois
24. W1YL Memorial-4
25. PVRC Dos
26. Remembering W7OM #1
27. NCCC Team #1
28. FRC Team Echo
29. SFCG1 Devastators
30. PVRC Blue Ridge
31. GM Ski Jumpers
32. KCCC
33. FRC Team Delta
34. AOCC Renegades
35. W1YL Memorial-5
36. Oh say can you key
37. CCO #2
38. SCCC #2
39. Deep Dixie CC Mimosa
40. Aurora Busters
41. KCG #1
42. NCCC Team #3
43. PVRC Tres
44. MRRRC/NCC Team Two
45. NCCC Team #2
46. Big Sky Contesters-Absaroka
47. W1YL Memorial-8
48. YCCC PTers
49. MWA 3
50. MRRRC/NCC Team One

Operators

- WJ9B, K3MM, N4YDU, N1LN, W4NF
 VE3EJ, VE3DZ, VE3JM, VE3MGY, VE3VN
 KØEU, WØUA, KTØA, WY7M, WØZA
 N5RZ, NSØR, NA8V, K7SV, W9RE
 NP2X, N2NL, NN7CW, N4EEB, K5KG
 N5ZO, N6TR, K6NR, N6RA, AA6AA
 K9CT, WT9U, N7US, N9TTK, K9NR
 AD4EB, K4RO, KØEJ, K1GU, WF7T
 K5PI, N5AW, WQ5L, WØUO, K5RT
 ABØS, K5KU, W5TM, KØWA, AC6ZM
 W8FJ, W3MA, W3KB, K3UL, WA3AAN
 NAØN, NE9U, ACØW, KØHB
 K1TR, W1KM, KA1IS, W1FJ, VA2CZ
 N4OGW, KZ5D, N5EE
 W4WF, WØ4O, N4AO, KU8E, K8MR
 N6AR, NE8P, K2SX, N4KS, N4TB
 NØAT, WØAAE, K4IU, NØBU, KAØPQW
 KC7V, N7IR, KH6ND, K6WSC
 K4AB, N4OX, N4KH, WA1FCN, K4PV
 K9WX, K9WO, WB8BZK, N9CO, W8LVN
 N1TO, W8FN, N4FP, KØ4R, KØLUZ
 N2YO, K3AJ, WA3AER, K3EW, N4NTO
 N7QT, N7EPD, K7SS, K7ZQ, WC7Q
 N6ZFO, N3ZZ, AJ6V, KA6BIM, K6EI
 WA2CP, NW3Y, K3ZA, K3TS, AA3R
 N4IQ, KY4ID, K4FT, WN4AFP, NE4EA
 N7W, N1RM, KB3Z, KE4S, KØZR
 NØTA, AD1C, KEØUI, N7WY
 NWØM, KØVBU, A16O
 AB2E, N2RC, K2RET, AG2J, K3PP
 K7WP, W9CF, K7GA, AA7V, N7CW
 WA1S, W4SPR, K4NMR, K2DM, NØOJ
 K5ZD, KW1X, AA1ON, WØ1N, K1SM
 VE3NNT, VE3EY, VE3MV, VA3EC, VE3VY
 W6TK, N6AA, AA6PW, W6ZL, N6VOH
 N4XL, ABØTX, KE8G, KD5DD
 VE6TL, VA7ST, VE4VT, VY1CO, VE7CV
 N4TY, K4WW, KM4FO, KE4KY, WE5P
 AE6Y, WX5S, K6GHA, K6MM, K6RIM
 K3AU, N4ZR, NR4M, K3KU, K3TN
 K3UA, N8EA, W8WTS, N8FYL, N8SBE
 KH6TU, K6DGW, N6US, W6JTI, K9YC
 K7BG, KJ9C, KD7HU
 N4OO, AD4ES, VE7ZO, W2XYZ, AAØO
 K1RO, K1XM, NJ1F, W1DYJ
 KØRC, AAØAW, KØFVF, WØELT, WØZQ
 W1NN, KW8N, K8RYU, K8GT

Score

- 1,794,652
 1,739,567
 1,661,059
 1,642,884
 1,543,714
 1,534,248
 1,375,935
 1,336,724
 1,256,729
 1,119,767
 1,030,938
 1,029,320
 1,014,193
 969,232
 968,139
 943,404
 918,497
 823,507
 781,438
 736,819
 720,892
 720,043
 716,458
 690,406
 667,428
 649,120
 648,475
 639,494
 595,770
 587,373
 584,091
 579,878
 557,343
 552,476
 550,803
 545,218
 545,090
 527,774
 512,178
 511,033
 494,609
 484,248
 465,395
 437,957
 420,942
 420,418
 419,761

a million points themselves, taking second. VA2WA probably made a lot of people happy by handing out the semi-rare Quebec multiplier on the way to a third place finish.

Additional Thoughts

To a contesting newcomer, seeing such huge scores may be intimidating. How is it even possible

to maintain a rate of 150 QSOs per hour over 10 hours? With just wire antennas, how can anyone even be competitive? With the increase in solar activity, you can make a lot of QSOs easily with simple antennas. The NAQPs are pretty unique in that low power only makes it easier to engineer a second radio into the mix with fewer receiver overload issues.

One suggestion would be to add a second radio if you're only using one. Low-power triplexers are reasonably priced, or you can simply add a temporary dipole or vertical for the second radio. The CWops tests (CWTs) held every Wednesday provide an excellent weekly opportunity to practice with a second radio. There has been a large increase in operators using the 2BSIQ technique, and most have refined their skills by operating in the CWTs. Simply try to better your score from the last contest. Form a team with some friends and have a friendly competition. The NAQPs are a great contest for beginning and experienced ops alike.

One caveat with the CWTs, however, is that there is no adjudication in those events so many operators simply rely on their logging software's pre-fill data. This is a dangerous thing to do in the NAQPs, however, because many operators from time to time use a name that's different from the pre-fill data. This inevitably results in busted QSOs during log checking—and subsequent score reduction. So, while the CWTs are a fantastic way to improve skill, always make sure to *copy and log what is being sent*.

If anyone would like a copy of their log-check report (LCR) from the NAQP CW, email me, and I will reply with your report. Include your call sign in the email.

51. SMC Team Dos Equis	K9PW, NXØI, W9QL, WD9CIR, AA8R	411,806
52. NFR Waterfalls	K2NV, NS2N, K2QO, K2QB	393,092
53. TCG DOBROS	W4RM, N6NT, K3IE, W3TB	391,266
54. Team Houston	W2RQ, WØVX, K5BG	382,636
55. W1YL Memorial-6	NN4NN, N8KH, K4EJ, K3WT, K2SG	377,989
56. SFCG2 Penetrators	AA5JF, KY4GS, KG4IGC, N4QI, K7OM	372,629
57. DZC 2023 CW NAQP	KX9RT, W9JFK, W9ET, KF9VV, KD9DZT	338,753
58. KCG #2	ND4Y, K4FN, W4ZXT, K4TZ, N4JRG	321,866
59. Remembering W7OM #2	N7WA, KC7EFP, WA7CPA	319,780
60. TDXS	K5TU, KG5U, K5GQ, K5GN, AJ4F	294,667
61. FRC Team Foxtrot	K3QP, N2HMM, K2PJC, NF3R	280,545
62. GM Snow boarders	WØCO, KØUK, WØPSY, KØAV	269,434
63. YCCC Team Connecticut	K1EBY, K1IB, W1JQ	267,863
64. FRC Team Bravo	W3RGA, N3NR, N2EY, K1WX	264,635
65. NFR Rapids	N2MF, K2ZR/4, WB2WPM, NN2NN, W2DXE	260,507
66. MCC Team #1	VE9XX, VE9VIC, VE9HF, KO1H, VE9AA	247,441
67. W1YL Memorial-7	W3US, KT3T, W4LT, KM4HI, K1TN	228,118
68. Bristol Dipoles	N4DW, AA4DD, K4DR, KT4O	226,582
69. NCCC Team #4	K9JM, WU6X, N3RC, N6TTV, KI6OY	219,638
70. Team Bowie	N5XE, W5JK	216,842
71. MWA 4	KØPK, NØKK, W6GMT, KØQEI	207,724
72. MRRRC/NCC Team Three	N8AA, K8BL, K8RR, W8RU	205,419
73. TDXS2	N5XZ, K5TIA, K5IZO, N5DTT	187,565
74. Yes, DC is a Multiplier	AC5XK, NN3RP, WN3F	185,214
75. NCCC Team #5	W1RH, K6NV, WU7W, NF6R	180,118
76. Boiled Owls	WB2NFL, K2RB, W2JV, N2GA	158,938
77. NEMARC RED Team	N3FZ, N3FJP, K3TEF	141,948
78. TCG GUITARS	WØAG, K3FH, N9TF, WF4I	141,917
79. SMC Team Heineken	W9NXM, AB9YC, WE9R	137,984
80. Big Sky Contesters Beaverhd	W7XT, KTØP, WN7Y	137,410
81. Boiled Owls II	K2LE, KS2G, W2YK	130,427
82. Metro Mutts	W9ILY, WA9LEY, NV9X, N9TK	129,401
83. Team Travis	K5CI, W8OV, N5WNG	121,620
84. W1YL Memorial-9	K4FU, KU1T, K4RFK, KQ4Y, KO4DN	121,608
85. Braille Team #1	K5XU, N4JEH, KW3A	121,480
86. GM Colo. bobsled team	NNØG, KFØUR	96,564
87. SMC Team Samuel Adams	K9LA, K9DUR, KC9EE, K9XR, KC9EOQ	95,691
88. LAKERS	KD2KW, K5YX, AC5EZ	76,764
89. Bell Labs DSP Geezers	NG2J, K3SW	74,479
90. TCG MANDOLINS	K4AL, K4DXV, WM4Q, KA4OTB	73,560
91. Braille Team #2	KB8TYJ, K1EIC, N1UMJ	65,142
92. KCG #3	N4UL, K4AVX, KJ4AOM, AB4IQ	63,852
93. MRRRC/NCC Team Four	NF8M, AB8OU, KN8CWO	61,880
94. Cornwall	AB3AI, KA3D, N3CU, KN3A	59,040
95. ACG Team #2	N4NM, K4WI	57,773
96. ToBoMo	W4GHV, WZ4M, KJ7MEB	43,603
97. MWA 5	KØVG, WØZF, KØTLG, KØSV	39,835
98. Metro Pups	K9CS, K9GA	39,666
99. MCC Team #2	VY2LI, VY2DP	34,264
100. NEMARC BLUE Team	WC3N, KC3SVR, KE3GK	31,797
101. Deep Dixie CC Steamboat	K4AFE, AA5W	30,324
102. AOCC Wild Bunch	N7GP, N9NA	30,144
103. NFR Whirlpools	W2VM, KA2WIK, WB2AIV	28,593
104. CCO #3	VE3KTB, VA6RCN	26,235
105. NCCC Team #6	WK6I, KA6W, KF6NCX, K6XX, W6RKC	22,012
106. SCCC #3	NE6I, N6GP	21,707
107. Eastern Ohio Contesters	WA8ZNC, W8TMT, KE8E	13,617
108. Fort Myers ARC	K4RAB, N8GU	1,860

