Results: North American Sprint, CW —February 2011

The 68th CW Sprint took place February 6. With 244 stations participating, activity was slightly higher than it was last September but down from the February 2010 running, when we received 291 entries. We hope this represents an aberration instead of a trend. For the first time in CW Sprint history, no new records were set in *any* category.

If you check the contest calendar, you'll find some kind of Sprint-style event nearly any weekend. In addition, the Northern California Contest Club (NCCC) has increased Sprint awareness with its weekly NS Ladder and occasional slow-speed Sprint-style events. The NCCC events have certainly introduced new operators the Sprint concept, and this is helping to attract new blood.

Teams continue to be one of the best ways to improve activity. Finding 10 operators and twisting their arms to get on for the event really starts making an impact as the number of teams grows. If you want to do your part to promote activity, sponsoring a team is a straightforward way to do this.

ORP

Only four stations running 5 W or less submitted logs. Scott, KA9FOX, continued his dominance in this category, logging 217 QSOs and 37 multipliers. Burt, NN7SS, achieved the second-place score, posting 145 QSOs and 39 multipliers. Riley, K4ORD, came in third with 66 QSOs, mostly on 80 meters, while "Duck," N8XX, elevated Sprint masochism to a new level by using the call sign N1L and torturing 15 operators during the Sprint's first hour. Congratulations to all of these fine operators who dared to enter into battle armed so minimally armed.

Low Power

36

Last September, we asked who would be fortunate enough to finally end the six-Sprint winning streak of Steve, N9CK, in the Low Power category. The answer is Colin "Bob" Jenkins, KU5B. He was able to squeeze out 22 more QSOs on 20 meters than Steve did, and that turned out to be a comfortable enough margin to knock Steve into second place. Coming in third was Matt, K7BG, while Dave, N5DO, took fourth with a score of more than 10,000 points. Rounding out the Top 10 LP were

Cooring C									
Scoring St Call Sign K1KI K1EA K1DG W1EBI W1UJ K5ZD W1WBB W1WEF K1AR	Name TOM KEN DOUG GEO JAY RANDY *BILL JACK JOHN	QTH CT MA NH MA MA MA RI CT	20 54 41 29 18 12 42 8 17 0	40 91 109 100 88 66 77 51 80	80 140 117 80 89 105 0 50 0	QSO 285 267 209 195 183 119 109 97	Mults 43 42 38 36 37 34 32 31 12	Score 12,255 11,214 7942 7020 6771 4046 3488 3007 180	Team
N2NT N2NC W2RQ	ANDY JOHN BILL	NJ NJ NJ	57 34 0	116 95 0	133 117 65	306 246 65	42 42 28	12,852 10,332 1820	FRC FRC FRC
AA3B NO3M K3TN K3MD K8GU N3SD W3KB WW3S N8NA WA3AAN WA3AAN K3UA	BUD *TY JOHN JOHN *BOB *GREG *KEITH *JIM *KARL GRANT *PAUL *PHIL	PA PA MD PA MD PA PA PA PA PA PA	47 29 10 33 4 1 10 19 10 4 0	113 81 89 54 59 31 53 36 23 31 16 4	131 113 116 91 95 97 68 52 63 10 24	291 223 215 178 158 129 131 107 96 45 40 4	42 40 41 34 38 37 35 32 34 24 19	12,222 8920 8815 6052 6004 4773 4585 3424 3264 1080 760 12	FRC MRRC/NCC #1 PVRC Ad Hoc MRRC/NCC #1 MRRC/NCC #2 FRC MRRC/NCC #1
K4RO N4AF K4BAI W4NZ K1TO N4ZZ KE3X KØEJ K1ZZI W4OC K4DW K7SV NA4K K2SX W4AU K4QPL N4PN KY4F WF7T K1GU N5VI AD4EB K4ORD K8NZ WR1Q	KIRK AL JOHN TED DAN DON KEN MARK RALPH *DON *JEFF DAVE *LAR *STEVE DENNIS JOHN JIM *PAUL *DOUG *NED *VAN JIM *VAN JIM **RILEY *RON LYLE	TN GA TFL NA NGA SCA TNA NGA CALN TGA SCA NGA CALN TGA TNA NGA CH TNA FIN	55 36 59 45 31 66 32 36 38 30 23 18 4 4 4 12 14 23 0 13 0 4 24 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0	108 117 98 88 103 83 89 82 83 59 77 73 88 43 66 67 42 50 66 51 49 68 9 0	133 130 114 128 105 113 119 125 111 129 103 116 108 103 107 101 109 87 38 73 38 57 13	296 283 271 261 239 262 240 243 232 218 207 200 195 191 188 173 174 175 150 66 13 12	43 42 41 41 42 38 41 40 39 40 41 41 41 39 41 41 39 36 35 35 36 32 30 10 5	12,728 11,886 11,111 10,701 10,038 9956 9840 9720 9048 8720 8323 8280 8200 7995 7831 7332 7093 6786 6300 5255 4865 4160 1980 130 60	Ad Hoc Ad Hoc SECC #1 Ad Hoc PVRC SECC #1
N2IC N5RZ N3BB W5KFT K5MR N5DX KU5B K5WA K5TR N5DO WQ5L N05W K3LR	STEVE GATOR JIM ROB STEVE KEVIN *BOB BOB GEO *DAVE *RAY *CHUCK *TIM	NM TX TX TX TX AT TX TX TX TX TX TX TX TX OK	83 65 68 65 65 66 64 60 50 51 34 32 0	146 137 127 116 82 94 110 117 113 85 93 46 37	134 118 116 116 127 110 101 105 116 108 101 77 0	363 320 311 297 274 270 275 282 279 244 228 155 37	44 43 44 42 42 41 40 39 38 41 41 35	15,972 13,760 13,684 12,474 11,508 11,070 11,000 10,998 10,602 10,004 9348 5425 407	Outlaws Outlaws Snowmen Snowmen Snowmen Snowmen Snowmen Snowmen Snowmen MRRC/NCC #2
N5KO W6YI N6TV N6RT N6RO W6YX N6XI K6LA	TREY JIM BOB DOUG KEN MIKE RICK KEN	CA CA CA CA CA CA CA	92 82 71 69 71 87 63 77	147 146 137 122 122 106 110 108	131 135 128 104 108 105 113 105	370 363 336 295 301 298 286 290	45 43 44 44 43 41 42 40	16,650 15,609 14,784 12,980 12,943 12,218 12,012 11,600	NCCC #1 SCCC #1 NCCC #1 SCCC #1 NCCC #1 NCCC #1 NCCC #1 SCCC #1

N7CW, WQ5L, N6ZFO, K6ZH, WØETT and NO3M, respectively.

High Power

The High Power category bucked the trend of knocking off the reigning champion. Trey, N5KO/6, pulled off the "hat trick" by winning his third consecutive CW Sprint. Only three other operators — K5ZD, N5TJ and N6TR — have done this before. Trey was able to make the most number of QSOs and have the highest multiplier total a combination that made his margin of victory about 14 QSOs. That's huge, given the fierce competition. Coming in second was Steve, N2IC/5, with an extra multiplier more than Dan, N6MJ, who piloted W6YI to the same 363 QSOs that Steve posted. Bob, N6TV, compiled a very impressive score in the non-mountaintop category. coming in fourth. It is interesting to note that Bob also took fourth place in the very first CW Sprint, back in September 1977. Fifth place went to Tree, N6TR/7, followed by The Gator, N5RZ, who is starting to have some real antennas at his new station site. Jim, N3BB/5, came in seventh, followed by Pat, N9RV/7, in Montana.

Doug, N6RT, may have been the most overjoyed person to make the Top 10 using the more modest station at N6WIN. His previous Top 10 efforts were achieved with the help of the W6EEN station. Unfortunately, the W6EEN station is now gone, since Don became a Silent Key two years ago. Dave, K6LL/7, returned to the Top 10 for the 25th time, tying with Ken, N6RO, for 10th place. It's worth noting that six of the Top 10 were using call signs from different call districts than the ones in which they operated. Perhaps even more remarkable is that all Top 10 scores were generated west of the Mississippi River, half of them coming from California alone.

Team Competition

The NCCC #1 team posted a strong showing from California to come out on top of the team competition. The Ad Hoc Team, which won last September, was hampered by the lower scores from the Midwest and placed second this time around. The Outlaws were a few thousand points behind in third. For team registration, use the NCJ Web site, www.ncjweb.com.

Golden Logs

Ten stations survived log checking without losing any QSOs. Doug, N6RT, did this with 295 contacts in his log. Dan, K1TO, and Pat, NAØN, each logged more than 200 contacts, while KZ2V, N7WA and N5VI earned golden logs with more than 100 contacts apiece. ND3R, K1AR, K8NZ and K3UA finish off the list. K3UA only dared to make four contacts before calling it quits.

Call Sign W6PH K6XX W6SX K9YC W6EU K6RB W6OAT AJ6V N3ZZ N6DE N6AN K7GK N6ZFO K6ZH NIGT AC6T W6RGG KA3DRR KZ2V W6KY W4EF W6CT K6CSL	Name KURT BOB HANK JIM JIM ROB RUSTY ED TOM DEAN REX DENIS *BILL *JIM GARRY STEVE BOB SCOT *NICK *ART MIKE *SCOTT *BERT	OTH CA	20 69 75 69 64 72 53 70 61 63 70 65 42 70 59 52 64 44 55 27 0 19 9	40 101 106 111 101 90 107 81 107 102 114 105 93 81 83 59 58 44 44 0 23 8	80 98 115 90 98 95 109 73 67 115 68 73 72 91 63 94 57 53 45 87 14 3	QSO 268 296 270 263 257 266 252 235 251 251 251 238 226 234 193 196 159 152 116 87 56 20	Mults 42 38 41 42 41 39 41 43 39 41 40 39 40 36 39 36 33 30 29 29 15 14	Score 11,256 11,248 11,070 11,046 10,537 10,374 10,332 10,105 10,101 10,040 9789 9282 9040 8424 7527 7056 5247 4560 3364 2523 840 280	Team NCCC #1 NCCC #2 NCCC #2 NCCC #2 NCCC #1 NCCC #1 NCCC #2 NCCC #2 NCCC #2 NCCC #1 NCCC #2 SCCC #1
N6TR N9RV K6LL KO7AA K8IA KO7X N7FO N7XU W2VJN N6VR K7BG N7VM N7CW NN7SS K7WA K7HP W8NF NE7D WS7L N6TW KL7RA KC7V W7YS N6KW	TREE PAT DAVE BILL BOB AL STEVE DICK GEO RAY *MATT TOM *BUD *TOM HANK DAVE *ROCK CARL LARRY RICH *MIKE *BILL *STEVE CHUCK	OR MTZ AZZ WZ OR ORZ MTT ZWA AZR ORR AZZ AZZ WZ ORR AZZ AZZ WZ ORR AZZ ORR AZZ AZR AZZ AZR AZZ AZZ AZZ AZZ AZZ A	83 72 89 65 56 27 57 40 54 49 32 35 12 23 67 21 18 67 21 16 37	140 128 121 118 104 98 111 89 102 116 96 110 89 68 54 48 55 44 33 41 43 15	117 121 91 107 101 140 95 102 115 97 24 44 79 60 45 66 29 0 36 31 32 0	340 321 301 290 261 265 271 253 253 265 258 265 258 147 147 145 127 126 121 104 100 98 92 63 56	42 42 43 42 40 39 41 41 39 40 37 37 39 35 34 32 33 27 26 27 26 27 23 21	14,280 13,482 12,943 12,180 10962 10,600 10,569 10,373 10,373 10,320 9805 9472 5655 5145 4930 4318 4032 3993 2808 2700 2548 2484 1449 1176	SLUGS Ad Hoc Outlaws Outlaws Outlaws Ski Bums Outlaws SLUGS SLUGS Outlaws Ad Hoc Outlaws SLUGS SLUGS Outlaws Outlaws Outlaws Outlaws Outlaws SLUGS SLUGS SLUGS SLUGS SLUGS SLUGS SLUGS SLUGS
KW8N K8MM N8EA K8MR N8AA N8SS KV8Q K8GT W8WTS K2KW N1L	BOB IAN *JOE JIM *JOHN EARL *TOM *AI *JIM *KEN **DUCK	OH MI OH OH MI OH MI OH OH MI	50 39 29 29 38 36 16 3 9 5 2	89 87 65 43 48 55 25 23 12 33 13	105 116 111 112 105 88 102 51 52 0	244 242 205 184 191 179 143 77 73 38 15	40 39 38 42 36 38 37 29 28 18	9760 9438 7790 7728 6876 6802 5291 2233 2044 684 180	MRRC/NCC #1 MRRC/NCC #1 MRRC/NCC #2 MRRC/NCC #1
W9RE K9NW N9CK K9CT KA9FOX WI9WI K9AY K9MMS K9KM N9FC KB9OWD K9NO	MIKE MIKE *STEVE CRAIG **SCOTT JIM GARY *GARY *HOWIE *JOHN *RYAN *PAUL	IN IN WI IL WI WI IL IN WI IL	66 53 42 43 44 56 29 28 7 1 0	96 86 95 91 70 79 72 59 26 35 24 0	123 128 122 95 103 81 99 105 86 35 48 27	285 267 259 229 217 216 200 192 119 71 72 27	43 42 40 40 37 37 38 39 35 30 27 16	12,255 11,214 10,360 9160 8029 7992 7600 7488 4165 2130 1944 432	Ad Hoc Ad Hoc Ad Hoc Snowbound Snowbound Snowbound Snowbound Snowbound Snowbound Snowbound
WDØT WØBH WØETT NØAT NAØN NØSXX NØAC NØTA ACØW	TODD BOB *KEN *RON *PAT *GARY *BILL *JOHN *BILL	SD KS CO MN MN SD IA CO MN	31 31 17 37 37 25 28 9	93 90 104 83 88 63 42 64 5	130 121 92 104 104 47 56 32 30	254 242 213 224 229 135 126 105 35	41 38 42 38 37 31 29 27 18	10,414 9196 8946 8512 8473 4185 3654 2835 630	Ski Bums Ski Bums
VE3RZ VE5MX VE3RCN	*TONY TODD *KEVIN	VE3 VE5 VE3	8 0 0	44 32 4	82 79 17	134 111 21	37 32 17	4958 3552 357	
NH2T LZ5R	DAVE ILIYA	KH2 LZ	36 0	0 24	0	36 24	16 14	576 336	
* Low Power	** QRP)								

Next Time

The next CW Sprint takes place September 11 UTC (Saturday, September 12, in North America). The starting time is 0000 UTC, and stations may operate the entire 240 minutes, from 0000 to 0359 UTC, inclusive.

Logs may be submitted via e-mail to cwsprint@kkn.net or by using the log submission form on the NCJ Web site. Logs are due seven days after the contest! Final scores are typically posted on the NCJ Web page and announced on the CQ-Contest reflector within two weeks of the contest.

Check out the Web resources at http://n6tr.jzap.com/sprint.html and rules, records and previous results on the NCJ Web page, www.ncjweb.com. The CQ-Contest reflector is an ideal place to ask questions about this contest. Details are at http://lists.contesting.com/mailman/listinfo/CQ-Contest.

Soapbox

Yuk! Antennas covered with ice! — K3MD No joy on 20, "deedle-deedle" on 40 and quickly long. Next time I'm finding an amp and a beam. — K3TN

Had company, missed first hour, took a while to warm up on this fast-paced sprint, had fun though. — *K4ORD*

Thunder and lightning in February?! — K5ZD

Between op and condx, not the most memorable of Sprints but still lots of fun! — K7SV

Fantastic ham radio fun! I was on a Sprint learning curve because of my first-ever High Power entry. Amazing mini-swarms after each search and log movement on the frequency dial. Admittedly, four hours vanished into the ionosphere, and I enjoyed each Sprint minute as well. — KA3DRR

Bands went long early, spent last half on 80. Lot of good ears out there pulling my QRP signal out with few repeats. — *KA9FOX*

That was painful! Twenty and 40 were pretty much busts. Eighty went long very early. Not good conditions for low power and a wire. Seemed like lots of folks never confirmed the Q. Ended up tossing a bunch of Qs out of the log as a result. Not a very good evening all around. N2IC gave me #343 with 22 minutes left. Very impressive. Things have to get better. There's always next time. — KV8Q

A tough go for me and conditions, but the elite CW Sprinters still seem to put up great numbers anyway. — KW8N

Wow! First NA Sprint, after a looonnnnggg day of FYBO and MNQP! Operating QRP among the herd of full gallons with a "very interesting call" of N1L made for fun, fun, fun! Some folks didn't get N1L. They insisted on calling me NN1L, N1LE etc. Thanks to the Lowell (MI) ARC for the use of their clubhouse at W8LRC. A 40 thru 10 meter beam at 110 feet helped get this pipsqueak 5 W into CA, AZ, OR, among others on 40 meters between 0000 and 0100 UTC. — N1L

Zeroed out first two contacts as NIL. Incredibly hard to be heard over an hour after

Top 10	Scores								
Call Sign		Bnd Chg	s Qs Lost	00Z	01Z	02Z	03Z		
N5KO	16,650	138	6	106	95	96	73		
N2IC	15,972	122	1	117	84	94	68		
W6YI	15,609	100	1	113	100	93	57		
N6TV	14,784	74	1	112	83	82	59		
N6TR	14,280	26	3	92	100	75	73		
N5RZ	13,760	136	6	103	77	79	61		
N3BB	13,684	122	11	105	72	74	60		
N9RV	13,482	8	6	75	97	66	83		
N6RT	12,980	6	0	76	90	71	58		
K6LL	12,943	2	4	84	82	52	83		
N6RO	12,943	62	12	96	74	72	59		
Top Sin	gle Radi	io							
Call Sign	Score	Bnd Chg	s Qs Lost	00Z	01Z	02Z	03Z		
N9RV	13,482	8	6	75	97	66	83		
N6RT	12,980	6	0	76	90	71	58		
K6LL	12,943	2	4	84	82	52	83		
K1KI	12,255	4	3	81	70	81	53		
W6YX	12,218	2	1	79	77	67	75		
N6XI	12,012	8	1	80	77	70	59		
K5MR	11,508	2	3	81	60	81	52		
W6PH	11,256	2	6	63	72	64	69		
K6XX	11,248	4	6	83	80	80	53		
K9NW	11,214	6	5	78	61	79	49		
Golden	Logs	То	p 10 Lov	,	Top 10	QSOs		Top 10	Mults
N6RT	295		wer		N5KO	370		N5KO	45
K1TO	239	_		,000	N2IC	363		N2IC	44
naøn	229			,360	W6YI	363		N3BB	44
KZ2V	152			,320	N6TR	340		N6RT	44
K7WA	147	_		,004	N6TV	336		N6TV	44
N5VI	126		CW 94		N9RV	321		AJ6V	43
ND3R	40		Q5L 93	-	N5RZ	320		K1KI	43
K1AR	15	N6	ZFO 92	82	N3BB	311		K4RO	43

dark on 20. Would like to try winter NA on 40, 80 and 160. — N4AF

K6ZH

WØETT 8946

NO3M 8920

KA9FOX 8029

NN7SS 5655

K4ORD 1980

180

Top QRP

N₁L

9040

N2NT

K6LL

N6RO

306

301

301

K6LL

N5RZ

N6RO

W6YI

W9RE

43

43

43

43

43

K8NZ

K3UA

N5KO

N5RZ

N2IC

N3BB

W6YI

K4RO

W9RE

AA3B

N4AF

W5KFT

Top 10 Band

Changes

13

138

136

122

122

100

100

96

92

88

77

Can't seem to get the hang of the Sprint. I'm always out of sync. Maybe one day I'll get with the program. — N4PN

Wacko band conditions. Started off okay on 20 and went downhill quickly. Forty didn't' last long and 80 was really noisy until later in the last hour. Missed MS, and I imagine a bunch of others did also. Thanks to KL7RA for sticking with me for a new mult. It helped to at least break 10k. — N6AN

Where was everyone? Activity seemed way down. — N6TV

Short 20 meter opening limits the mults for the West Coast, at least for the smaller stations. — *N6VR*

Couldn't even match my September score,

which was made from my "simple" station in the valley. So much for my great mountain QTH, and 20 meter RFI through a new SO2R box didn't help. — N6XI

I did not have much success the first hour, so I gave it a bit of a rest and came back for the last hour. Intermittent local QRN made it tougher to enjoy. — N8NA

Down to one radio this time. Slow and steady here. Lousy first hour. Felt like I was in a city looking for a parking spot on 40. — N9RV

My first Sprint. Pretty neat contest. A little crazy but will get used to it. See you all for the next ones. — ND3R

Propagation seemed pretty unsettled going in, but I set up everything and practiced on Thursday and Friday nights. I had a good start

on 20, but people left after the first 40 minutes, and it turned into a trickle. That dashed my hopes for a good QRP score. Here on the West Coast I really need people to stay on 20, where QRP does well, for more than an hour. Forth was noisy and disturbed, and the sun had barely set, so it was a struggle. Not helped by some DX pileup and FOC activity on the low end, and the digital stuff at 7035 to 7040. I managed two good hours, but nothing stellar. My QRP competitors back east pulled ahead by 20 to 40 QSOs, *ouch!* My SO2R

setup didn't help, since 20 was gone, and 80 was too weak yet, so it was single radio 40 QRP, with lost pileups and unanswered CQs. Eighy finally allowed some contacts in the last hour, but slower than usual, probably the disturbed conditions. All contacts were west of the Mississippi until 0320 UTC, when I finally made it to OH, TN, SC I surpassed my score from last February, and I handed out some contacts, but nothing to cheer about. There's no doubt though, CW sprinting is fun! — NN7SS

This was not fun. May be my last Sprint for awhile. — NO5W

Between the worst conditions I ever saw on 20 at the start, having a hard time being heard on 40, and heavy medication for a back problem, I quit early. Let's do it again in June! — W1WEF

Slept thru most of this Sprint and woke up with 45 minutes left! — *W2RQ*

Rough go with 20 closing early! — W9RE

Team Scores

 Norther 	n California Contest	2. Ad Hoo	;	3. Outlaws		4. Northerr	n California
Club #1		N9RV	13,482	N2IC	15,972	Contest Cl	ub #2
N5KO	16,650	K4RO	12,728	N5RZ	13,760	W6SX	11,070
N6TV	14,784	W9RE	12,255	K6LL	12,943	K9YC	11,046
N6RO	12,943	N4AF	11,886	KO7AA	12,180	W6OAT	10,332
W6YX	12.218	K9NW	11,214	K8IA	10,962	AJ6V	10,105
N6XI	12,012	W4NZ	10,701	N7FO	10,569	N3ZZ	10,101
K6XX	11,248	N9CK	10,360	N6VR	10,335	N6ZFO	9282
W6EU	10.537	K7BG	10,320	N7CW	9472	NI6T	8424
K6RB	10,374	W4OC	8720	K7HP	4930	W6RGG	7056
N6DE	10,045	K3MD	6052	W7YS	2484	KZ2V	4560
K7GK	9789	Total	107,718	Total	103,607	W6CT	840
Total	120,600		-			Total	82,816

5. Snowmen (N3BB, K5MR, KU5B, K5WA, K5TR, N5DO, WQ5L, NO5W)	
15. PVRC (KE3X, K3TN)	

Guest Ops AC6T (@W6RFU) K5TR (K5OT) K7GK (@W6JZH) KA3DRR (@W6SL) KZ2V (@W6TQG) LZ5R (LZ4UU) N1L (N8XX) N6DE (@K6TD) N6RT (@N6WIN) N7FO (KN5H) N7XU (K4XU) NH2T (N2NL) NN7SS (K6UFO) W5KFT (K5PI) W6YI (N6MJ) W6YX (N7MH)

NCJ