

# Contest Results: North American Sprint, CW — February 2020

Every contest is different and as the French say, *vive la différence.* The Sprint is arguably one of the most intense of all operating events. Yes, it's "only" 4 hours long, and I'm sure that ops at the end of a grueling 48-hour DX contest would beg to differ. For my money, though, the Sprint QSY rules really put a premium on superior operator skill and two-radio capability. I can attest to being totally mentally and physically drained after 4 serious hours in the Sprint. Cutting to the chase, here are the highlights.

### Top Scores

High Power: N2IC, 17,328  
 Low Power: K7SV, 11,316  
 QRP: N8NA, 5,282  
 Team: NCCC #1, 68,389

### Top Golden Log

N6ZF0, 283 QSOs

This winter Sprint featured spectacular low-band conditions and, shall we say, clearly gnarly 20-meter conditions. For some Down East — meaning Maine and the Canadian Maritimes — the band had activity for only a half-hour at most, and then only for a few stations. I worked Mike, VE9AA, at 0025 UTC and noted in the log that he was "esp." Mike reported a grand total of six contacts on 20 meters.

As a rough indicator of how increasing daylight to the west (and south) affected the availability of this band, look at the average number of 20-meter contacts



Don Crain, W4OC (SK). In many respects, this Sprint was a tribute to Don, W4OC. This photo, taken as Don operated with KU8E and K4BAI from the Caribbean, depicts the quiet, skillful, and considerate man many of us were fortunate to meet and spend time with at Dayton, as well as in contests.

### Top 10 Scores

Call Sign	Score	Bnd Chg	Qs Lost	00Z	01Z	02Z	03Z
N2IC	17,328	164	1	115	91	85	70
N6TR	16,779	78	1	93	95	97	72
N5KO	16,074	138	4	97	94	85	66
N3BB	14,850	109	11	110	83	78	59
N2NT	14,758	140	3	92	84	79	59
K6XX	14,523	5	4	82	87	65	75
N5ZO	14,398	102	6	93	85	70	65
K4RO	14,352	118	4	95	84	76	57
K5TR	14,352	2	2	93	77	69	73
W6YX	14,220	110	1	90	78	81	67

### Top 10 High Power – Max 12 Band Changes

Call Sign	Score	Bnd Chg	Qs Lost	00Z	01Z	02Z	03Z
K6XX	14,523	5	4	82	87	65	75
K5TR	14,352	2	2	93	77	69	73
N5RZ	14,214	2	1	87	83	76	63
K6LL	14,030	2	6	81	82	59	83
N2NL	13,680	4	1	71	87	74	72
N6AA	13,024	2	8	69	84	77	66
AA7V	12,838	4	9	65	75	66	56
W6SX	12,628	4	3	69	86	69	63
K1KI	12,465	12	2	68	73	77	59
W2GD	12,452	2	3	55	78	68	82

### Top 10 Low Power

Call Sign	Score	Bnd Chg	Qs Lost	00Z	01Z	02Z	03Z
K7SV	11,316	22	2	54	69	78	45
N7CW	10,668	4	5	56	81	61	56
KG5U	10,449	2	9	64	58	62	59
K7SS	10,234	2	4	64	81	56	37
WQ5L	9,717	2	1	60	69	60	48
K3UA	9,450	2	4	51	43	78	53
W8WTS	9,225	82	5	53	63	61	48
W1NN	8,946	9	6	37	48	65	63
WØETT	8,778	16	5	51	55	58	45
K7BG	7,676	2	0	53	53	54	42

### Top 10 QRP

Call Sign	Score	Bnd Chg	Qs Lost	00Z	01Z	02Z	03Z
N8NA	5,282	5	6	3	47	57	32
NN7SS	3,840	2	9	34	48	20	18
K8CN	3,168	18	6	25	25	26	20
W4ER	1,924	4	3	15	21	26	12
N7RCS	1,595	2	10	10	17	13	15
VE6EX	290	1	2	19	7	3	0
KJ4YM	135	1	0	0	0	12	3
WC7S	130	1	6	11	2	0	0

### Top 10 QSOs

N2IC	361
N6TR	357
N5KO	342
N3BB	330
W6YX	316
N2NT	314
N5ZO	313
K4RO	312
K5TR	312
K6XX	309
N5RZ	309

### Top 10 Multipliers

AA7V	49
N2IC	48
K6XX	47
K9BGL	47
N2NT	47
N5KO	47
N6TR	47
AA3B	46
AJ6V	46
K4RO	46
K5TR	46
K5WA	46
K6LL	46
K7SV	46
N5RZ	46

### Top 10 Band Changes

N2IC	164
N2NT	140
N5KO	138
N4AF	132
W9RE	120
K4RO	118
K7GK	110
W6YX	110
AA3B	109
N3BB	109

### Golden Logs

N6ZF0	283
WØT	277
N2NC	266
K7BG	202
K1AR	186
NW2K	130
K2UA	105
NN1N	75

by US call districts: W1: 36...W2: 45... W3: 41...W4: 56...W5: 79... W6: 74... W7: 81...W9: 30...WØ: 40. Clearly it did not hurt to be in five, six, or seven land.

Several operators commented on 20 meters, with Ward, NØAX, expressing his wish for "a bit more 20 meters." Randy, K5ZD, said 20 "Was brutal at times, especially with nothing to work." Steve, N2IC, offered this observation from southwestern New Mexico: "Despite 20 going away early, conditions were excellent." VE9AA opined that with 20 meters "dead-dead" at the start of the contest, "this is really just a dual-band contest from way up here."

This forced many operators to move to 40 meters as their main band quite early, and then to find that they were working out that band earlier than usual and having to move to 80 earlier as well. The bottom line was that it was hard to find new stations to work, especially during the fourth hour on 80.

Eighty meters became active for a lot of ops by 0200 UTC, and became the primary band for contacts by 02:20. So, the last 1 hour and 40 minutes were focused on 80 meters, and that persisted right through until the final bell rang at 0400. Even in that final 10-minute stretch, 10% of contacts were made on 40 meters.

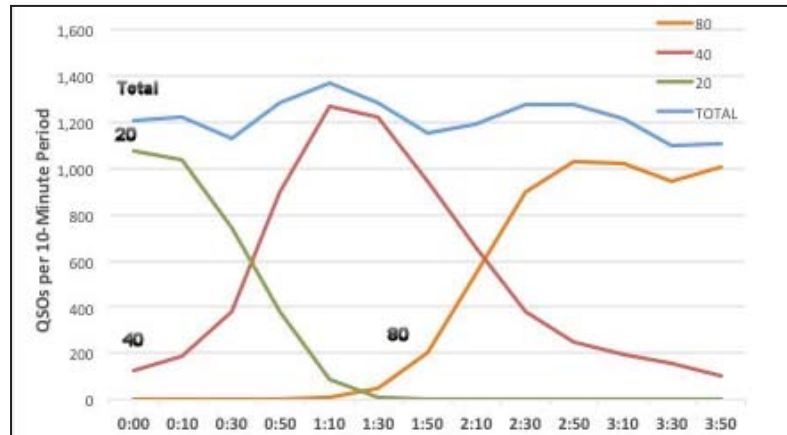
The most contacts made with a given state/province/territory included California with 152, Texas, with 147, New Jersey and Pennsylvania with 146, and North Carolina and Arizona with 145. The other end of the scale included some really, really rare ones, such as Nebraska with 32, Alberta with 23; Nevada and British Columbia with 19, South Carolina with 17, and Wyoming with 15. Super sparse ones were Quebec with 9, Vermont with 5, Utah with 4, Maine with 2, and Yukon Territory and North Dakota with 1 each. It would be interesting to hear the stories about how some stumbled into these goodies.



Dean Wood, N6DE, broke 100 contacts and had a strong multiplier count.



Tom Parish, KB5RF, is a newcomer to the Sprint and the Thursday evening NS sessions. A relatively inexperienced operator, he's learning fast with advice from some Austin mentors.



Number of QSOs per 10-minute segment by band. Twenty meters peaked in terms of QSOs per 10 minutes at the very start, then fell off rapidly after 30 minutes before soon disappearing altogether. With some in the east and north having such short windows and making 50 or fewer contacts, stations were very active on 40 meters at the start (including the SO2R crowd for the most part). Forty meters peaked overall between 01:10 and 01:40, a 30-minute window, but stayed active to a significant extent until about 02:30. Even after most had moved to 80 as the primary band, 40 saw significant activity — mostly latecomers and SO2R ops — right through the end of the Sprint.

### Team Scores

1. NCCC #1	2. AOCC Raiders	3. W4OC #1	4. Some Fives and Guys
N5KO 16,074	N2IC 17,328	N4AF 13,420	K5TR 14,352
K6XX 14,523	K6LL 14,030	W9RE 13,386	N5RZ 14,214
W6YX 14,220	AA7V 12,838	K9BGL 12,314	K3LR 12,100
K7GK 11,868	N6VR 10,710	WDØT 11,911	N4YDU 11,475
WD6T 11,704	N7CW 10,668	K7SV 11,316	KW8N 9,800
<b>Total 68,389</b>	<b>Total 65,574</b>	<b>Total 62,347</b>	<b>Total 61,941</b>

Team	Operators	Total
5. W4OC #2	N5ZO, K4RO, N3QE, W4NZ, WJ9B	60,681
6. NCCC #2	W6SX, K6MR, NA6O, N3ZZ, K9YC	59,086
7. Five Land Lids	N3BB, KZ5D, K5WA, KG5U, K5GN	56,377
8. W4OC #3	K4BAI, KU8E, K3TN, N4CW, VE3YT	52,363
9. FRC Domestic	N2NT, AA3B, N2NC, K2TW, WA3AAN	52,182
10. Two UAs and Guys	N2NL, W2GD, W2RQ, K3UA, K2UA	51,347
11. Oregon Reign	N6TR, N7XU, WS7L, KI7Y, K5ZM	46,641
12. Code Guys	K8MR, NA8V, W8WTS, W3YQ, W2FU	44,719
13. SCCC #1	N6AA, K6LA, K6ZH, NE6I	36,693
14. Big Scare Contesters	KJ9C, N9RV, K7BG, K7QA, W8LVN	36,636
15. GM Ski Racers	KØRF, WØUA, WØET, KH6CJJ, WØMU	34,310
16. CW Guys	W1NN, NS2N, ND8L, NW2K, K9NW	27,031
17. YCCC East	K5ZD, K1AR, W1EBI	26,730
18. YCCC West	K1KI, W1UJ, W1JQ	25,543
19. Northern California	AJ6V, K6LRN, W9KKN, N6XI	24,396
20. W4OC #4	N6ZFO, WØBH, KG3V	24,079
21. SMC Railsplitters #1	NØAX, K9KM, AB9YC, WT2P, K9GY	23,487
22. SMC Railsplitters #2	N9LQ, W19WI, N5OT, NN1N	22,372
23. Five Land Katz	WQ5L, N5DO, N9NM, K8LS, KB5RF	19,364
24. GM Ski Jumpers	NØTA, N4VI, WØZA, WC7S	12,568
25. AOCC Renegades	W9CF, N7GP, KE6K	10,938
26. NCCC #4	N6DE, W6RGG	4,048

### Guest Ops

K5TR (K5OT)	KH6TU @AD6E	N7XU @K4XU	NN7SS (K6UFO)	W6YX (N7MH)
K7GK @W6JZH	KP2M (KT3Y)	NA6O @W6SRR	W5NN (K5NZ)	WD6T @N6RO

