

# Results: September 2008 North American CW Sprint

## Boring Amateur Radio Club

Conditions for the 63rd North American CW Sprint last September 7 were similar to those during the February 2008 running, with most stations compiling more QSOs on 80 meters than on 20. Without a doubt, this was due to the nearly spotless sun, which tends to diminish signals on 20 meters but enhance them on the lower bands. Only three stations pulled off a "hat trick" by making at least 100 QSOs on each of the three bands.

One of the most telling pieces of data regarding conditions on 20 comes out when looking at the number of California stations that appeared in a few logs. N2IC/5 in New Mexico had only four W6s in his 20 meter log, and N6TR/7 in Oregon had six. Compare this to the previous year's result, when N2IC had 28 of those pesky W6s, while N6TR logged 17. N6TV's totals stand in contrast. Bob is close enough to many of the NCCC stations to work them on ground wave. He actually increased his total from 17 QSOs in 2007 to 24 in

2008. Perhaps this was a significant factor in enabling Bob to achieve his best-ever finish in this contest.

Activity continued to be strong for an event that arrives before many ops are ready for the

contest season to start. We received 217 logs, just short of the all-time high of 227 set in 2004. Our log-checking software found 343 stations active in the contest, a *lot* more than the 255 we found in the February 2008 running. In February 2004, 383 stations participated.

As you can see, there's a pretty strong correlation between activity and number of logs received. The total number of QSOs is fairly level, however, indicating that *other* factors such as conditions are

### All-Time CW Sprint Records

Highest Multiplier	55	K9AA (K9PG)	Feb-2000
Highest QSO Total	428	N6TR/7	Feb-2005
Highest Single	21,816	K4AAA (W4AN)	Sep-2003
Op Score			
Highest Team Score	163,373	SCCC #1	Feb-2002
Highest Low Power	15,741	K7RI (K7SS)	Feb-2003
Highest QRP	10,800	K7RI (K7SS)	Feb-2002
Most Logs Received	227		Feb-2004
Most Golden Logs	18		Feb-2008
≥300 Logs Received	52		Feb-2003

probably coming into play. Activity has been growing strongly during the past few events. It will be interesting to see if this trend continues.

### QRP Category

Six brave souls entered in the QRP category this time around. Some of the juicier states showed up here, with KB7Q and WC7S both giving out the rare Wyoming multiplier and WY7N providing Utah. In the

#### Top 10 QSOs

	Call Sign	Score	Bnd Chgs	Qs Lost	00Z	01Z	02Z	03Z
N6TR	386	NN7SS	4641					
N6TV	372	KB7Q	2523					
W6YI	362	WC7S	1539					
N3BB	356	N6WG	476					
N2IC	351	NB4M	273					
N0NI	350	W6GMT	180					
N2NT	350	WY7N	64					
N5KO	347							
K5TR	345							
N2NL	341							

#### Top 10 Mults

	Call Sign	Score	Bnd Chgs	Qs Lost	00Z	01Z	02Z	03Z
K5TR	50	NN7SS	4641					
N4OGW	50	KB7Q	2523					
W4PA	50	WC7S	1539					
K6XX	49	N6WG	476					
KW8N	49	NB4M	273					
N6TR	49	W6GMT	180					

#### Top 10 Low Power

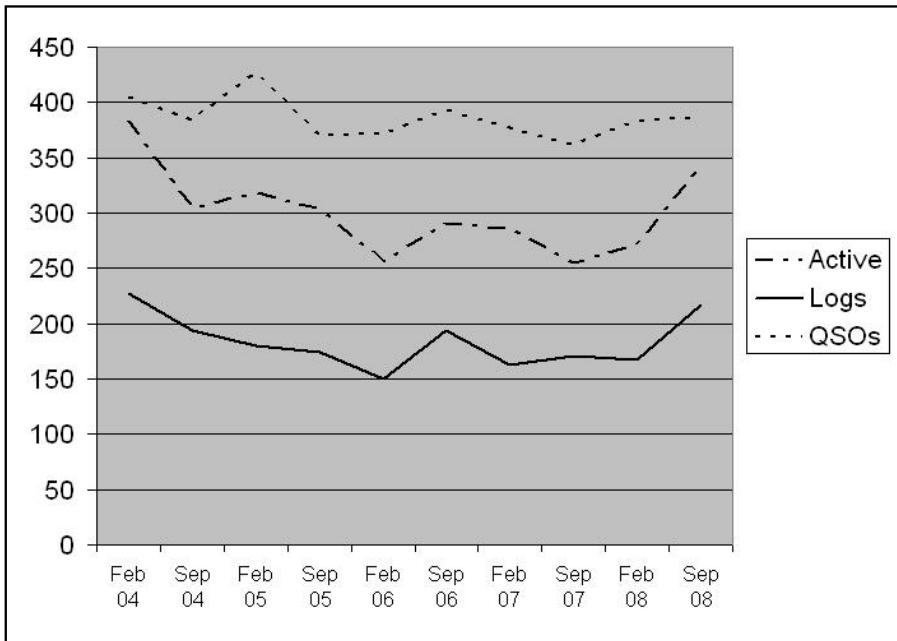
	Call Sign	Score	Bnd Chgs	Qs Lost	00Z	01Z	02Z	03Z
N9CK	14,928	N3BB	158					
K7SS	13,728	AA3B	139					
W2RQ	12,576	N4OGW	138					
K7SV	12,549	N5KO	138					
N8NA	12,267	N2NT	122					
KA9FOX	12,240	W9RE	122					
VE3NE	12,052	W5KFT	112					
K1HT	11,835	N0NI	98					
N5DO	11,730							
VE3DZ	11,660							

#### Top 10 Band Changes

	Call Sign	Score	Bnd Chgs	Qs Lost	00Z	01Z	02Z	03Z
N6TR	167							
W4PA	160							
N3BB	158							
AA3B	139							
N4OGW	138							
N5KO	138							
N2NT	122							
W5KFT	112							
N0NI	98							

#### Top 10 Single Radio

	Call Sign	Score	Bnd Chgs	Qs Lost	00Z	01Z	02Z	03Z
K9NW	15,840	8	3	95	82	81	72	
N5OT	15,839	2	3	79	89	84	86	
K1EA	14,928	8	12	81	84	78	70	
K6XX	14,896	2	2	80	81	66	77	
K6NA	14,736	4	3	74	65	83	85	
N9RV	14,736	2	4	62	100	71	75	
N6AA	14,256	2	9	72	66	79	83	
K5GO	14,194	2	5	82	78	73	69	
W6YX	13,860	2	0	80	73	79	76	
N2NC	13,824	6	1	77	75	70	66	



**Figure 1 — This graph shows the number of stations active during the past five years, the number of logs received and the total number of QSOs logged by the QSO leader.**

end, NN7SS posted the top score. No, this wasn't a call sign used by famous QRP contesteer K7SS. Rather it was operated by Burt, K6UFO. Gene, KB7Q, and Dale, WC7S, came in second and third, followed by that QRP operator with an attitude, Bob, N6WG. Brock, W6GMT, handed out 18 QSOs from Minnesota, while Bruce, WY7N, made 13 people very happy during the last hour of the contest on 40 meters. Note that Bruce had spent three hours finishing up his AST-3B transmitter (see <http://kd1jv.qrpradio.com/ATS3B/ats3b.htm>. This URL is case-sensitive — Ed.) Bruce says he likes it better than his Kenwood TS-850S!

#### Low Power Category

Competition in the low power category continues to be fierce. Steve, N9CK, operated low power due to some RFI issues, and he posted an outstanding score, blowing away the previous low power record from Wisconsin. Dan, K7SS, had a comfortable margin coming in second place, while Bill, W2RQ, held onto a slim lead for third, just ahead of Larry, K7SV, who almost leveraged his lower error rate to sneak up one position. Karl, N8NA, gave out the Delaware multiplier and took fifth place, narrowly ahead of Scott, KA9FOX. VE3NE, K1HT, N5DO and VE3DZ finished out the top 10. It's rare to only see one station from the South in this list.

#### High Power Category

If you take the top 10 high power scores

from February 2008, dissect the bottom three scores (all from the fourth call district), sprinkle in a couple of scores from the Midwest and one from the East Coast and then throw them all up in the air, you might end up with the top 10 from the September 2008 Sprint. Moving up from a fifth place finish, Tree, N6TR, put together four hours with QSO rates above 90 together with 49 multipliers to collect his 12th victory. Bob, N6TV, moved up from third place in February and posted a strong second place finish with a comfortable margin over Dan, N6MJ, operating at W6YI. This put an end to Dan's two-sprint winning streak.

Next, we find two 5-landers: The Gator, N5RZ, at K5TR, and Jim, N3BB, at his own station. Close on Jim's heels were Scott, W4PA, and Tor, N4OGW, operating from Mississippi. Suffering from a lack of short skip on 20 meters pushed N2IC's score down to eighth place, followed by N2NT and AG9A operating at N0NI.

This marked N6TR's 49th showing in the top 10. N2IC is still chasing him with his 38th. N2NT and N5RZ (at K5TR) both checked in with their 27th top 10 showings, and N6TV showed up for the 18th time. W4PA made it for the 15th time, N6MJ for the 13th, AG9A (at N0NI) and N3BB for the

sixth time, and N4OGW for his second time.

#### Team Competition

No fewer than seven teams had a full complement of 10 scores, with several others having 9. There is no doubt that the high activity level in this event was a direct result of the efforts made in putting these teams together. The Austin Powers Dashers leveraged four of the top 10 scores to finish ahead of the first team for the Northern California Contest Club. The Southeast Sprint Coalition #1 team came in third, and the Southern California Contest Club #1 team finished fourth. Never before have we seen four team scores above the 130,000 mark.

#### Golden Logs

This time only six logs made it unscathed through rigorous log checking, and only two of those logs had more than 100 QSOs. Congratulations to Mike, N7MH (at W6YX), who turned in a golden log with 308 QSOs, and Karl, K9BGL, with 281. Also making the list were K9GY, WA3GNW, K0KX and W4EBA.

#### Records

A number of new records made good use of the red ink this time around. Doug, K1DG, bested his 2007 Maine high power record from N1LI. Karl, N8NA/3, updated his low power Delaware record from six years earlier, while Don, W4OC, did the same from South Carolina. Both the high power and low power records for Mississippi were pushed up by their respective owners — Tor, N4OGW/5, and Ray, WQ5L.

Stan, K5GO, improved his high power record from Arkansas that had been on the books for eight years. It was only a matter of time before Pat, N9RV/7, made his presence known in Montana — erasing the high power record that AB7BG set 12 years earlier. There was a shootout in



**Figure 2 — Ralph, N5RZ, at the helm of K5TR.**

Wyoming in the QRP category, with KB7Q ending up ahead of WC7S. Both of their scores eclipsed the old record that WC7S set in 2003. N9CK's low power score demolished the old record for Wisconsin, held by K9PG from 1999. Mark, AG9A, pushed up his Iowa record from N0NI in the high power category and Pete, WW2Y/0, turned on his amp to set a new high power mark for Nebraska, erasing the one set in 1991 by KV0I.

### Next Time

The next CW Sprint will take place February 8 UTC (Saturday, February 7, local time in North America). For team registration, use the NCJ Web page, [www.ncjweb.com](http://www.ncjweb.com). Participants may submit logs via e-mail to [cwsprint@kkn.net](mailto: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 within two weeks of the contest and announced on the CQ-Contest e-mail reflector as well as on the NCJ Web site.

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](http://www.ncjweb.com). The CQ-Contest reflector is also a great place to ask questions about this event (see <http://lists.contesting.com/mailman/listinfo/CQ-Contest> for additional information about this resource).

### Soapbox

My best sprint in a while due to good mults. Heard, but did not work, KS, NE and AL and never heard MO. — K0OU

It was great to hear VE5MX again and also WD0T. I was surprised that each hour was better than the previous one: 54, 65, 67, and 78. Eighty meters is seldom my best band. — K1HT

Just handing out some QSOs with a 12-foot inverted L for 20, my wife's feather duster for support and 100 W. — K2KW

Missed KY as usual. Activity and conditions were good, especially on 40 and

80. — K4FXN

Rain static from the remains of Hurricane Hannah. Amplifier relay failed in the first hour, so I was forced to go with a single radio for the rest of the contest. Actually, I think it helped my rate to just stay focused on one radio. — K5ZD

It wasn't until I switched to 40 that I realized how poor 20 had been. Those strong East Coast stations and a few strong Midwest stations had fooled me into thinking the band was wide open. — K6NR

Lots of gripes about 20 meter conditions. Signals I heard were loud, but I ran out of stations to work after an hour. Made more than half of my Qs on 40 meters — not normal, but a good time nonetheless. — K6ZH

Finally decided to use "LAR" in place of "LARRY." I figure that anything I saved in dropping two letters was lost in repeat requests! — K7SV

I was working in Yellowstone Park for the

### Team Score Summary

<i>Austin Powers Dashers</i>		<i>Northern California Contest Club #1</i>		<i>Southeast Sprint Coalition #1</i>		<i>Southern California Contest Club #1</i>	
N6TR	18,914	N6TV	17,856	W4PA	17,050	W6YI	17,376
K5TR	17,250	N5KO	16,309	N2NL	16,027	K6NA	14,736
N3BB	17,088	K6XX	14,896	N4AF	15,744	N6AA	14,256
N4OGW	16,950	N6RO	14,674	K4RO	14,993	K6LA	13,912
K5GO	14,194	W6YX	13,860	W4OC	13,776	AC6T	13,489
W5KFT	14,112	W6OAT	13,818	N4OX	12,596	W6EEN	13,442
K5OT	13,152	N6XI	13,392	KU8E	11,340	N6VR	13,019
K5WA	12,276	K6AW	13,254	K4FXN	11,308	K6ZH	10,260
W0BH	11,653	W6RGG	11,844	N4PN	10,534	K6NR	99,88
WQ5L	11,475	W7RN	10,755	K1ZZI	9374	XE2GG	9636
<b>Total</b>	<b>147,064</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>140,658</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>132,742</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>130,114</b>

5. SMC #1 (W9RE, N9CK, K9BGL, KA9FOX, K0OU, K9MMS, K9CT, K8GU, K9ZO, N9FC)
6. YCCC #1 (K5ZD, K1KI, N1LI, K1HT, N2GC, N1BAA, W1EBI, K1GU, W1JQ, W1WEF)
7. NCCC #2 (K6RB, W0YK, N16T, K9YC, N6DE, W6SX, K6SRZ, NW6P, K6MM, N6EE)
8. CCO (VE3EJ, VE3NE, VE3DZ, VA3NR, VE3EY, VE3XB, VE3UTT, VE3KI, VE3RCN)
9. MR/NC (K9NW, N5OT, N9RV, K8MR, KL7WV, KL7RA, W8CAR, WW3S, K2KW)
10. FRC (N2NT, AA3B, N2NC, W2RQ, WW2Y, K3MD)
11. Austin Ditters (K5NZ, N5DO, W5WMU, KG5U, K5MR, AC5AA, W5ZL)
12. Corner Pocket (K7SS, K7RL, W7WHY, NG7Z, K7WA, NN7SS, WC7S)
13. SMC #2 (N0NI, WI9WI, WO9S, N9HZ, WW9R, K9GY, K9ZT)
14. Snowcats (N2IC, KO7X, W0ETT, AC0DS, K0UK)
15. YCCC #2 (K1EA, KM3T, K1AR, K2KQ)
16. MWA (KOAD, NA0N, NOAT, WA0MHJ, WG0M)
17. SCCC #2 (W4EF, N6KI, W6TK, KQ6ES, NE6I)
18. NCCC #3 (K6VVA, K6LRN, NO6X, W6NF, N6EEB, K6NV, KA3DRR, N6WG, K6CSL)
19. SSC #2 (K4BAI, N2WN, NA4BW, W4AU)
20. CADXA (N7CW, N7FO, AA4Q)
21. AVRA (KN3A, W3WC)

### Guest Operators

AC6T	@W6RFU
K3CR	LZ4AX
K5OT	@K5NA
K5TR	N5RZ
K5XR	W5ASP
K6AW	@W6CS
KL7WV	W3YQ
N0NI	AG9A
N1LI	K1DG
N5KO	@W6NL
N6DE	@K6TD
N6EEB	WT6K
N7FO	KN5H
N8SR	@N8JI
NN7SS	K6UFO
W4EF	@W6UE
W5KFT	K5PI
W6YI	N6MJ
W6YX	N7MH
W7RN	W6EU
XE2GG	N6AN







