

# Results: North American Sprint CW — September 2017

The 81st running of the North American CW Sprint took place on September 10, 2017. Typically, we see less activity in this running than for the February event, and this proved true once again. We received 168 logs last February compared to 122 for September. This compares to 134 logs in September 2016, and 124 the year before that.

Conditions seemed worse for most stations this time. Coupled with the activity level, this resulted in only two stations eclipsing the 300 mark. You would have to go back more than 20 years to find a lower number (anyone remember the "Domino and the Dare'ricks" team?). Nobody managed to make 100 contacts or more on 20 meters. In fact, only six people had more than 80 QSOs on that band. Normally, 20 meters hangs on due to the extra sunlight in September, and many stations can work triple digits there. September is not the best time for 80-meter propagation, but many stations logged more QSOs on 80 than on 20. Only two stations made 100 or more contacts on 80 meters. Obviously, rates were down. Most of the Top 10 stations had at least 1 hour with fewer than 60 QSOs, and some even had an hour in the 40s.

## High Power

It has been 3 years since we welcomed a new member to the list of CW Sprint champions. After a steady rise in the top score listings over the past 4 years, Eric Tichansky, NO3M, plodded his way through the mud to his first victory. Eric narrowly beat Pat, N9RV, who would have otherwise gotten his first-ever "hat trick" by winning his third straight CW Sprint. Kirk, K4RO, came in 3rd place with the only other score above 13,000. Trey, N5KO, had a steady effort, not having a great 2nd, 3rd or 4th hour but managing to keep the rate above 60 for each of them to land in 4th place. Three of the top four scores were posted by past *NCJ* editors.

Howie, N4AF, came in fifth, followed by Mike, W9RE, and Jim, N3BB. Chuck, KØRF, made the Top 10 for the first time, ending in 8th place, followed by AA3B and N6TV. If you add up the number of times the other nine operators have made the Top 10, the total is 144, or an average of 16 Top 10 showings apiece.

## Top 10 Scores

Call Sign	Score	Bnd Chgs	Qs Lost	00Z	01Z	02Z	03Z
NO3M	13,545	148	4	107	73	87	48
N9RV	13,288	132	1	108	62	72	60
K4RO	13,112	142	5	94	73	79	52
N5KO	12,728	94	4	99	70	66	61
N4AF	12,716	132	8	101	73	66	49
W9RE	12,470	118	5	96	69	78	47
N3BB	12,384	88	3	100	66	68	54
KØRF	12,364	76	7	81	71	74	55
AA3B	11,792	121	2	91	61	68	48
N6TV	11,726	72	0	101	69	63	53

## Top 10 High Power (Max 12 Band Changes)

Call Sign	Score	Bnd Chg	Qs Lost	00Z	01Z	02Z	03Z
K5ZD	11,029	4	3	72	80	62	55
K9NW	10,619	10	4	83	65	79	32
N5RZ	10,373	2	8	66	72	52	63
K9BGL	10,332	12	1	82	62	61	41
KØEJ	10,040	10	1	59	78	71	43
K4BAI	9,789	4	0	77	72	56	46
K9ZO	9,635	4	8	55	71	67	42
W1WEF	9,324	8	8	66	59	59	38
K1DG	9,243	4	8	72	67	56	42
AJ6V	8,815	2	6	65	56	55	39

## Top 10 Low Power

Call Sign	Score	Bnd Chg	Qs Lost	00Z	01Z	02Z	03Z
NM5M	10,668	2	6	70	70	62	52
NØAX	10,560	56	2	75	60	63	42
W4OC	10,200	92	7	71	70	59	55
K7SV	9,512	11	6	53	79	66	34
W1NN	9,512	100	3	62	56	71	43
N8EA	9,009	14	1	73	49	66	43
NAØN	9,009	80	3	73	55	60	43
WDØT	8,695	48	7	69	64	58	44
K3UA	8,610	4	3	55	54	74	22
WQ5L	8,405	8	1	57	55	56	37

## Top 10 Low Power (Max 12 Band Changes)

Call Sign	Score	Bnd Chg	Qs Lost	00Z	01Z	02Z	03Z
NM5M	10,668	2	6	70	70	62	52
K7SV	9,512	11	6	53	79	66	34
K3UA	8,610	4	3	55	54	74	22
WQ5L	8,405	8	1	57	55	56	37
ABØS	7,980	8	5	65	47	54	44
W3KB	7,449	4	4	43	62	45	41
K7BG	6,882	6	5	54	53	34	45
ND8L	6,475	3	4	41	55	33	46
N6AN	5,928	5	0	37	32	54	33
N9NB	5,814	10	3	62	53	38	0

## Top QRP

Call Sign	Score	Bnd Chg	Qs Lost	00Z	01Z	02Z	03Z
KE3X	5,110	14	8	44	35	43	24
KEØTT	4,690	2	17	0	55	40	39
NN7SS	3,060	8	11	16	15	37	34
KA2FHN	620	6	4	13	3	4	11
KX6X	350	1	5	3	3	11	8
K1SX	98	1	1	2	12	0	0
N8XX	70	1	3	0	2	8	0

## Low Power

The competition among the top three spots in the Low Power category was just as it was in the High Power category. Eric, NM5M, held onto 1st place, just a couple of contacts ahead of Ward, NØAX. Close behind was Don, W4OC, with your South Carolina multiplier. Larry, K7SV, tied with Hal, W1NN, for 4th place. There was also a tie for 6th place, with N8EA and NAØN. WDØT, K3UA, and WQ5L finished off the Top 10 list.

## QRP

Seven entered in the QRP category. Your DC multiplier was likely provided by Ken Low, KE3X, who made 146 contacts. Considering how poor conditions were, that's excellent. Second place went to Dan, KEØTT. Mark, K6UFO, piloted NN7SS via remote and just topped 100 QSOs to take 3rd place. The other brave souls taking on the Sprint with QRP were KA2FHN, KX6X, K1SX, and N8XX.

## Team Competition

The Ad Hoc High Power team took 1st place, followed by the Northern California Contest Club Team #1. Third place went to the Pulled Pork team, followed by the Low Power version of the Ad Hoc team. With the maximum number of team members reduced from 10 to 5, we did see a small uptick in the number of teams registered — up to 17 teams. This does mean the actual number of stations registered as a team fell significantly, though. Sponsoring a team is the best way to help improve participation. Let's see if we can get more than 20 teams sponsored next time.

Top 10 QSO Totals		Top 10 Multipliers		Golden Logs		Top 10 Band Changes	
NO3M	315	AA3B	44	N6TV	286	NO3M	148
N9RV	302	KØRF	44	K4BAI	251	K4RO	142
K4RO	298	K4RO	44	CG3KI	221	N4AF	132
N5KO	296	K5TR	44	N6AN	156	N9RV	132
N4OGW	292	NØAX	44	NW2K	120	AA3B	121
W9RE	290	N4AF	44	N6MJ	79	W9RE	118
N4AF	289	N9RV	44			KZ5D	117
N3BB	288	N3BB	43			N4OGW	106
N6TV	286	N5KO	43			W1NN	100
KØRF	281	NO3M	43			W8WTS	99
		W9RE	43				

## Golden Logs

Six stations produced Golden Logs with no score reductions after log checking. If you would like to know what deductions were made from your score, request a copy of your log check report by e-mailing me at [tree@kkn.net](mailto:tree@kkn.net). Be sure to include the call sign you used in the contest.

## Team Scores

<b>1. Ad Hoc HP</b>		<b>2. Northern California Contest Club #1</b>		<b>3. Pulled Pork</b>		<b>4. Ad Hoc LP</b>	
NO3M	13,545	N5KO	12,728	N3BB	12,384	NØAX	10,560
K4RO	13,112	N6TV	11,726	K5TR	11,484	W4OC	10,200
N4AF	12,716	N6RO	10,496	KZ5D	10,752	K7SV	9,512
W9RE	12,470	K6MR	9,240	N5RZ	10,373	NAØN	9,009
N4OGW	11,680	K9YC	9,126	K5AX	6,720	WDØT	8,695
<b>Total</b>	<b>63,523</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>53,316</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>51,713</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>47,976</b>
5. MRRC/NCC WEST		K9NW, W1NN, W8WTS, ND8L, W9PA		39,526			
6. MRRC/NCC NORTH		KW8N, K8MR, N8EA, NA8V, N8XX		37,654			
7. Oregon Smoke		N6TR, N7XU, WS7L, W7WHY, KI7Y		35,955			
8. PVRC		N3QE, N1LN, WJ9B, KE3X		33,592			
9. MRRC/NCC EAST		K3UA, K3LR, W2FU, W3YQ, NW2K		31,590			
10. COO		VE3DZ, VE3JM, CG3KI, VE3EJ		30,166			
11. NCCC #2		AJ6V, N6ZFO, NA6O, W6RGG, W6OAT		29,590			
12. BIG SKY		N9RV, K7BG, KJ9C		26,470			
13. Outlaws Raiders		N6VR, AA7V, W9CF, NG7Z, N9NA		24,968			
14. SMC Huracan		K9ZO, W19WI, K9GY, WT2P		23,782			
15. Swine Time		NM5M, WQ5L, KØNM		23,617			
16. SCCC		N5ZO, WQ6X		13,189			
17. NCCC #3		K6AW, K6LRN		12,420			

## Records

The record book only had one change this time around. Ken, KE3X, submitted the first-ever score from Washington, DC.

## Next Time

The next CW Sprint will take place on February 4 (the evening of Saturday, February 3, in US time zones) starting at 0000 UTC. Participants may operate until 0359 UTC inclusive. If you start a contact just before the clock ticks over to 0400, feel free to finish and log it at 0359 UTC.

For team registration, use the *NCJ* web page, [www.ncjweb.com](http://www.ncjweb.com). Logs can be submitted via e-mail to [cwsprint@kkn.net](mailto:cwsprint@kkn.net) or by using the log-submission form on the *NCJ* website. **Logs are due 7 days after the contest!** Final scores are typically posted within 2 weeks of the contest on the *NCJ* website and on the CQ-Contest reflector.

## SOAPBOX

Good warm-up for Sweepstakes! — K9GY

40 and 80 were open to everywhere, and enjoyed very few fills and repeats as everyone's sigs seemed to be strong. Thanks for your copy of my QRP — you guys do the heavy lifting — KEØTT

You would think that I would know when 0000 UTC was. Got on an hour late! — KJ9C

Conditions surprisingly good after the week of flares. Glad to hear everyone on and staying low in the band on 40 to avoid emergency nets. Not surprised to miss FL, though. The pace seemed a little more relaxed this time out. It was good to get on and stop worrying about hurricanes for 4 hours. — NØAX

Conditions were OK, but activity seemed

## Portable Operation at my Neighbor's House

The CalTech club station (W6UE) had been available to me for much of the last 45 years, but it's off the air due to building changes on campus. This presented an opportunity to try operating portable. My neighbor's yard was available, so I erected a 12-meter Spiderpole and raised an adjustable inverted V. On the picnic table under a covered patio, I laid out my K3 and laptop plus a USB/battery LED lamp. After adding headphones and a paddle, I was ready to roll. Setup took about an hour, and most of that was antenna work and setting up *N1MM*.

The installation performed well. On 20 I got a decent start, although responses to my CQs were few. I worked all across the country, Washington to Maine, Arizona to Georgia, even Hawaii and a few Canadians on 20 and 40. A break was necessary to retune the antenna to 40 meters. On 80 I used the K3 tuner for a match.

The result was 156 QSOs and 37 mults — not a bad result for an effort that came together in one day.

What a treat to sit outside at the picnic table on a lovely Southern California day/evening and play radio. I also kept in mind those around North America who were confronting nature's fury. This operation gave me a better idea how to get on the air in a real emergency. — David Hodge, N6AN

way down. Hurricane Irma? No FL stations logged. Heard K1VSJ (RI) and VO1MP but always on the wrong side of the QSO. Was lucky to get WØDB in NE with 1 minute left. — N6TV

Disturbed conditions! So many weak and warbled signals. So many people couldn't hear me QRP. I held out on 20 until only 90 minutes to sunset. 40 was packed, and I could only attract the attention of a few super-loud folks. Back to 20 until sunset. Eventually 40m was workable, since everyone was already down to 80. Finally worked a few in the last quarter hour on 80. Well, at least I met my "low goal" of 100

QSOs. — NN7SS

Great fun and nice band conditions. — W9RE

Poor conditions 20/80, 40 just OK. Great to work the usual and new sprinters. — WDØT

I've not run a Sprint in nearly 5 years. Normally, when running remotely, Sprints GiGs are usually not a good idea. After a false start, however, I gave it a go and eventually managed over 100 QSOs in the log. Over the weekend it looks like we were given quite a boost, with an SFI of 228! Even with a K-Index of 1, noise was

nevertheless a noticeable problem. Look for a write up on the GiG and the FOC Contest in WQ6X Contest blog, <http://wq6x.blogspot.com> — WQ6X

Guest Ops  
CG3KI (VE3KI)  
K1IMI (N4CW)  
K5TR (K5OT)  
K5ZD (@W7WA)  
N7XU (K4XU)  
NM5M (@K5RT)  
W1A (K1KI)

**Scoring Summary (new records in bold type)**

Call Sign	Name	QTH	20	40	80	QSO	Mlt	Score	Bnd Chg	Team	Call Sign	Name	QTH	20	40	80	QSO	Mlt	Score	Bnd Chg	Team	
W1WEF	JACK	CT	50	92	80	222	42	9,324	8		N9RV	PAT	MT	93	119	90	302	44	13,288	132	BIG SKY	
K1DG	DOUG	NH	57	107	73	237	39	9,243	4		N6TR	TREE	OR	75	117	79	271	42	11,382	36	Oregon Smoke	
K1IMI	BERT	ME	32	84	51	167	36	6,012	3		K5ZD	RANDY	WA	79	105	85	269	41	11,029	4		
K1AR	JOHN	NH	17	78	54	149	39	5,811	4		N7XU	DICK	OR	50	101	72	223	38	8,474	4	Oregon Smoke	
K1VSJ	*HOWIE	RI	14	19	12	45	19	855	3		WJ9B	WILL	ID	65	94	64	223	38	8,474	40	PVRC	
K1SX	**DAVE	MA	13	1	0	14	7	98	1		N6VR	RAY	AZ	38	88	84	210	38	7,980	4	Outlaws Raiders	
W1A	*TOM	MA	0	11	0	11	8	88	0		AA7V	STEVE	AZ	45	79	81	205	37	7,585	6	Outlaws Raiders	
N2NT	ANDY	NJ	67	111	88	266	42	11,172	59		K7BG	*MATT	MT	49	89	48	186	37	6,882	6	BIG SKY	
W2RQ	BILL	NJ	53	100	77	230	38	8,740	9		KJ9C	MEL	MT	15	83	82	180	35	6,300	4	BIG SKY	
W2FU	*JEFF	NY	33	57	68	158	36	5,688	2	MRRC/NCC E	WS7L	CARL	OR	55	77	38	170	35	5,950	12	Oregon Smoke	
NW2K	DEAN	NY	50	50	20	120	34	4,080	2	MRRC/NCC E	W7WHY	TOM	OR	49	75	29	153	37	5,661	17	Oregon Smoke	
K2UA	RUS	NY	5	75	0	80	33	2,640	1		W9CF	*KEVIN	AZ	27	79	33	139	34	4,726	8	Outlaws Raiders	
KA2FHN	**BILL	NY	6	12	13	31	20	620	6		KI7Y	JIM	OR	33	75	24	132	34	4,488	8	Oregon Smoke	
NO3M	TY	PA	87	129	99	315	43	13,545	148	Ad Hoc HP	NG7Z	*PAUL	AZ	23	61	42	126	30	3,780	2	Outlaws Raiders	
AA3B	BUD	PA	72	114	82	268	44	11,792	121		NN7SS	**BURT	WA	28	55	19	102	30	3,060	8		
N3QE	TIM	MD	68	109	95	272	39	10,608	16	PVRC	K7SS	*DAN	WA	45	50	0	95	31	2,945	1		
K3UA	*PHIL	PA	17	95	93	205	42	8,610	4	MRRC/NCC E	N7WA	*MIKE	WA	22	52	11	85	30	2,550	2		
K3LR	TIM	PA	33	77	70	180	42	7,560	4	MRRC/NCC E	N7CW	*BUD	AZ	37	39	0	76	30	2,280	1		
W3KB	*KEITH	PA	43	84	64	191	39	7,449	4		N9NA	JOHN	AZ	21	13	5	39	23	897	2	Outlaws Raiders	
W3YQ	TIM	PA	24	69	64	157	36	5,652	3	MRRC/NCC E	KX6X	**KEN	AZ	6	19	0	25	14	350	1		
KE3X	**KEN	DC	40	47	59	146	35	5,110	14	PVRC	KW8N	BOB	OH	56	102	93	251	40	10,040	48	MRRC/NCC N	
N8NA	*KARL	DE	0	32	51	83	31	2,573	5		K8MR	JIM	OH	75	98	84	257	39	10,023	15	MRRC/NCC N	
K4RO	KIRK	TN	73	124	101	298	44	13,112	142	Ad Hoc HP	W1NN	*HAL	OH	53	93	86	232	41	9,512	100	MRRC/NCC W	
N4AF	AL	NC	71	127	82	289	44	12,716	132	Ad Hoc HP	N8EA	*JOE	MI	47	99	85	231	39	9,009	14	MRRC/NCC N	
W4OC	*DON	SC	65	106	84	255	40	10,200	92	Ad Hoc LP	N8AV	GREG	MI	49	88	87	224	38	8,512	42	MRRC/NCC N	
KØEJ	MARK	TN	61	106	84	251	40	10,040	10		W8WTS	*JIM	OH	49	90	79	218	38	8,284	99	MRRC/NCC W	
K4BAI	JOHN	GA	54	113	84	251	39	9,789	4		ND8L	*RAY	OH	49	58	68	175	37	6,475	3	MRRC/NCC W	
K7SV	*LAR	VA	55	96	81	232	41	9,512	11	Ad Hoc LP	KE8M	DAVE	OH	35	41	62	138	33	4,554	2		
N1LN	BRUCE	NC	51	102	82	235	40	9,400	33	PVRC	N7MH	MIKE	MI	18	26	32	76	31	2,356	2		
K4FXN	DAN	KY	39	85	78	202	37	7,474	3		N8XX	**ZIG	MI	0	4	6	10	7	70	1	MRRC/NCC N	
N4DW	*DAVE	TN	15	82	74	171	38	6,498	26		W9RE	MIKE	IN	79	122	89	290	43	12,470	118	Ad Hoc HP	
N9NB	*TED	VA	31	86	36	153	38	5,814	10		K9NW	MIKE	IN	43	118	98	259	41	10,619	10	MRRC/NCC W	
N5TOO	*VAN	GA	5	66	47	118	34	4,012	9		K9BGL	KARL	IL	51	107	88	246	42	10,332	12		
KG3V	*TOM	VA	17	47	30	94	34	3,196	15		K9ZO	RALPH	IL	57	88	90	235	41	9,635	4	SMC Huracan	
K1GU	NED	TN	0	0	75	75	32	2,400	0		W19WI	JIM	WI	50	85	64	199	37	7,363	2	SMC Huracan	
N3BB	JIM	TX	86	107	95	288	43	12,384	88	Pulled Pork	W9PA	DAVE	IN	20	43	59	122	38	4,636	2	MRRC/NCC W	
N4OGW	TOR	MS	72	117	103	292	40	11,680	106	Ad Hoc HP	K9GY	*IRMA	IL	11	45	50	106	33	3,498	2	SMC Huracan	
K5TR	GEO	TX	79	103	79	261	44	11,484	74	Pulled Pork	WT2P	*CJ	IL	9	57	40	106	31	3,286	20	SMC Huracan	
KZ5D	ART	LA	76	107	73	256	42	10,752	117	Pulled Pork	KC9K	DAVE	IL	30	45	21	96	31	2,976	3		
NM5M	*ERIC	TX	74	99	81	254	42	10,668	2	Swine Time	KØRF	CHUCK	CO	69	117	95	281	44	12,364	76		
N5RZ	GATOR	TX	72	100	81	253	41	10,373	2	Pulled Pork	KØEU	KEN	CO	64	110	90	264	42	11,088	92		
WQ5L	*RAY	MS	37	101	67	205	41	8,405	8	Swine Time	NØAX	*WARD	MO	52	106	82	240	44	10,560	56	Ad Hoc LP	
K5AX	*TOM	TX	54	78	60	192	35	6,720	28	Pulled Pork	WØBH	BOB	KS	48	100	95	243	39	9,477	40		
KØNM	NIZ	TX	41	55	46	142	32	4,544	2	Swine Time	NAØN	*PAT	MN	57	90	84	231	39	9,009	80	Ad Hoc LP	
KC5DCT	*TIM	TX	6	2	0	8	5	40	1		WDØT	*TODD	SD	42	105	88	235	37	8,695	48	Ad Hoc LP	
N5KO	TREY	CA	87	124	85	296	43	12,728	94	NCCC #1	ABØS	*TIM	KS	33	91	86	210	38	7,980	8		
N6TV	BOB	CA	89	113	84	286	41	11,726	72	NCCC #1	KEØTT	**DAN	MN	12	64	58	134	35	4,690	2		
N6RO	KEN	CA	86	99	71	256	41	10,496	56	NCCC #1	NØAC	*BILL	CO	15	71	28	114	33	3,762	3		
N5ZO	MARKO	CA	77	99	77	253	41	10,373	38	SCCC	VE3DZ	YURI	ON	66	101	83	250	41	10,250	91	CCO	
K6MR	KEN	CA	67	94	70	231	40	9,240	20	NCCC #1	VE3JM	VLAD	ON	71	99	78	248	37	9,176	64	CCO	
K9YC	JIM	CA	70	106	58	234	39	9,126	58	NCCC #1	CG3KI	RICH	ON	60	93	68	221	36	7,956	2	CCO	
AJ6V	ED	CA	82	95	38	215	41	8,815	2	NCCC #2	VE3YT	*VIC	ON	10	67	67	144	39	5,616	8		
N6ZFO	*BILL	CA	55	91	47	193	37	7,141	22	NCCC #2	VE3EJ	JOHN	ON	22	47	27	96	29	2,784	5	CCO	
K6AW	STEVE	CA	56	82	37	175	36	6,300	4	NCCC #3	VE3FU	*CHRIS	ON	0	31	44	75	30	2,250	3		
K6LFRN	DICK	CA	59	66	45	170	36	6,120	2	NCCC #3	VE3UTT	*ART	ON	8	32	29	69	26	1,794	4		
N6AN	*REX	CA	47	88	21	156	38	5,928	5		VE5SDH	*SUMMER	SK	17	30	0	47	22	1,034	1		
NA6O	GARY	CA	40	73	47	160	35	5,600	6	NCCC #2	VE3RCN	*KEVIN	ON	2	25	13	40	22	880	11		
W6RGG	BOB	CA	66	61	27	154	36	5,544	2	NCCC #2	VE3TM	*VLAD	ON	12	20	0	32	16	512	3		
WQ6X	*RON	CA	18	35	35	88	32	2,816	2	SCCC	XE2AU	*BEN	XE	0	0	1	1	1	1	0		
W6OAT	*RUSTY	CA	43	40	0	83	30	2,490	1	NCCC #2												
N6MJ	DAN	CA	0	52	27	79	27	2,133	1													
AK6VS	*VAL	CA	9	31																		