

Results: North American Sprint, CW — September 2018 (revised 11 Nov 2018)

To start with, thanks to Tree, N6TR, who is letting go of the reins after writing this report for about 20 years. Tree will continue to handle log checking, provide data crunching, and do special data analyses for me. The CW Sprint is my favorite contest, and I'm honored to pick up the report from Der Meister himself.

The 83rd running of the CW Sprint took place on Saturday, September 8, 2018. Nearly 170 logs were received, and approximately 260 stations were active. As a positive sign, the activity level was up by almost 40% from last fall, thanks to increased team recruitment. Teams are a good way for participants both to feel more a part of the game as well as to give the CW Sprint a try.

Conditions seemed to be good, especially on 40 and 80 meters, where more than 80% of the contacts took place. Twenty meters was the majority band for about 45 minutes, and some activity continued until 0210 UTC. Forty was the dominant band between 0045 and 0230. With MUFs dropping, 80 meters is a majority band for longer, and by 0230, most contacts were made there. Activity on 40 meters continued right through the end of the Sprint, however, with some mults such as Rhode Island, Nevada, Hawaii, and Puerto Rico showing up in the last 30 minutes in the log for W9RE and some other (mostly) SO2R ops still CQing. A total of 5,145 QSOs were reported on 20, 13,742 on 40, and 10,310 on 80 meters.

The North American station with the most QSOs on 20 was W6YX, followed by N6MJ, a N5KO/N6TR tie, and an interloper from Texas, N3BB. Typically, this distinction is reserved for the stations in the west that have more sunlight. On 40 meters, the tops were N6TV, N5KO, K4RO/W5KFT (K5PI) tie, and W6YX/KØRF tie, while the 80-me-ter heavyweights were N3QE, N2NT/W2RQ/W9RE tie, and K3UA/NØAX tie.

High Power

N5KO won this one with a 1,000-point margin over W9RE. Mike and Kirk, K4RO, were next, and the only competitors with more than 15,000 points. N6TV was just a bit behind, followed by N4OGW, W6YX (N7MH op), N3BB, N6TR, who managed this with one radio and two, count 'em, two band changes, N2NT, who checked in as the only East Coaster in the box, and N5ZO.

Trey's win from the hilltop W6NL station was his ninth in the Sprint, tying him with N2IC for the third most overall wins, after N5TJ and N6TR.

Top 10 (Maximum 12 Band Changes)

The aforementioned N6TR, along with K5TR (K5OT op), N5RZ (building a new station after retiring and moving), N6MJ, K5ZD, K8MR, K9NW, K6XX, K3LR, and N3RD, Dave, who is a master CWOps guy. Welcome to Sprint Land!

Top 10 Low Power

KØEU grabbed the win, followed by N8EA, and NAØN. After that, K7SV, K9PG, and N2NL (did you copy that Dave now is in Alabama?) were deadlocked with virtually identical scores! WQ5L, W8WTS,

K3UA, and W1NN rounded out the Top 10 LPers with solid results. The number of band changes was much lower here than with the high power crowd, but most of the group were moving around with the exception of N2NL, WQ5L, and K3UA who had only a handful of band changes.

QRP

Karl, N8NA, took the crown and provided Delaware to the deserving. NN7SS, KEØTT, K8CN, and W4ER had sizeable scores as well, followed by N9NA, K1SX, AA4LS, and N8XX. N8NA is not often seen in the QRP listings but made a lot of Sprinters happy by putting Delaware in their logs. The QRP Top 10 jumped around the country from New England to Arizona to Minnesota to Alabama.



Mark, K6UFO, also known as "Burt," NN7SS, operates remote through the Internet and RemoteHamradio.com. Nothing unusual about that, but in this case the "remote" station is only about 4 feet to his left, with no direct connection other than via the Internet. Mark's station is one of the RHR network stations when he's not using it, but he no longer reconfigures it for local use. If no cables are moved to reconfigure the station, fewer things stop working, so it's less trouble this way. The large coffee mug is a required accessory when near Seattle or when trying to Sprint. [Courtesy of Mark Aaker, K6UFO]

Golden Logs

Eleven logs had no errors at all, with N5ZO (314) and N3QE (303) making a form of Sprint Hat Trick (well, at least the number “3” is in the calculation) followed closely by the Gator, N5RZ with 298, K9BGL (265), and N8EA (250) with sizable activity, as well as NW2K, N4AF (on the air a bit following Hurricane Florence), and K3SV with perfect logs. NG7NV checked in late from Nevada with a small-but-perfect log as well. Ditto K1SX.

Team Competition

Twenty-eight teams checked in, with some super creative names such as the SMC’s Guan Waki and Guana Gitcha. They may have won the name game, but the Northern California Contest Club #1 took the win with N5KO, N6TV, W6YX (N7MH), K6XX, and N6RO.

Mults, Mults, Mults

The most active mults were California, Texas, Ohio, Pennsylvania, and Illinois. Conversely, the five least active (discounting a couple of onesie-twosies) were Hawaii (8), KP4 (12), Nebraska (20), Nevada (22), and Rhode Island (23).

The mult award goes to K4RO (47), N5KO-W6YX-W9RE (46), followed by four stations at 45, and seven at 44. This facet of the Sprint continues to be a combination of good ears, being on the right side of a QSO, and some good fortune.

Next Time

The next running of the CW Sprint will be in February. Look for even more 40- and 80-meter band dominance, but don’t forget to eat as many of your 20-meter Wheaties as you can before the band goes to sleep. Set clocks with WWV or equivalent, and remember that a contact that starts prior to 0400 can be completed and the time reset to 0359.

For team registration, use the NCJ website, www.ncj.com. Logs can be submitted via email to cwsprint@kkn.net or by using the log submission form on the NCJ website. **Logs are due 7 days after the end of the contest!** Final scores typically are posted within 2 weeks of the contest and are announced NCJ website and on the CQ-Contest reflector.

Soapbox

Love this contest! — K9GY

The best 4 hours in a Sprint ever. This is just such an adrenaline rush — W9RE

It was a race to hit the 300 mark, and I squeaked across it right at a minute to go! — NØAX

20 meters closed early again, but pretty good activity, except from VE. Only worked VE2, VE3, and VE5. — N6TV

Only 2 band changes! Tough going at



Low Power winner, Randy, KØEU attributes his Sprint success to the weekly NCC NS practice sessions on Thursday nights. [Courtesy of Randy Martin, KØEU]



Lucky number 7 in the Low Power category, a reliable Mississippi multiplier, Ray, WQ5L, is seen here with his furry feline second ops, Annie (left) and The Colonel at the radio table. [Jana Rocker, KK5DNA, photo]

times, but just made my goal of 300 QSOs! — K5ZD

Around 0020 I put an MP-1 vertical on 5 feet of PVC tube, tossed the single wire counterpoises for 20 and 40 out over the bushes next to my “in a hole” HOA patio, hooked the coax up to my K3 and jumped into the fray. Tough going. — N6AN

K3/10 at 5 W to wire antennas. Thanks for the fun! — Dan — KEØTT

I fired up the KPA-0.0033 amplifier and tried to dash across the road in front of the speeding trucks. With the big and clicky kW on the band, QRP has to dodge the crashing alligators. — NN7SS

This contest gave me the opportunity to test-run a pair of audio filters (an Autec QF-1A and an MFJ-752C) to process the

laptop audio. The QF-1A’s PEAK filter made *all* the difference. My only real beef is that y’all need to dial it back a bit and *listen* 1.5 seconds before calling CQ. This gives us the opportunity to call you, saving everyone the waste of time for your CQ call. — WQ6X

This was my first attempt at a sprint, so I am sorry for making some rookie mistakes. This is pretty intense; I have some work to do to get better at this. Thanks for the patience. — AA8TA

Need to get a bit better at SO2R on CW. But Thursday Night NS is helping. — KW8N

First NA Sprint. Fun! CW speeds seemed downright relaxing compared to NS sprints, so felt comfortable, though occasionally brain went on strike. — K6DAJ

Single Operator Scores (omitted from initial article)

<i>Call Sign</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>QTH</i>	<i>20</i>	<i>40</i>	<i>80</i>	<i>QSO</i>	<i>Mults</i>	<i>Score</i>	<i>Club</i>
<i>W1A</i>	<i>GERRY</i>	<i>MA</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>13</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>13</i>	<i>10</i>	<i>130</i>	<i>YCCC Nor'easters</i>
<i>N2NL</i>	<i>DAVE</i>	<i>AL</i>	<i>19</i>	<i>127</i>	<i>92</i>	<i>238</i>	<i>43</i>	<i>10,234</i>	<i>South East Sprint Co</i>
<i>W9KKN</i>	<i>BILL</i>	<i>CA</i>	<i>24</i>	<i>56</i>	<i>21</i>	<i>101</i>	<i>34</i>	<i>3434</i>	<i>NCCC #2</i>
<i>W1RH</i>	<i>BOB</i>	<i>CA</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>26</i>	<i>19</i>	<i>49</i>	<i>22</i>	<i>1078</i>	
<i>N6VR</i>	<i>RAY</i>	<i>AZ</i>	<i>57</i>	<i>108</i>	<i>96</i>	<i>261</i>	<i>43</i>	<i>11,223</i>	<i>Arizona Sharpshooter</i>
<i>WJ9B</i>	<i>WILL</i>	<i>ID</i>	<i>67</i>	<i>102</i>	<i>89</i>	<i>258</i>	<i>38</i>	<i>9804</i>	
<i>KW8N</i>	<i>BOB</i>	<i>OH</i>	<i>64</i>	<i>104</i>	<i>117</i>	<i>285</i>	<i>45</i>	<i>12,825</i>	<i>MRRC/NCC EAST</i>

National Contest Journal

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The following tables and team scores were left out of the printed results for the CW Sprint in the Nov/Dec 2018 issue.

Top Ten Scores				QSOs Made in Each Clock Hour			
Call Sign	Score	Band Chgs	Qs Lost	00Z	01Z	02Z	03Z
N5KO	16,376	133	9	103	95	85	73
W9RE	15,364	156	3	97	72	91	74
K4RO	15,040	162	10	92	89	82	57
N6TV	14,835	120	1	102	86	83	74
N4OGW	14,580	152	4	101	75	80	68
W6YX	14,352	46	2	92	77	70	73
N3BB	14,124	108	4	101	76	86	58
N6TR	13,631	2	6	88	90	69	70
N2NT	13,545	112	2	95	81	76	63
N5ZO	13,502	53	0	86	88	70	70

Top Ten High Power - Max 12 Band Changes				QSOs Made in Each Clock Hour			
Call Sign	Score	Band Chgs	Qs Lost	00Z	01Z	02Z	03Z
N6TR	13,631	2	6	88	90	69	70
K5TR	13,420	2	1	76	97	62	70
N5RZ	13,112	2	0	77	88	66	67
N6MJ	12,936	2	2	87	80	56	85
K5ZD	12,857	2	3	71	82	73	73
K8MR	12,150	12	5	69	70	79	52
K9NW	12,138	6	1	81	69	76	63
K6XX	12,120	6	2	92	80	71	60
K3LR	12,095	8	2	87	68	66	74
N3RD	11,696	2	6	65	70	67	70

Top Ten Low Power				QSOs Made in Each Clock Hour			
Call Sign	Score	Band Chgs	Qs Lost	00Z	01Z	02Z	03Z
KØEU	11,782	96	11	74	60	76	64
N8EA	10,912	20	2	59	57	69	63
NAØN	10,692	64	2	56	64	64	59
K7SV	10,252	16	8	60	65	68	40
K9PG	10,234	32	3	65	53	61	59
N2NL	10,234	6	1	69	59	51	59
WQ5L	9,828	6	1	63	52	56	63
W8WTS	9,618	101	7	65	55	61	48
K3UA	9,389	2	3	51	56	75	47
W1NN	9,120	34	4	54	55	68	51

Top Ten Low Power - Max 12 Band Changes				QSOs Made in Each Clock Hour			
Call Sign	Score	Band Chgs	Qs Lost	00Z	01Z	02Z	03Z
N2NL	10,234	6	1	69	59	51	59
WQ5L	9,828	6	1	63	52	56	63
K3UA	9,389	2	3	51	56	75	47
KG5U	8,720	4	9	65	64	48	41
K1DG	8,316	2	5	47	57	54	40
KG9X	8,190	5	9	39	49	58	49
W3KB	7,917	3	2	48	50	57	48
WW4XX	7,840	6	5	49	42	61	44
W6OAT	7,566	2	5	45	59	45	45
K4IU	7,503	8	13	37	41	51	54

Top Ten QRP				QSOs Made in Each Clock Hour			
Call Sign	Score	Band Chgs	Qs Lost	00Z	01Z	02Z	03Z
N8NA	6,513	2	3	34	46	36	51
NN7SS	4,422	3	15	31	37	44	22
KE0TT	3,920	2	9	16	39	38	19
K8CN	1,728	14	4	0	0	38	26
W4ER	1,512	4	4	10	23	21	0
N9NA	448	2	19	7	4	14	3
K1SX	144	1	0	10	0	8	0
AA4LS	72	0	3	3	6	0	0
N8XX	16	0	0	4	0	0	0

Top Ten QSO Totals	
Call Sign	QSOs
N5KO	356
N6TV	345
W9RE	334
N4OGW	324
N3BB	321
K4RO	320
N6TR	317
N2NT	315
N5ZO	314
W6YX	312

K8MR	45
KW8N	45
KZ5D	45
N4OGW	45
W4NZ	45
Many	44

Top Ten Number of Band Changes	
Call Sign	Bnd Chgs
K4RO	162
W9RE	156
N4OGW	152
KZ5D	137
N5KO	133
N4AF	126
N6TV	120
W5KFT	117
N2NT	112
N3BB	108

Top Ten Multipliers	
Call Sign	Mults
K4RO	47
N5KO	46
W6YX	46
W9RE	46

Golden Logs	
Call Sign	QSOs
N5ZO	314
N3QE	303
N5RZ	298
K9BGL	265
NW2K	168
KG7NV	27
K1SX	18
JO7KMB	6
N8XX	4

TEAM SCORES

NCCC #1	
N5KO	16,376
N6TV	14,835
W6YX	14,352
K6XX	12,120
N6RO	10,569
Total	68,252

FRC #1	
N2NT	13,545
N3RD	11,696
N2NC	11,466
W2RQ	11,193
W2GD	10,535
Total	58,435

Five Land Jokers	
N3BB	14,124
K5TR	13,420
KZ5D	13,185
N5RZ	13,112
W5KFT	12,684
Total	66,525

South East Sprint Co	
N4OGW	14,580
K4BAI	11,240
N4OX	10,290
N2NL	10,234
KU8E	10,168
Total	56,512

5. SCCC #1 (N5ZO, N6MJ, N6AA, AC6T, K6NA)	52,277
6. NCCC #2 (N6ZFO, K9YC, N6XI, AJ6V, W9KKN)	44,478
7. SMC - Guan Waki (W9RE, NØAX, K9CT, WT2P)	44,282
8. MRRC/NCC EAST (KW8N, K8MR, W8WTS, W1NN)	43,713
9. GM Rockies (KØRF, KØEU, KTØA, WØETT, KØUK)	43,498
10. YCCC Nor'easters (K5ZD, W1WEF, W1UJ, K1DG, W1A)	40,399
11. Oregon Sprinters (N6TR, K2PO, WS7L, W2VJN, N7VS)	39,987
12. MRRC/NCC SOUTH (K3LR, K3UA, ND8L, WW3S, N3SD)	36,941
13. MRRC/NCC NORTH (N8EA, NA8V, NW2K, NS2N, N8XX)	34,210
14. YCCC First Mates (K1AR, W1EBI, K2LE, W1FJ)	28,562
15. NCCC #3 (W6SX, K6LRN, K6SRZ, K6MM, N6GD)	28,537
16. TCG25 #1 (K4RO, W4NZ, N4ZZ, AC6ZM)	28,130
17. Arizona Sharpshooter (N6VR, AA7V, W9CF, N9NA, N7GP)	27,036
18. Five Land Aces (KG5U, K8LS, N5DO, K5IX)	23,215
19. MRRC/NCC WEST (K9NW, W9PA, N8AA)	22,615
20. SMC - Here Today, Guam Tomorrow (WI9WI, NN1N, K9GY, AB9YC, N9JF)	21,858
21. SMC - Guana Gitcha (K9PG, KG9X, K9KM)	20,889
22. SCCC #2 (W4EF, K6AW, KG7NV)	20,506
23. FRC #2 (W3KB, K3UL, WA3AAN)	18,612
24. NCCC #4 (W6OAT, W6RGG, K6CSL)	14,346
25. SMC - Guanny Sack (K2UA, N5RP, K9ZO)	13,985
26. SMC - Inna Guana da Vida (K9BGL, WW9R)	13,858
27. Big Sky (N9RV)	2,945
28. Five Land Rangers (AD0K, KB5RF)	717