

Results: North American Sprint, CW — September 2019

The September North American CW Sprint endured difficult conditions, especially on 80 meters, as well as a once-every-5 years competition with the CWops Open event. The third segment of the CW Open concluded immediately before the Sprint. It's difficult for most operators to do both seriously, both for family reasons as well as the ability to focus on a top-flight competition. We received 125 logs for the Sprint, and activity was noticeably lighter, despite several email promotions. Let's hope this is not a long-term trend.

On the good news side, several new sprinters took part, and team formation helped as always. Two operators with the best Sprint results historically were hobbled: N5KO's antenna failure midway through, and N2IC's dangerous electrical storm directly overhead. Despite these unfortunate happenings, the show did go on, and N9RV took the win with a very clean log (only one lost QSO). In second was W6YX (N7MH operator), and N3BB (with 13 lost contacts it pains me to write) in third.

In the competitive "few band changes category," the Top 3 were K6XX, K3LR, and K4BAI. These fellows did it in the "classic" manner, with one radio for the most part.

For the Low Power crowd, KØEU topped the field, with KG5HVO (a terrific teenage

op) and K7SV rounding out the Top 3. KG5HVO and K7SV also made fewer than 12 band changes.

Only three QRP stalwarts made it out to do battle, with W4ER and WC7S hitting it hard. All those who got W4ER in Alabama and WC7S in Wyoming have good ears and these two mighty-mites to thank.

Accuracy is important in the Sprint (*I know, I know*), and Larry, K5OT, the man behind "Geo-K5TR," won the top spot with a perfect 267-contact log. Kudos as well to W2RQ, close behind with 263, WQ5L with 228, and NAØN with 202. Six others checked in with perfection, albeit with fewer contacts.

The SO2R crowd tends to hit higher number of contacts in the Sprint, and hard-earned skill sets and good, clean station designs are required to manage this. The five highest numbers of band changes were clocked in by N4AF (back after the hurricane), N2NT, W9RE, K4RO, and KZ5D.

Teams are important in the Sprint because (1) they are fun, and (2) most important in my book, they encourage participation and local club interest. The top three teams were the Five -Landers, the Code Guys from the eastern part of the country, and The Southeastern group.

Mad River, always active, came in at #4. One of our newest teams, and perhaps the most intriguing, was the BlueBelles, a 5-Land CW "divas-duo" with Susan, K5DU, and Barb, N9NM. Barb is a Sprint vet, but this was Susan's first, and she had a ball.

Multipliers are one of the most important aspects (and variables) of the Sprint. Much has been written and tears shed about

Top 10 Scores

N9RV	12,129
W6YX	11,726
N3BB	11,640
N6TR	11,560
K4RO	11,552
N2NT	11,310
N4AF	11,271
K6XX	11,120
K3LR	10,960
K1KI	10,868

Top 10 High Power (Maximum 12 Band Changes)

K6XX	11,120
K3LR	10,960
K4BAI	10,678
N6AA	10,520
K1DG	10,413
K5TR	10,413
W2RQ	10,257
N5RZ	9,880
WDØT	9,614
K9NW	9,538

Top 10 Low Power (Maximum 12 Band Changes)

KØEU	9,640
KG5HVO	8,854
K7SV	8,664
WQ5L	8,664
K3UA	8,436
W8WTS	8,029
NAØN	7,828
K1GU	7,790
W4OC	7,659
NØAT	7,104

Top 10 Low Power (Maximum 12 Band Changes)

KG5HVO	8,854
K7SV	8,664
WQ5L	8,664
K3UA	8,436
K1GU	7,790
N5DO	6,984
KØVB	6,956
KG5U	6,480
NS2N	5,320
W9CF	5,256

Top QRP

W4ER	2,400
WC7S	1,128
N6AN	216

Top 10 QSOs

N9RV	311
K4RO	304
N3BB	291
N2NT	290
N4AF	289
N6TR	289
K1KI	286
N4OGW	286
W6YX	286
W9RE	285

Top 10 Multipliers

W6YX	41
KØEU	40
K3LR	40
K6XX	40
N3BB	40
N6AA	40
N6TR	40
AA7V	39
AE6Y	39
K1DG	39

Golden Logs

K5TR	267
W2RQ	263
WQ5L	228
NAØN	206
WI9WI	187
N9HDE	77
N6MJ	75
K9PG	25
VE3KTB	25
N6AN	18

Top 10 Band Changes

N4AF	136
N2NT	120
W9RE	120
K4RO	118
KZ5D	114
N9RV	112
W5KFT	99
N3BB	92
N4OGW	92
KØRF	91



Bryant, KG5HVO.

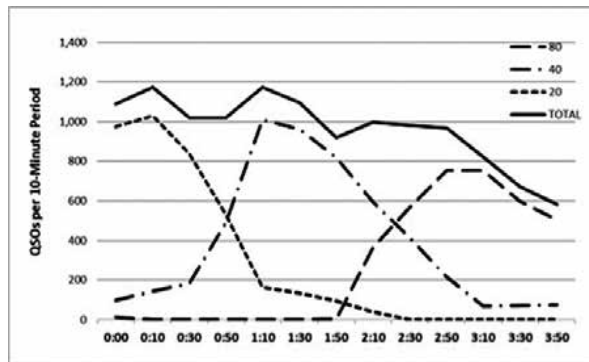
how to get more of these crucial critters, or falling short. In this running, 48 actual different states/provinces were recorded. That's misleading, however. Only 40 different multipliers actually were active with fairly numerous contacts. Eight mults (seven states/DC and BC) were logged by only two or three competitors. California was worked by all 125 logs received, TX by 122, and four more states by 121 (TN, OR, MT, and CO). On the other end of the activity scale, and thus very valuable, ON (VE3) was logged only 19 times and AK 21 times. Our QRP mighty-mite friend WC7S in WY clocked in 65 times, and all others showed up at least 86 or more times.

Referring to Figure 3, the graph of QSOs per 10-minute segment by band, we see that 20 meters came and went over the first 40 minutes. The obvious conclusion, that it was "in and out" for the east and much better in the west, doesn't seem to fit here, since the top QSO leaders in all 10 call districts made between 60 and 100 contacts on the band. There was no clear east-to-west disadvantage, as we saw in February, but a more even spread, yet with some advantage to the west.

The total rate of QSOs declined significantly after the third hour, with sharp declines the last hour. Many complained about simply running out of fresh stations to work on 80 meters. With that said, note the "tails" of second radio contacts: Early on 40 while 20 was prime, and late on 40 while 80 was the main band.



Susan, K5DU, at the radio with her new CW paddle.



QSO rates per band per 10-minute segments.

Team Scores

<i>1. Five Land Lids</i>		<i>3. SESC #1</i>		<i>5. NCCC #1</i>		<i>W6YX, K6XX, AE6Y, N6RO</i>		42,903
N3BB	11,640	N4OGW	10,868	6. SESC #2	KU8E, KG5HVO, K7SV, K1GU, W4WF		42,202	
K5TR	10,413	K4BAI	10,678	7. Morse Men	W2RQ, W2GD, K1AR, N2NC, K2UA		41,431	
KZ5D	10,064	KØEJ	9,546	8. NCCC #2	N6ZFO, K9YC, K6DAJ, K6SRZ, W9KKN		39,731	
W5KFT	9,990	N4OX	9,287	9. Broncos 1	KØEU, KØRF, WØUA, KTØA, WØETT		39,130	
N5RZ	9,880	W4NZ	8,880	10. SMC - Kernels	W9RE, NØAX, K9CT, WI9WI, K9GY		39,117	
Total	51,987	Total	49,259	11. SCCC #1	N6AA, NT6Q, K6AW, AC6T		35,804	
<i>2. Code Guys</i>		<i>4. Mad River</i>		12. Oregon #1	N6TR, N7XU, WS7L, KI7Y, N7VS		30,359	
K4RO	11,552	K9NW	9,538	13. Gunslingers	AA7V, N6VR, W9CF		21,018	
N2NT	11,310	KW8N	9,462	14. Big Sky Contesters	N9RV, KJ9C		19,843	
K3LR	10,960	K8MR	9,287	15. Five Land Rangers	N5DO, KG5U, K8LS		19,532	
K5ZD	9,620	NA8V	8,820	16. North Coast	W1NN, NS2N, NW2K, WW3S		19,443	
K3UA	8,436	W8WTS	8,029	17. NCCC #3	W6RGG, AJ6V, N6RK, W6SX, K6CSL		12,059	
Total	51,878	Total	45,136	18. Five Land BlueBelles	K5DU, N9NM		5,313	
				19. Broncos 2	K6XT, NØKQ, WC7S		4,386	
				20. Broncos 3	KØUK		3,240	

Single Operator Score Summary

Call Sign	Name	QTH	20	40	80	QSO	Mit	Score	Bnd Chg	Call Sign	Name	QTH	20	40	80	QSO	Mit	Score	Bnd Chg
K1KI	TOM	CT	77	114	95	286	38	10,868	17	W6RGG	BOB	CA	57	70	39	166	37	6,142	2
K1DG	DOUG	NH	79	114	74	267	39	10,413	6	W9KKN	BILL	CA	46	67	45	158	35	5,530	12
K5ZD	RANDY	MA	86	115	59	260	37	9,620	43	K6LRN	DICK	CA	25	68	45	138	32	4,416	2
W1WEF	JACK	CT	61	105	77	243	37	8,991	13	AJ6V	ED	CA	0	60	49	109	34	3,706	1
K1AR	JOHN	NH	76	85	53	214	38	8,132	4	N6MJ	DAN	CA	26	39	10	75	28	2,100	2
K1IMI	BERT	ME	68	72	0	140	33	4,620	1	WA6URY	DAN	CA	20	29	14	63	24	1,512	2
N2NT	ANDY	NJ	83	122	85	290	39	11,310	120	WQ6X	*RON	CA	15	33	8	56	26	1,456	2
W2RQ	BILL	NJ	65	99	99	263	39	10,257	10	N2JNR	*DAVE	CA	17	38	0	55	24	1,320	1
N2NC	JOHN	NJ	76	93	42	211	38	8,018	2	W4EF	MIKE	CA	48	0	0	48	27	1,296	0
K2UA	RUS	NY	42	105	0	147	38	5,586	7	N6RK	RICK	CA	19	21	0	40	27	1,080	1
N52N	*PAUL	NY	24	70	58	152	35	5,320	4	W6SX	HANK	CA	12	31	0	43	25	1,075	1
NW2K	*DEAN	NY	35	71	7	113	35	3,955	6	KE6GLA	*JAY	CA	0	31	0	31	20	620	0
K3LR	TIM	PA	76	107	91	274	40	10,960	9	N6AN	**REX	CA	17	1	0	18	12	216	1
N3QE	TIM	MD	71	111	91	273	38	10,374	20	K6CSL	*BERT	CA	0	6	2	8	7	56	1
W2GD	JOHN	PA	50	101	91	242	39	9,438	3	N9RV	PAT	MT	85	133	93	311	39	12,129	112
K3UA	*PHIL	PA	43	88	97	228	37	8,436	2	N6TR	TREE	OR	85	122	82	289	40	11,560	70
WA3AAN	GRANT	PA	0	79	18	97	36	3,492	1	AA7V	STEVE	AZ	58	101	67	226	39	8,814	6
WW3S	JIM	PA	32	34	38	104	32	3,328	2	N7XU	DICK	OR	62	102	63	227	38	8,626	2
K3KU	*ART	MD	13	43	37	93	32	2,976	9	KJ9C	MEL	MT	34	89	80	203	38	7,714	6
K4RO	KIRK	TN	80	126	98	304	38	11,552	118	N6VR	RAY	AZ	55	73	65	193	36	6,948	2
N4AF	AL	NC	91	124	74	289	39	11,271	136	WS7L	CARL	OR	51	88	38	177	35	6,195	2
K4BAI	JOHN	GA	92	102	87	281	38	10,678	2	W9CF	*KEVIN	AZ	26	87	33	146	36	5,256	6
K0EJ	MARK	TN	73	107	78	258	37	9,546	42	K17Y	JIM	OR	32	64	27	123	32	3,936	4
N4OX	JAY	FL	83	85	83	251	37	9,287	4	N6KW	CHUCK	WA	30	70	0	100	32	3,200	1
KU8E	JEFF	GA	72	90	82	244	38	9,272	9	K7SS	*DAN	WA	44	55	0	99	31	3,069	1
W4NZ	TED	TN	63	95	82	240	37	8,880	21	AC7AF	*BRIAN	WY	15	21	17	53	24	1,272	2
KG5HVO	*BRYANT	AL	70	93	70	233	38	8,854	9	WC7S	**DALE	WY	6	28	13	47	24	1,128	3
K7SV	*LAR	VA	68	87	73	228	38	8,664	10	N7JI	*SCOTT	OR	3	36	10	49	19	931	2
K1GU	*NED	TN	49	85	71	205	38	7,790	2	N7VS	*STEVE	OR	0	7	0	7	6	42	0
W4OC	*DON	SC	66	82	59	207	37	7,659	65	KW8N	BOB	OH	60	104	85	249	38	9,462	39
W4WF	CHRIS	FL	76	78	52	206	37	7,622	12	K8MR	JIM	OH	69	100	82	251	37	9,287	8
WF9A	ALEX	GA	0	74	71	145	37	5,365	1	NA8V	GREG	MI	57	103	92	252	35	8,820	49
N4YDU	NATE	NC	38	74	25	137	35	4,795	4	W8WTS	*JIM	OH	50	103	64	217	37	8,029	74
K4OAQ	*FRITZ	VA	0	37	54	91	30	2,730	2	W1NN	*HAL	OH	54	93	33	180	38	6,840	26
N5TOO	*VAN	GA	0	58	22	80	30	2,400	1	N8BJQ	STEVE	OH	8	28	24	60	30	1,800	6
W4ER	**JOHN	AL	24	45	6	75	32	2,400	5	W9RE	MIKE	IN	73	122	90	285	38	10,830	120
N3BB	JIM	TX	99	112	80	291	40	11,640	92	K9NW	MIKE	IN	54	107	90	251	38	9,538	12
N4OGW	TOR	MS	88	112	86	286	38	10,868	92	K9CT	CRAIG	IL	56	107	89	252	36	9,072	38
K5TR	GEO	TX	85	107	75	267	39	10,413	8	K9BGL	KARL	IL	50	91	92	233	38	8,854	14
KZ5D	ART	LA	71	116	85	272	37	10,064	114	WI9WI	JIM	WI	28	90	69	187	35	6,545	2
W5KFT	ROB	TX	93	95	82	270	37	9,990	99	K9GY	*GRACE	IL	15	38	40	93	30	2,790	20
N5RZ	GATOR	TX	76	103	81	260	38	9,880	2	AB9YC	*AJ	IL	6	72	11	89	29	2,581	4
K5NZ	MIKE	TX	73	98	82	253	39	9,867	60	K9PG	*PAUL	IL	0	12	13	25	15	375	1
WQ5L	*RAY	MS	69	101	58	228	38	8,664	8	N0AX	WARD	MO	59	116	85	260	38	9,880	62
N5DO	*DAVE	TX	72	74	48	194	36	6,984	5	K0EU	*KEN	CO	48	109	84	241	40	9,640	72
KG5U	*DALE	TX	53	64	63	180	36	6,480	6	WD0T	TODD	SD	56	105	92	253	38	9,614	6
N5UM	AL	OK	36	80	52	168	38	6,384	6	K0RF	CHUCK	CO	51	105	78	234	38	8,892	91
K8LS	LARRY	TX	50	76	38	164	37	6,068	6	W0UA	GEO	CO	35	106	74	215	38	8,170	2
K5DU	SUSAN	TX	39	42	32	113	33	3,729	6	NA0N	*PAT	MN	37	99	70	206	38	7,828	59
K5GN	*DAVE	TX	23	38	33	94	33	3,102	28	N0AT	*RON	MN	35	84	73	192	37	7,104	16
N9NM	*BARB	TX	23	30	13	66	24	1,584	4	K0VBU	*BILL	KS	18	92	78	188	37	6,956	4
W6YX	MIKE	CA	96	114	76	286	41	11,726	54	KT0A	GARY	SD	40	75	68	183	38	6,954	4
K6XX	BOB	CA	93	106	79	278	40	11,120	5	W0BH	BOB	KS	20	90	60	170	38	6,460	17
N6AA	DICK	CA	81	110	72	263	40	10,520	5	N0AC	*BILL	IA	27	77	50	154	37	5,698	33
AE6Y	ANDY	CA	82	111	66	259	39	10,101	54	W0ETT	KEN	CO	39	74	48	161	34	5,474	6
NT6Q	MARKO	CA	81	103	81	265	38	10,070	46	K0UK	*BILL	CO	18	59	31	108	30	3,240	8
N6RO	KEN	CA	79	108	75	262	38	9,956	24	N9HDE	*SCOTT	IA	0	66	11	77	31	2,387	3
N6ZFO	BILL	CA	74	101	65	240	38	9,120	6	K6XT	*ART	CO	8	44	17	69	28	1,932	4
K9YC	JIM	CA	67	88	74	229	39	8,931	12	N0KQ	BILL	CO	27	20	4	51	26	1,326	2
K6DAJ	DAVE	CA	65	100	64	229	38	8,702	2	AC0E	*JIM	KS	0	7	0	7	7	49	0
K6AW	STEVE	CA	70	89	48	207	39	8,073	4	VE5MX	TODD	SK	22	104	61	187	36	6,732	24
K6SRZ	ALAN	CA	58	77	61	196	38	7,448	4	VE3KTB	*PIERRE	ON	3	22	0	25	13	325	1
AC6T	STEVE	CA	37	95	61	193	37	7,141	4										