

## Results: North American Sprint, CW, September 2025

The 96th running of the CW North American Sprint took place a week later than the traditional September date to avoid running back-to-back with the CW Open contest. This brought us back to the usual cohabitation with Worked All Europe SSB but theoretically allowed CW aficionados to focus on the Sprint.

In practice, participation was about the same as last September, with 129 Sprint logs submitted and a total of 206 unique calls showing up in logs. This was down about 25% from the February 2025 Sprint. Band conditions were mixed, with many reports of thunderstorm and auroral interference on 40 and 80 meters, while 20 and 40 meters stayed long for most of the country. All this combined to make the last 30 minutes on 80 meters very slow. Many Soapbox comments noted the lower level of activity, with several raising the question: "Should we think about making the Sprint a 3-hour event?" That would be a radical step — if 25 to 30 more participants showed up, things would pretty much

get back to traditional norms. If you have ideas for increasing participation (especially in September) or want to weigh in on rule changes, reach out to CW Sprint manager Phil, K3UA, at [k3ua1541@me.com](mailto:k3ua1541@me.com).

### Records

Three records were set this time around, with two rare Sprint multipliers included:

- VY2TT (K6LA) was the first high power score from PE
- PJ4PA (W4PA) was the first low power score from PJ4
- HA5BMS broke HA1AG's 2014 score from HA

### Golden Logs

Three operators turned in error-free, triple-digit logs: N5ZO (288 QSOs), N5TJ (275), and WQ5L (237). Four other ops had smaller, but still pristine, logs: NM5M, N2RC, NØDL, and W7LG.

### Strategy

If 20 meters was too long (35% of all QSOs) and 80 was too noisy (25% of QSOs and 35 no shows), 40 meters was just right, with 40% of all QSOs made. Twenty meters was hopping for the first 30 minutes, but most made the change to 40 meters by 0105Z. Forty meters had the longest grazing time for the herd, serving up contacts and multipliers until about 0240Z. The problem was that 80 meters (both operator supply and band conditions) was just not up to the challenge of providing 80 minutes of fun — the average was only 45 contacts per op on 80 meters (see Figure 1).

The single-band winners were:

- 20 meters: N9RV with 112 contacts
- 40 meters: N2NT with 117
- 80 meters: W2RQ with 88 (Bill topped 80 meters with 105 in February)

N2NL led the way with 52 multipliers. Combining all those top numbers ends up with a "Mixmaster-score" of 317 contacts times 52 multipliers for 16,484 total points, which would have come in 8th place in the February Sprint.

### The Finish Line

#### Top Overall Scores

It was a tight race for the podium as the top three scorers all found 50 multipliers, and only 4 contacts differentiated first from third place.

In a repeat win, Pat, N9RV, narrowly came out on top, earning his eighth Sprint victory by making two more contacts than second place, Trey, N5KO, who was just two contacts ahead of third place, Andy, N2NT. Trey had a 10-contact lead after the first hour, but Pat roared back

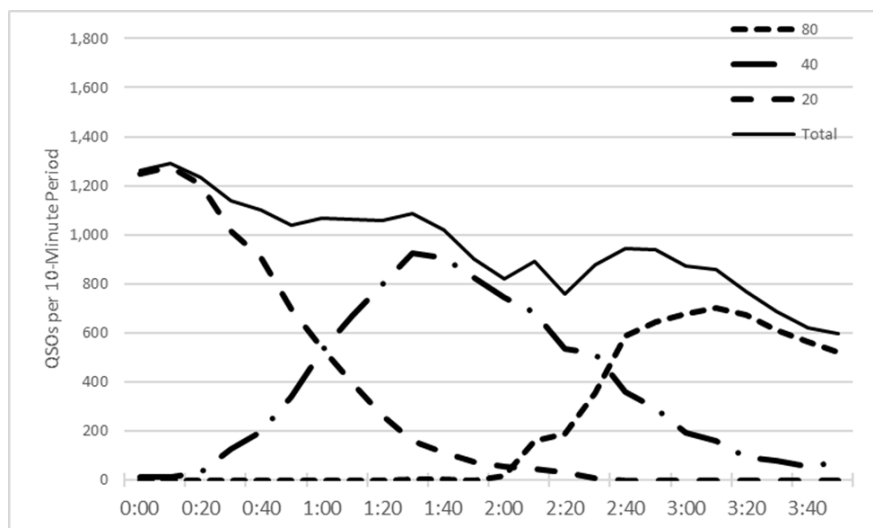


Figure 1 — QSOs by band per hour.



**Brad, WF7T, at his two-radio operating position for the CW Sprint.**

with 90 contacts to take the lead by the halfway mark and held on to the end. Dave, N2NL, used only 7 band changes but found 52 multipliers for a solid hold on fourth place, but the fifth- through seventh-place finishers (Bob, N6TV; Bill, W2RQ, and Marko, N5ZO) were separated by only 38 points. Tor, N4OGW; Kirk, K4RO, and Randy, K5ZD (operating from his new “fly-over state” location), filled out the rest of the top ten.

### High Power Classic — Max 12 Band Changes

Dave’s, N2NL, economical approach to band-switching (and those 52 multipliers) earned him first place in the Classic category to go with his position in fourth place overall. Just as in the overall standings, he was closely followed by Bill, W2RQ. John, K1AR, used a two-mult advantage for third place, overcoming fourth-place finisher Jeff’s, N5TJ, 9 QSO advantage. Tim, K3LR, barely touched his bandswitch coming in fifth, just ahead of Jim, K8MR, in seventh place. Gator, N5RZ, and Ed, AJ6V, had a close race, with Gator’s accuracy resulting in 4 fewer lost QSOs to take the eighth-place spot. Your perpetually multiplier-deficient editor, John, K3TN (remote-operating W4NF), came in ninth despite a putrid fourth hour, while Chris, W4WF, filled out the top ten.

### Low Power

Lar, K7SV, returned to the top of the overall low-power heap, edging

out Pat, NAØN, who had a 2-QSO advantage but a 1-multiplier deficit. Ray, WQ5L, came in third, while a low multiplier count dropped September’s low-power winner, Ken, KØEU, to fourth place, just ahead of Hal, W1NN, in fifth. Ron, NØAT; Jim, W8WTS; Jay, N4OX, and Tony, N7DX, made up the rest of the Low Power top ten.

Half of the Low Power top ten made fewer than 12 band changes, with WQ5L at the top of the podium, followed by NØAT, N4OX, N7DX, and K3UA. Kevin, W9CF; Ed, AI6O; AJ, NK4O (only 1 band change!); Ned, K1GU, and Mike, KM9R, filled out the Low Power Classic top ten.

### QRP

Dan, K7SS, repeated his February win at the top of the QRP gang. Mike, K8CN, moved up to second, followed by Ron, WQ6X; Bill, WIØWA; John, N6HI, and Mike, W7LG.

### Team Competition

The YINZER team of East of Mississippi ops took the team competition, edging out the NCCC #1 West Coasters. The Zoomers came in third this running, while SCCC #1 moved up to 4th. The Tennessee Contest Group HP came in fifth with only 4 individual scores contributing.

Team participation dropped 33% from February, a larger percentage decrease than the drop in entrants. Getting a team together is a great way to increase overall participation and fun.

### Next Time

The next CW Sprint will take place on February 8 UTC (Saturday, February 7, in US time zones) The event starts at 0000 UTC, and stations may operate from 0000 to 0359 UTC inclusive. If you start a QSO just before the clock ticks over to 0400, you may finish it and log it at 0359. For team registration, use the *NCJ* web page, ncjweb.com. Submit logs via the log submission form on the *NCJ* website. Logs are due 7 days after the contest!

Final scores are typically posted on the *NCJ* website within 2 weeks of the contest. Check out the web resources at <https://kkn.net/n6tr/sprint.html> and rules, records, and previous results on the *NCJ* website.

### Soapbox

“This was another WQ6X QRP SPRINT running remote from the WA6TQT superstation in Anza, California. This was the SPRINT that horrible internet conditions largely ruined. Until the last hour, internet dropouts were happening every 5 minutes or so. If I suddenly disappeared on *you*, that is because the internet would just disappear on *me*. I spent probably 30 minutes of clock time just re-establishing an internet connection — ARGH!

While running QRP, I had the advantage of a stacked Yagi array on 20 meters, a 40-meter stacked Yagi and 40-meter Stepp-IR (often phased together), and an 80-meter 4-square vertical array for 80-meters, which allowed quick direction switching. Unfortunately, not enough stations were playing on 80 meters to take advantage of it — even 40 meters was lacking. Look for a write-up at <http://WQ6X.blogspot.com>.” — WQ6X

I participated in this event for the first time after receiving your email. I am grateful to the American station that responded to the call from Japan. — JF2FIU

First Sprint from Ohio. Activity was so low it was hard to know how things were working. Felt very weak on 20 meters. Better on 40 and 80. — K5ZD

Just got on to be sure N9RV got the MT mult. — KJ9C

Heard VY1 and NE once but did not work either. Very noisy summer conditions. — N6TV

Great to work mults VO2AC, the VE3’s, VE6RST, VE7ZO, KL7SB, KP4NZ, KVØI, WØSD, and a couple stations in WY. Bands and activity did not seem that great. — W2RQ

Always fun but need more activity, as the last half hour was super slow. — W9RE

## Top Ten Overall

Call Sign	Score	QSOs	Mults	Band Changes	Qs Lost	00Z	01Z	02Z	03Z	Call Sign	QSOs
N9RV	15,300	306	50	86	3	93	90	68	55	N9RV	306
N5KO	15,200	304	50	109	3	103	78	59	64	N5KO	304
N2NT	15,100	302	50	70	1	102	76	66	58	N2NT	302
N2NL	14,716	283	52	4	7	93	72	46	72	N5ZO	288
N6TV	14,150	283	50	50	1	94	72	58	59	WD6T	284
W2RQ	14,127	277	51	7	3	88	91	59	39	N2NL	283
N5ZO	14,112	288	49	63	0	95	80	56	57	N6TV	283
N4OGW	13,950	279	50	65	1	93	69	67	50	N4OGW	279
K4RO	13,900	278	50	96	5	90	69	73	46	N6TR	279
K5ZD	13,900	278	50	42	4	87	75	70	46	NA8V	279

## Top Ten High Power (Max 12 QSYs)

Call Sign	Score	QSOs	Mults	Band Changes	Qs Lost	00Z	01Z	02Z	03Z	Call Sign	Mults
N2NL	14,716	283	52	4	7	93	72	46	72	N2NL	52
W2RQ	14,127	277	51	7	3	88	91	59	39	K1AR	51
K1AR	13,566	266	51	4	4	78	81	57	50	W2RQ	51
N5TJ	13,475	275	49	6	0	88	75	68	44	AE6Y	50
K3LR	13,181	269	49	2	3	76	75	61	57	K4RO	50
K8MR	12,950	259	50	10	4	73	79	60	47	K5ZD	50
N5RZ	12,887	263	49	3	2	54	79	60	70	K7SV	50
AJ6V	12,838	262	49	2	6	82	69	51	60	K8MR	50
K3TN	12,480	260	48	4	5	73	80	59	48	N2NT	50
W4WF	12,350	247	50	4	10	74	66	56	51	N3QE	50

## Top Ten Low Power

Call Sign	Score	QSOs	Mults	Band Changes	Qs Lost	00Z	01Z	02Z	03Z	Call Sign	QSOs
K7SV	12,500	250	50	56	6	88	64	63	35	N5ZO	288
NAØN	12,348	252	49	72	3	85	68	48	51	N5TJ	275
WQ5L	11,850	237	50	2	0	71	66	55	45	WQ5L	237
KØEU	11,797	251	47	26	5	70	65	66	50	NM5M	57
W1NN	11,074	226	49	23	5	62	57	60	47	N2RC	25
NØAT	10,304	224	46	8	4	60	65	48	51	NØDL	9
W8WTS	10,125	225	45	90	4	65	57	59	44	W7LG	4
N4OX	9,776	208	47	2	2	69	46	43	50		
N7DX	9,154	199	46	2	17	69	42	47	41		
K3UA	9,030	210	43	2	3	52	66	54	38		

## Top Ten Low Power Classic (Max 12 QSYs)

Call Sign	Score	QSOs	Mults	Band Changes	Qs Lost	00Z	01Z	02Z	03Z	Call Sign	Band Changes
WQ5L	11,850	237	50	2	0	71	66	55	45	N5KO	109
NØAT	10,304	224	46	8	4	60	65	48	51	K4RO	96
N4OX	9,776	208	47	2	2	69	46	43	50	W8WTS	90
N7DX	9,154	199	46	2	17	69	42	47	41	N9RV	86
K3UA	9,030	210	43	2	3	52	66	54	38	WJ9B	84
W9CF	8,977	191	47	3	6	55	48	44	44	WD6T	80
AI6O	7,524	171	44	3	24	51	42	39	39	N4AF	74
NK4O	7,379	157	47	1	3	48	55	41	13	NAØN	72
K1GU	7,084	161	44	2	2	48	9	43	61	N2NT	70
KM9R	6,880	160	43	4	5	47	41	36	36	NØNI	68

## Top Ten QRP

Call Sign	Score	QSOs	Mults	Band Changes	Qs Lost	00Z	01Z	02Z	03Z
K7SS	6,946	151	46	2	4	56	46	45	4
K8CN	4,068	113	36	12	8	32	35	22	24
WQ6X	2,464	77	32	2	17	17	16	19	25
WIØWA	2,178	66	33	22	7	36	13	17	0
N6HI	819	39	21	1	4	10	13	13	3
W7LG	16	4	4	0	0	4	0	0	0

## Team Scores

1. YINZER	2. Northern California Contest Club #1	3. The Zoomers	4. SCCC #1
N2NT 15,100	N5KO 15,200	W9RE 13,248	N5ZO 14,112
N2NL 14,716	N6TV 14,150	NA8V 13,113	K6ZH 10,320
K5ZD 13,900	WD6T 13,632	N5RZ 12,887	VY2TT 9,600
N3QE 13,600	AE6Y 13,250	K7SV 12,500	AC6T 9,108
K3LR 13,181	AJ6V 12,838	KØVBU 9,588	N6MJ 8,786
<b>Total 70,497</b>	<b>Total 69,070</b>	<b>Total 61,336</b>	<b>Total 51,926</b>

Team	Operators	Total
5. TCG HP Sprinters	K4RO, N5TJ, KØEJ, W4NZ	50,449
6. NCC+MRRC	K8MR, W1NN, W8WTS, K3UA, N3SD	49,819
7. CWOps Team Iambic	W2RQ, NØAX, W2GD, VE6RST, AH7RF	48,087
8. Oregon Sprinters	N6TR, K4XU, WS7L, KI7Y	44,700
9. South East Sprint Coalition	N4OGW, W4WF, WQ5L	38,150
10. CWOps Team Bug	NØNI, W9WI, K2UA, N5OT, PJ4PA	34,845
11. PVRC 1	N4AF, K3TN, N6ZFO	31,504
12. Big Sky Contesters	N9RV, K7QA, KJ9C	29,895
13. GMCC Beaver Creek	KØEU, KØRF, NØTA	23,801
14. TCG LP Sprinters	WF7T, K1GU, W4CMG	19,898
15. Northern California Contest Club #2	K9YC, KM9R	18,019
16. SCCC #2	N6AA, WQ6X	13,274

## Single Operator Line Scores

\* Low Power, \*\* QRP

Call Sign	Name	QTH	20	40	80	QSOs	Mult	Score	Band Changes	Team
K1AR	JOHN	NH	89	99	78	266	51	13,566	4	
ND3T	LEN	ME	89	94	54	237	47	11,139	34	
K1KI	TOM	CT	78	104	51	233	47	10,951	26	
K8CN	**MIKE	NH	37	55	21	113	36	4,068	12	
K1TR	*ED	NH	49	26	0	75	31	2,325	3	
K1AV	*PETER	RI	18	22	0	40	22	880	1	
AJ1DM	*JOHN	RI	29	0	0	29	17	493	0	
N2NT	ANDY	NJ	101	117	84	302	50	15,100	70	YINZER
W2RQ	BILL	NJ	83	106	88	277	51	14,127	7	CWOps Team Iambic
K2UA	RUS	NY	62	67	41	170	42	7,140	4	CWOps Team Bug
N2ZN	KEN	NY	69	81	0	150	46	6,900	1	
KR2AA	ERIC	NY	0	35	40	75	29	2,175	1	
N2RC	MIKE	NY	25	0	0	25	15	375	0	
W2LC	*SCOTT	NY	0	20	0	20	15	300	0	
N3QE	TIM	MD	90	101	81	272	50	13,600	37	YINZER
K3LR	TIM	PA	97	93	79	269	49	13,181	2	YINZER
W2GD	JOHN	PA	66	95	73	234	49	11,466	4	CWOps Team Iambic
K3UA	*TOM	PA	53	77	80	210	43	9,030	2	NCC+MRRC
N3SD	*GREG	PA	38	74	54	166	40	6,640	8	NCC+MRRC
K3KU	*ART	MD	16	73	37	126	43	5,418	7	
N3AM	JOHN	MD	60	49	19	128	41	5,248	4	
WA3AAN	GRANT	PA	26	23	0	49	31	1,519	1	
KE3X	*KEN	DC	29	0	0	29	18	522	0	
W7LG	**MIKE	PA	4	0	0	4	4	16	0	
N2NL	DAVE	FL	107	98	78	283	52	14,716	4	YINZER
K4RO	KIRK	TN	79	112	87	278	50	13,900	96	TCG HP Sprinters
N4AF	AL	NC	94	107	77	278	48	13,344	74	PVRC 1
K7SV	*LAR	VA	75	94	81	250	50	12,500	56	The Zoomers
K3TN	JOHN	VA	86	95	79	260	48	12,480	4	PVRC 1
W4WF	CHRIS	FL	83	95	69	247	50	12,350	4	South East Sprint Coalition
KØEJ	MARK	TN	81	104	69	254	47	11,938	26	TCG HP Sprinters
K4BAI	JOHN	GA	78	89	75	242	49	11,858	2	
N1LN	BRUCE	NC	76	105	81	262	44	11,528	22	
W4NZ	TED	TN	69	89	74	232	48	11,136	16	TCG HP Sprinters
N4OX	*JAY	FL	77	73	58	208	47	9,776	2	
N4DW	*DAVE	TN	56	79	49	184	44	8,096	16	
KQ4R	ED	FL	67	74	51	192	42	8,064	6	
WF7T	*BRAD	TN	43	90	48	181	43	7,783	56	TCG LP Sprinters
NK4O	*AJ	FL	67	90	0	157	47	7,379	1	
N4OO	*BRIAN	GA	41	73	57	171	43	7,353	14	
K1GU	*NED	TN	57	49	55	161	44	7,084	2	TCG LP Sprinters
N4GO	JAY	KY	28	61	51	140	42	5,880	3	
N6ZFO	*BILL	VA	32	57	53	142	40	5,680	5	PVRC 1
W4CMG	*CATHY	TN	22	65	42	129	39	5,031	2	TCG LP Sprinters
K1ZZI	*RALPH	SC	7	40	35	82	33	2,706	2	
N4OGW	TOR	MS	90	105	84	279	50	13,950	65	South East Sprint Coalition
N5TJ	JEFF	TX	100	102	73	275	49	13,475	6	TCG HP Sprinters
N5RZ	GATOR	TX	84	104	75	263	49	12,887	3	The Zoomers
KZ5D	ART	LA	101	94	71	266	48	12,768	56	
WQ5L	*RAY	MS	90	84	63	237	50	11,850	2	South East Sprint Coalition
K5TR	GEO	TX	83	87	62	232	45	10,440	2	
N5OT	SPARKY	OK	61	59	1	121	38	4,598	2	CWOps Team Bug
N2IC	STEVE	NM	86	0	0	86	43	3,698	0	
AB5SE	*JERRY	AR	44	25	0	69	32	2,208	1	
NM5M	ERIC	TX	43	14	0	57	27	1,539	1	
N5KO	TREY	CA	106	114	84	304	50	15,200	109	Northern California Contest Club #1
N6TV	BOB	CA	100	112	71	283	50	14,150	50	Northern California Contest Club #1
N5ZO	MARK	CA	103	111	74	288	49	14,112	63	SCCC #1
WD6T	DAVE	CA	100	103	81	284	48	13,632	80	Northern California Contest Club #1
AE6Y	ANDY	CA	93	102	70	265	50	13,250	44	Northern California Contest Club #1
AJ6V	ED	CA	105	97	60	262	49	12,838	2	Northern California Contest Club #1
W4EF	MIKE	CA	78	92	73	243	47	11,421	4	
K9YC	JIM	CA	82	86	69	237	47	11,139	6	Northern California Contest Club #2
N6AA	DICK	CA	85	91	59	235	46	10,810	5	SCCC #2
K6ZH	JIM	CA	78	86	51	215	48	10,320	8	SCCC #1
AC6T	STEVE	CA	79	77	42	198	46	9,108	2	SCCC #1
N6MJ	*DAN	CA	87	95	9	191	46	8,786	32	SCCC #1
AH6KO	STAN	HI	94	60	0	154	41	6,314	1	
WQ6X	**RON	CA	36	21	20	77	32	2,464	2	SCCC #2
W1RH	BOB	CA	47	0	0	47	32	1,504	0	
AH7RF	*HEATHER	HI	39	0	0	39	28	1,092	0	CWOps Team Iambic
KF6NCX	LARRY	CA	2	14	8	24	13	312	4	
N6SPP	*ERIC	CA	9	10	0	19	14	266	3	
WU6P	*NIAN	CA	0	10	0	10	6	60	0	
N2HC	*KEN	CA	3	3	0	6	6	36	1	
N9RV	PAT	MT	112	114	80	306	50	15,300	86	Big Sky Contesters
N6TR	TREE	OR	101	103	75	279	49	13,671	55	Oregon Sprinters
K4XU	DICK	OR	83	95	64	242	49	11,858	2	Oregon Sprinters
WS7L	CARL	OR	93	79	54	226	46	10,396	4	Oregon Sprinters
WJ9B	WILL	ID	90	83	59	232	44	10,208	84	
N7DX	*TONY	WA	85	69	45	199	46	9,154	2	
W9CF	*KEVIN	AZ	62	84	45	191	47	8,977	3	

Call Sign	Name	QTH	20	40	80	QSOs	Mult	Score	Band Changes	Team
K17Y	JIM	OR	71	91	33	195	45	8,775	2	Oregon Sprinters
K7QA	TOM	MT	44	92	54	190	42	7,980	2	Big Sky Contesters
K7SS	**DAN	WA	75	72	4	151	46	6,946	2	
KM9R	*MIKE	NV	58	82	20	160	43	6,880	4	Northern California Contest Club #2
KJ9C	MEL	MT	59	79	9	147	45	6,615	2	Big Sky Contesters
KD7ND	*MIKE	AZ	44	65	35	144	39	5,616	2	
N7JI	*SCOTT	OR	47	41	16	104	39	4,056	4	
N7CW	*BUD	AZ	39	63	0	102	38	3,876	1	
N7WY	*BOB	WY	53	49	0	102	35	3,570	1	
K7SHR	*PAUL	WY	40	47	0	87	35	3,045	1	
AA7V	STEVE	AZ	52	0	0	52	31	1,612	0	
N6HI	**JOHN	AZ	23	16	0	39	21	819	1	
K5ZD	RANDY	OH	92	101	85	278	50	13,900	42	YINZER
NA8V	GREG	MI	84	110	85	279	47	13,113	56	The Zoomers
K8MR	JIM	OH	83	99	77	259	50	12,950	10	NCC+MRRC
W1NN	*HAL	OH	62	91	73	226	49	11,074	23	NCC+MRRC
W8WTS	*JIM	OH	67	88	70	225	45	10,125	90	NCC+MRRC
W9RE	MIKE	IN	96	94	86	276	48	13,248	55	The Zoomers
K9BGL	KARL	IL	66	87	73	226	47	10,622	10	
W19WI	JIM	WI	64	80	66	210	41	8,610	2	CWOpS Team Bug
N9UNX	*CHAD	IN	39	59	40	138	42	5,796	2	
KYØQ	*RICK	IL	4	22	2	28	20	560	6	
NØNI	MARK	IA	85	109	75	269	49	13,181	68	CWOpS Team Bug
NAØN	*PAT	MN	83	100	69	252	49	12,348	72	
NØAX	WARD	MO	85	99	66	250	49	12,250	2	CWOpS Team Iambic
KØEU	*KEN	CO	73	106	72	251	47	11,797	26	GMCC Beaver Creek
KØRF	CHUCK	CO	75	98	72	245	44	10,780	39	GMCC Beaver Creek
NØAT	*RON	MN	64	85	75	224	46	10,304	8	
KØVBU	BILL	KS	68	59	77	204	47	9,588	9	The Zoomers
WØBH	BOB	KS	66	80	50	196	44	8,624	13	
AI6O	*ED	MO	33	80	58	171	44	7,524	3	
WØCO	*BRAD	CO	53	86	0	139	45	6,255	5	
WØSD	*ED	SD	44	77	21	142	39	5,538	6	
WIØWA	**LAR	IA	29	26	11	66	33	2,178	22	
WØXM	BOB	KS	45	17	0	62	30	1,860	1	
NØTA	JOHN	CO	25	26	0	51	24	1,224	1	GMCC Beaver Creek
ADØCH	*CHARLESKS		0	38	0	38	20	760	0	
NØDL	*DAVE	SD	5	4	0	9	8	72	1	
VE3NE	LALI	ON	51	94	82	227	47	10,669	4	
KP2M	PHIL	KP2	107	88	25	220	46	10,120	10	
VY2TT	KEN	PE	51	110	39	200	48	9,600	29	SCCC #1
VE6RST	MAX	AB	90	77	41	208	44	9,152	2	CWOpS Team Iambic
VE3YT	VIC	ON	32	84	66	182	43	7,826	20	
PJ4PA	*SCOTT	PJ4	39	8	0	47	28	1,316	1	CWOpS Team Bug
VO2AC	CHRIS	NFLB	11	21	22	54	21	1,134	8	
HA5BMS	SANDOR	HA	0	35	1	36	21	756	2	
JF2FIU	MARK	JA	3	0	0	3	4	12	0	