

Results, February 2005 Phone Sprint

Jim Stevens, K4MA
ssbsprint@ncjweb.com

The decline of Sunspot Cycle 23 was felt in this Phone Sprint with 20-meters closing early and the resulting 20-meter QSO totals down from what they were a year ago. However, 40 and 80 meters did a good job in making up the difference, so overall scores weren't down too much. One certainly would not have been able to tell that conditions were worse from the number of logs submitted. One hundred and forty-six logs were received, which is only 10 less than the record number from last February. This continues a trend in the last few Phone Sprints of receiving more logs with a relatively small number of QSOs. It is great that more contesters are participating, even if they only make a few QSOs, and it is awesome that they are sending in their logs. There was also good participation from rare areas with several KL7s, a VE8, a VO1 and a VE9 on the air. No DX logs were received, but one or more participants logged the following DX multipliers: C6, HR, J3, KP2, KP4, V4 and XE. Yours truly didn't operate, but in looking at the band breakdowns, I would say 80 meters was long and quiet. Look at the 6s and 7s; there are some impressive 80 meters QSOs totals there.

As a reminder, I am continuing the changes made in February 2004 to the HP and LP Top Ten listings by adding you-and-them error percentages, and adding QSOs Lost and hour-by-hour QSO totals for the LP Top Ten. I have also newly added to the HP Top Ten a +/- rating of claimed vs actual scores. I will talk more about this later.

QRP

Jeff, NX9T, decided to turn down the power this time and picked up the QRP win from North Carolina. W8LBO and K6UFO (Mr "That Is Mork Not Mark") took QRP second and third respectively. I'm sure QRP was tough sledding with the conditions. Good job guys!

Low Power

Dan, N6MJ, continued his winning ways in the LP category. He finished just out of the Top Ten QSOs and multipliers with only 100W in poor conditions. In fact, Dan's 291 QSOs represented the second highest LP QSO total ever. N5DO, Dave, also turned in a very good LP performance topping 10K points and taking second from Texas. Coming in third with another fine performance from his new home in Georgia was Jeff, KU8E. Perennial LP Top Ten finishers VE5SF and K7SV took fourth and fifth. Nobody has finished in the LP Top Ten more than Sam and Larry. Rounding out the Top Ten were N6ZFO, NA4K, W0ETT, NA4BW and AC0W.

High Power

Winning the HP category for the third time was Bill, K4XS. He led in QSOs and was one short of the top number of multipliers. Congrats, Bill!

After his record shattering number of QSOs in CW Sprint the week before, I guess N6TR thought he would try to get the Sprint Clean Sweep, and he almost did. Tree only finished 5 QSOs behind Bill to take second. In addition, Tree had a Golden Log that is no easy feat with 300+ QSOs.

Rounding out the Top Ten were many

Top 10 QSOS

K4XS	337
K9PG (at WB9Z)	335
W7WA	333
N6TR	332
K6LL	325
K6LA	317
K7RI (K7SS)	311
W6YX (N6DE)	308
W5KFT (K5OT)	300
N6RO	299

Top 10 Multipliers

K6LL	49
KA9FOX (at W9RPM)	49
K4XS	48
N6TR	48
K7RI (K7SS)	48
W6YX (N6DE)	48
W7RN (KL2A)	48
KW8N	48
W7EJ	48
K9PG (at WB9Z)	46
K7RL	46
K7ZSD	46

Top 10 QRP

NX9T	2449
W8LBO	336
K6UFO	224

Top 10 Low Power

	Score	QSOs		Error Rates				
		Lost	YOU	THEM	00Z	01Z	02Z	03Z
N6MJ	13095	6	1.7%	2.1%	76	82	69	65
N5DO	11352	6	1.9%	2.3%	88	68	57	52
KU8E	9855	4	1.3%	3.6%	68	60	59	33
VE5SF	9592	11	4.4%	1.8%	82	61	38	38
K7SV	9270	4	1.9%	3.9%	75	49	44	38
N6ZFO	8610	0	0.0%	2.4%	72	50	48	35
NA4K	8316	2	1.0%	0.5%	55	44	63	36
W0ETT	7440	7	3.6%	0.5%	54	53	38	41
NA4BW	7059	7	3.7%	5.0%	41	50	46	44
AC0W	6764	1	0.6%	3.4%	38	47	54	39

Top 10

	Score	Band Changes	QSOs Lost	Error Rates		Change +/-	00Z	01Z	02Z	03Z
				YOU	THEM					
K4XS	16176	78	4	0.9%	2.7%	0	94	88	87	69
N6TR	15936	16	0	0.0%	3.9%	+2	106	76	86	64
K6LL	15925	2	1	0.3%	1.5%	0	98	70	65	92
K9PG (at WB9Z)	15410	83	3	0.9%	1.8%	+1	106	80	98	51
K7RI (K7SS)	14928	2	15	3.4%	4.8%	-3	98	87	63	67
W6YX (N6DE)	14784	24	13	3.1%	2.3%	0	92	89	42	88
W7WA	14652	4	7	2.1%	1.8%	+2	95	94	82	62
KW8N	14304	81	4	1.0%	3.7%	0	96	68	73	62
K6LA	14265	12	1	0.3%	1.6%	+2	94	75	79	69
W7RN (KL2A)	14160	49	14	3.9%	4.4%	-3	96	68	78	55

Top 10 Golden

N6TR	332
N6ZFO	205
K9PW	133
WA7BNM	100
K1HT	93
K4HA	77
N8AA	75
VE3RCN	20
N6AN	18
K4BEV	5

Top Reserve Golden

K4HA	31
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Top 10 Band Changes

K9PG (at WB9Z)	83
KW8N	81
K4XS	78
W9RE	66
W7RN (KL2A)	49
AE6Y	38
NA4BW	34
AC0W	29
W6YX	24
N6ZFO	24

of the usual suspects with K6LL, K9PG, K7RI (K7SS), W6YX (N6DE), W7WA, KW8N, K6LA, and W7RN (KL2A) placing third through tenth. It was N6DE's and KL2A's first time in the Top Ten.

As I stated earlier, I have added a new column to the Top Ten box. It shows whether a participant moved up, down, or stayed the same when comparing claimed position to actual position. The + means they moved up from their claimed position, - means they moved down, and 0 means they stayed in the same position. I have stated several times in the past that logging accuracy makes a big difference, especially in the HP Top Ten where the scores tend to be bunched close together. For example, good logging accuracy by Ken, K6LA, in conjunction with some not-so-good logging accuracy by competitors above him, allowed Ken to move into the final Top Ten when his claimed score was 11th place.

Golden Logs

The Top Ten Golden Logs were N6TR, N6ZFO, K9PW, WA7BNM, K1HT, K4HA, N8AA, VE3RCN, N6AN and K4BEV. The Top Reverse Golden Log (meaning there were no busts of that station's sent info in the receiving station's log) was my good friend just up the road from me—K4HA. Bob had the "double-double" of having a golden log both ways. Congratulations to all on the accuracy! If you want a copy of your log checking report, please send an

Team Scores**Only One Radio**

N6TR	15936
K7RI (K7SS)	14928
W7WA	14652
W7EJ	13680
K7RL	13294
K7ZS	11745
K7ZSD	11684
N7LOX	10879
K17Y	4795
	111593

SMC #1

K4XS	16176
K9PG (at WB9Z)	15410
KW8N	14304
KA9FOX (at W9RPM)	13377
W9RE	12980
K9ZO	10692
K0OU	9408
K9PW	5187
K9NW (at K9UWA)	2670
	100204

NCCC #1

W6YX (N6DE)	14784
W7RN (KL2A)	14160
N6RO	13156
AE6Y	11802
K6IF	9660
WX5S	9408
N6ZFO	8610
K6LRN	8282
W6YL	6549
KE6ZSN	3080
	99491

SCCC #1

K6LL	15925
K6LA	14265
N6MJ	13095
W6TK	9618
W7WW	8736
K6NA	2816
	64455

5. TCG #1 (N4ZZ, W4NZ, KU8E, NA4K, K1GU, KE4OAR, WA4VJC, K4BEV)	46666
6. SMC #2 (WT9U, N2BJ, K9JS, WI9WI, AA9RT, KG9N)	32331
7. Big Bend Rowdies (N5DO, KE5OG)	18832
8. NCCC #2 (K6III, AE7DX, W6FB, W6EB, NO6X, K6UFO)	18483
9. PVRC (K7SV, K3DNE)	14835
10. Rocky Mtns (W0ETT, KU7Z)	8171
11. NCCC #3 (NT6K, K6OWL, KJ6RA)	4403
12. W3LRC (K3HDM, N3XL)	43

e-mail to ssbsprint@ncjweb.com.

Records

Despite the poor conditions, there were a few records broken or established. In QRP, NX9T established the mark for North Carolina, and W8LBO extended his record for Michigan. New low power area records are K2PS in New Jersey, KU8E in Georgia, AE7DX in Nevada (the old record dated back to 1997) and KL1V in Alaska. Even one high power record was eclipsed by VE3KZ in Ontario. You can view the SSB Sprint records at www.ncjweb.com/ssbsprintrecords.php.

Teams

A new team named Only One Radio took top team honors with a score of 111,593. Second was the always-strong SMC #1, and right on their heels was NCCC #1. The difference between second and third was only 713 points. Rounding out the top five teams were SCCC #1 and TCG #1.

Notes

There were some reports of contestants forgetting the rules about giving both calls in the exchange and not obeying the QSY rule (so called "round robin" QSOs). This is just a friendly reminder to re-check the rules and make sure you are in compliance with all of them.

The September 2005 Phone Sprint

will be held at 0000Z on September 18 (September 17 local time). Get on and join us in the fun!

Finally, I am writing this as I have just heard of the passing of W7RM. I never met Rush Drake, but I have heard some great stories about him from K7SS and N0AX. He was truly a legend and innovator in our sport. We should all strive to carry on a bit of the contesting flame that he and other early contesting giants have left to us.

Soapbox

Terrible conditions here. Looking forward to doing this from my new home station in September.—KA9FOX. You know things are bad when you start working West Coast on 80 meters at 0158Z.—K9PG. Interesting conditions. Too bad it wasn't a DX contest.—K7SV. Couple hours of fun and frustration.—K6OWL. A lot of fun! Dismal numbers, but my first-ever contest.—KL7RY. Low antennas and QRP make for a slow Sprint. QRP to keep the neighbors happy.—K6UFO. Someday I will get the hang of this.—K1GU. Finally, I think I am back in the contesting saddle again. Keep an eye out for me.—N5SMQ. Jukka enjoyed trying the Sprint during his visit to the station. He's hooked.—OH6LI at K6NA. It was a treat to work the mighty N6TR on SSB.—N6AN. The 40-meter antenna was soldered to radials last week for the 160-Meter Contest. Guess we don't get points for soldering mid-contest?—W0ZP (N6TR and I will have to take the mid-contest soldering bonus under advisement for the future—Ed). Poorest performance in years. Did work KL1V and VE8NSD.—K0OU.

