

Results of the 2017 CQ WPX RTTY Contest

BY ED MUNS, WØYK

LX7I at sunrise.

The 23rd running of the CQ WPX RTTY Contest had plenty of activity for all participants. There were 5,770 unique callsigns appearing at least five times across the 3,283 logs received. At the same time, the bulk of the activity shifted to the lower bands. One of the great things about the WPX contests is that low-band contacts earn twice the points as those on higher frequencies. So, even in between sunspot cycle peaks, even in the absence of 10-meter propagation, great scores were achieved. In fact, the proportion of QSOs on 10 and 15 meters hit an 8-year low this contest. Forty and 20 meters hosted the bulk of activity. The table below shows the percentage of QSOs on each band across all logs received for the last eight years:

Band	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
80	13%	15%	11%	11%	8%	7%	10%	17%
40	27%	28%	23%	26%	21%	21%	23%	33%
20	36%	35%	27%	28%	22%	21%	25%	36%
15	23%	21%	30%	29%	28%	27%	32%	14%
10	0.5%	1%	9%	6%	21%	25%	11%	0.1%

Records continue to be set despite declining high-band conditions. There are still some excellent opportunities, especially in the Single Band categories, for regional and even world records to be set in the future. There were actually a higher number of both World and Continent records

broken in 2017 than in 2016. As expected, the new records (see below) are heavily weighted toward the lower bands.

	World		Continent	
	New	Avail	New	Avail
SO10	–	3	–	18
SO15	–	3	2	18
SO20	–	3	1	18
SO40	2	3	7	18
SO80	3	3	6	18
SOAB	1	3	2	18
MSH	–	1	–	6
MSL	1	1	3	6
M2	–	1	1	6
MM	–	1	–	6
Total	7	22	22	132

Logs received remained approximately the same as last year at 3,283 with another 2,487 unique callsigns appearing at least five times in the submitted logs. These nearly 5,800 stations across 141 DXCC/WAE entities made 1.18 million QSOs. Once again, 9A1A captured the most prefixes at 1,245. To get a taste of what operating a large CQ contest feels like, some stations have posted YouTube videos, including SQ8GHY, SZ1A, OHØV, S55W, and NT1K.

Single-Operator (3,034 entries)

There are many Single-Operator entry categories to satisfy a wide range of interests. Low Power remains the most popular power level while 40 and 20 meters were the most pop-

* P.O. Box 1877, Los Gatos, CA 95031-1877
Email: <w0yk@cqww.com>

The radio... **YAESU**

Great Pleasure in Operating Wide-Coverage Base Station

With M-1 Superior Microphone and SP-10 Exceptional Sound Speaker



M-1
Ultimate
Reference Microphone



SP-10
External Speaker
for FT-991A

HF/VHF/UHF 100 W ALL MODE TRANSCEIVER

FT-991 A

C4FM
DIGITAL CLEAR VOICE
Clear and Crisp Voice Technology

144/430 MHz 50 W

AMS
Automatic Mode Select



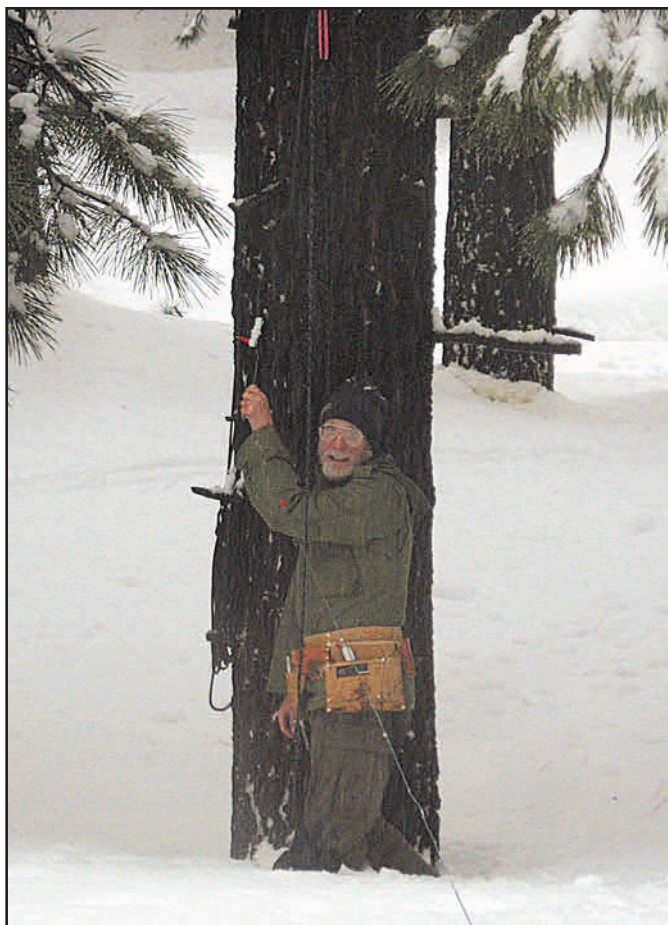
SP-20 **FTDX3000**
External Speaker
for FTDX3000/FTDX1200

YAESU
The radio

YAESU USA
6125 Phyllis Drive, Cypress,
CA 90630 (714) 827-7600

For the latest Yaesu news, visit us on the Internet: <http://www.yaesu.com>

Specifications subject to change without notice. Some accessories and/or options may be standard in certain areas. Frequency coverage may differ in some countries. Check with your local Yaesu Dealer for specific details.



Hank, W6SX, repairing wire antennas at his QTH, 8,000 feet above sea level near Mammoth, California, in preparation for his SO AB HP entry.



Two members of the SZ1A Multi-Two team (from left to right): Thomas, SV2CLJ, new guest op; and Dimitris SV1RRO, in his first contest!

Tenth place Bob, WA1FCN, set a new North America record. Vittorio, IT9ZMX, won 20 meters with Mohamed, 5C5W (CN8KD); and Francisco, EE7Y (EC7WA), very close behind. Fifth-place Aldo, YV5AAX, won South America and seventh-place Juan, CO2JD, won North America.

Carlos, YY4TSS/1, won 15 meters with a new South America record and Guilherme, PY2UD, was second. Mauricio, ZV2C, took third. Fourth place Handiko, YD1SDL/2, won Oceania.

Two stations entered 10 meters with Takeshi, JF1OVA, on top.

High Power (1,046)

Ed, P49X (WØYK), won All Band and was just shy of the world record set in 2014, showing the potential of WPX contests at the bottom of a solar cycle with their low-band point premium. Krzysztof, SN7Q (SP7GiQ), took second; Boyon, LZ8E (LZ2BE), was a close third; and Bud, AA3B, was not too far behind and came in fourth. Victor, UW1M, was next with Randy, AK1W (K5ZD), in fifth. With a plethora of major CW and SSB wins, Randy is invading RTTY now, when he finds time after hundreds of volunteer hours he still contributes to contest management.

Jan, OL9A (OK2ZAW), took first place on 80 meters with Filippo, IQ1RY (IZ1LBG), placing second, both breaking the prior world record. Jan's goal was a new OK record, which he clearly overachieved. Along with Jan, another Jan, OK1NP; Filippo, IQ1RY (IZ1LBG); and Milos, S53X, all joined the online real-time scoreboard at cq-contest.net and had a blast with their little mini-competition throughout the weekend. Read more details at <<http://bit.ly/2riZOOK>>. Overall, the first 17 places were all in Europe. Then came Ron, N6EE, in 18th for the top North America score.

Sergey, P3X (UT5UDX), set a new world record on 40 meters. Second place Nicola, IZ4NIC (@IR4M), changed his plan from 20 meters to 40 meters due to a broken cable. Tine, S5ØA; Stan, ZF9CW; Julio, 4M1K; and Alexandr, R7AB, were next in line. ZF9CW also set a new North America record.

Istvan, HA3MY, set a new world record on 80 meters. Virgil, YO9BCM, was second and 6th place Glenn, WØGJ, set a new North America record, in fact the highest non-European score to date in this contest.

Val, LZ5T, also set a new world record on 40 meters with Harald, DQ2C (DL2SAX), and Rayce, YT2PFR, taking second and third respectively. Eleventh place Edwin, 4M5EN (YV5EN), set a new South America record.

Twenty meters was won by Konstantin, RW4S (RU4SS), with Francisco, TG9ANF/4, coming in second.

Gabor, HG3IPA (HA3JB), took 15 meters with Zijad, E73Z, in second.

ON3DI was the lone entry on 10 meters and Pieter's single QSO illustrates the sorry state of this band.

Low Power (1,837)

Alexandru, YO9HP, won the All Band category with John, KK9A, taking second place. Atanas, LZ9R; Marijan, S56A; and Richard, EA8PT, took the next three places. Jeff, PJ6T (NM1Y), was 6th and Aleksandr, RU9AC, was 7th. Nearly tied with Alek was Oleg, UT8EL.

Axel, EB3CW, set a new 80-meter world record with Sergej, UZ2HZ, and Juraj, OM3ZWA, taking second and third. Ninth-place Alessandro, H2X (5B4ALX), set a new Asia record.

Forty meters was won by Bozidar, YT2B. Fabio, IK3TPP, and Stojanovic, YT5X, were 2nd and 3rd respectively. Seventh place was secured by Sulaiman, 7Z1SJ, who also won Asia; and eighth place Jose, 4M4C, won South America.

We welcome the participation of D1A, D1M, and D1WW from the DPR (Donetsk People's Republic). Unfortunately, this disputed area, with the 'D1' unassigned ITU prefix, is not yet on either the DXCC or WAE entity lists, which constitute the criteria for inclusion in the contest results. As much as we want to include any and all amateur stations, we must adhere impartially to the DXCC and WAE lists for determining entity status in CQ contests.

A searchable database of the results from every CQ WPX RTTY Contest is available at <www.cqwxrtty.com/scores.htm>.

Log Check Reports (LCRs) suggest ideas to improve operating accuracy. This valuable information is available upon request to <w0yk@cqwxrtty.com>. You can compare your log check statistics with the averages across all logs in this contest:

- 0.8% busted (incorrect) received callsign
- 1.5% busted serial number received
- 1.4% NIL (Not In Log)
- 3.7% total error rate
- 6.9% score reduction (with penalties and lost mults, score reduction is higher than raw error rate)

Achieving a zero error rate may mean that too much time is being spent on accuracy. Speed and accuracy are a trade-off for optimal communication.

Great Contest! Great fun! Nice condx. –DG7NFX
First time ever RTTY operation. Lot of fun. –DJ3HW
All time personal best! –K4WW

Certificates are now available online for download and printing locally. The link for your certificate is on the far right of your score listing in the Scores Database at <www.cqwxrtty.com/scoresry.htm>.

Sponsoring a plaque is an opportunity to give back and show appreciation for the contest. You can choose an unsponsored plaque in any category, whether listed or not at <www.cqwxrtty.com/plaques.htm>. Contact <w0yk@cqwxrtty.com> to sign up.

A number volunteers work tirelessly in the background to bring contests to us. Ken, K1EA, and Randy, K5ZD, continue to improve and support the log checking and website software. KM3T, N5KO, and K5TR quietly manage the IT infrastructure behind the log submittal robots, log storage, and log checking software. The WWROF (World Wide Radio Operators Foundation) provides financial support for IT services as well as support for contesting in general. Finally, thanks to Jason, KD2IWM, Associate Editor at CQ, for his supportive editing work.

The 24th CQ WPX RTTY Contest will be held on 10-11 February 2018. I look forward to seeing everyone again then!

(Scores on page 95)

2017 WPX RTTY CLUB SCORES

United States		
Club	# Entrants	Score
POTOMAC VALLEY RADIO CLUB.....	59	42,952,359
SOCIETY OF MIDWEST CONTESTERS.....	42	34,137,636
NORTHERN CALIFORNIA CONTEST CLUB.....	43	32,521,250
FRANKFORD RADIO CLUB.....	30	32,042,108
YANKEE CLIPPER CONTEST CLUB.....	29	22,965,198
ARIZONA OUTLAWS CONTEST CLUB.....	29	17,908,634
FLORIDA CONTEST GROUP.....	13	9,643,139
WILLAMETTE VALLEY DX CLUB.....	16	7,255,942
WESTERN WASHINGTON DX CLUB.....	8	6,645,642
KANSAS CITY CONTEST CLUB.....	4	6,302,807
CENTRAL TEXAS DX AND CONTEST CLUB.....	7	5,166,402
GRAND MESA CONTESTERS OF COLORADO.....	8	4,926,964
SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA CONTEST CLUB.....	21	4,883,948
ORLEANS COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB.....	3	4,838,686
MISSISSIPPI VALLEY DX/CONTEST CLUB.....	4	4,043,801
MINNESOTA WIRELESS ASSN.....	28	4,039,275
KENTUCKY CONTEST GROUP.....	11	3,978,388
GEORGIA CONTEST GROUP.....	3	3,849,901
DFW CONTEST GROUP.....	7	3,740,305
TENNESSEE CONTEST GROUP.....	6	3,124,059
SKYVIEW RADIO SOCIETY.....	5	2,795,032
CTRI CONTEST GROUP.....	4	2,648,719
SWAMP FOX CONTEST GROUP.....	9	2,552,550
ALABAMA CONTEST GROUP.....	9	2,394,576
NORTHEAST WISCONSIN DX ASSN.....	3	1,942,230
MAD RIVER RADIO CLUB.....	6	1,929,078
NORTH COAST CONTESTERS.....	4	1,475,011
PAMLICO AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY.....	4	1,442,002
NORTH CAROLINA DX AND CONTEST CLUB.....	4	1,379,332
NORTH TEXAS CONTEST CLUB.....	3	1,105,682
N.E. MARYLAND AMATEUR RADIO CONTEST SOCIETY.....	5	1,084,812
SOUTH EAST CONTEST CLUB.....	6	1,083,040
SPOKANE DX ASSOCIATION.....	6	1,080,345
ORDER OF BOILED OWLS OF NEW YORK.....	3	1,020,667
NEW PROVIDENCE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB.....	3	1,020,518
CAROLINA DX ASSOCIATION.....	4	899,637
NIAGARA FRONTIER RADIOSPORT.....	3	672,628
UTAH DX ASSOCIATION.....	6	529,245
MILFORD OHIO AMATEUR RADIO CLUB.....	4	296,630
HILLTOP TRANSMITTING ASSN.....	3	284,237
SHENANDOAH VALLEY WIRELESS.....	3	240,737
METRO DX CLUB.....	3	94,298
DX		
BAVARIAN CONTEST CLUB.....	100	77,201,281
ITALIAN CONTEST CLUB.....	61	53,703,066
UKRAINIAN CONTEST CLUB.....	46	47,057,714
RHEIN RUHR DX ASSOCIATION.....	50	44,789,804
CROATIAN CONTEST CLUB.....	13	31,433,139
EA CONTEST CLUB.....	33	29,206,795
SLOVENIA CONTEST CLUB.....	13	27,690,309
CONTEST CLUB ONTARIO.....	25	19,591,226
VYTAUTAS MAGNUS UNIVERSITY RADIO CLUB.....	5	16,114,726
LATVIAN CONTEST CLUB.....	8	15,252,511
HA-DX-CLUB.....	4	12,473,704
CONTEST CLUB FINLAND.....	12	9,163,109
KAUNAS UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY RADIO CLUB.....	9	8,694,649
CONTEST CLUB SERBIA.....	11	7,952,466
BRITISH AMATEUR RADIO TELEDATA GROUP.....	6	7,585,222
ARAUCARIA DX GROUP.....	10	5,686,713
GMDX GROUP.....	8	5,653,678
CONTEST GROUP DU QUEBEC.....	9	5,554,321
RUSSIAN CONTEST CLUB.....	13	5,398,721
RIO DX GROUP.....	9	4,861,196
BELARUS CONTEST CLUB.....	6	4,625,109
ARABIAN GULF DX GROUP.....	6	4,402,862
SOUTH URAL CONTEST CLUB.....	4	4,400,634
KRIVBASS.....	4	4,148,807
YB LAND DX CLUB.....	24	4,066,363
RIIHIMAEN KOLMOSET.....	5	3,914,959
CHILTERN DX CLUB.....	7	3,136,559
LU CONTEST GROUP.....	11	3,125,801
ORCA DX AND CONTEST CLUB.....	9	2,909,220
SP DX CLUB.....	17	2,901,256
THRACIAN ROSE CLUB.....	7	2,668,689
RTTY CONTESTERS OF JAPAN.....	13	2,559,111
SAUDI CONTEST GROUP.....	3	2,407,156
BALATON RADIOAMATEUR DX CLUB.....	3	2,359,186
LA CONTEST CLUB.....	4	2,182,539
ARIPA DX TEAM.....	3	1,944,802
WORLD WIDE YOUNG CONTESTERS.....	3	1,853,194
599 CONTEST CLUB.....	6	1,592,144
VRHNIKA CONTESTERS.....	3	1,545,008
URAL CONTEST GROUP.....	6	1,453,162
DL-DX RTTY CONTEST GROUP.....	3	1,381,562
MARITIME CONTEST CLUB.....	3	1,270,078
ARCK.....	6	1,050,365
GRIMSBY AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY.....	4	1,013,167
VK CONTEST CLUB.....	4	1,004,792
VU CONTEST GROUP.....	7	848,235
CLUB DE RADIO EXPERIMENTADORES DE OCCIDENTE.....	3	779,076
GIPANIS CONTEST GROUP.....	3	775,919
RADIO CLUB VENEZOLANO CARACAS.....	4	720,479
RUSSIAN DIGITAL RADIO CLUB.....	6	631,205
DANISH DX GROUP.....	3	623,140
BLACK SEA CONTEST CLUB.....	3	407,552
ALRS ST PETERSBURG.....	3	262,306
CDR GROUP.....	7	222,061
RU-QRP CLUB.....	5	209,470
YO DX CLUB.....	4	168,886
CSTA BUCURESTI.....	3	146,018
CHILEAN PACIFIC DX GROUP.....	3	134,129
THE AKITA DX ASSOCIATION.....	3	113,033