

Rules: 2016 California QSO Party (CQP)

Last Update: August 7, 2016

Click [HERE](#) for a printable copy (PDF) of these Rules pages.

Logs are due by 23:59 UTC on Monday, October 17, 2016. Logs must be submitted electronically in Cabrillo format – paper, Excel, and ADIF logs are not acceptable.

DATES + TIMES:

Begins: 16:00 UTC - 01 October 2016 Ends: 22:00 UTC - 02 October 2016

OBJECTIVE:

Stations outside of California work as many California stations in as many CA Counties as possible. Stations in California work everyone.

EXCHANGE:

1. California stations send QSO number and 4-letter county abbreviation.
2. Stations outside of California send QSO number and 2-letter state or Canadian area abbreviation, or "DX".

QSO POINTS:

Each complete non-duplicate **Phone** contact is worth **2 points**. Each complete non-duplicate **CW** contact is worth **3 points**. Although there is no credit for duplicate contacts, there's no penalty either, so please do not remove them from your log as they help with log checking.

MULTIPLIERS:

A. California Stations:

Count U.S. states (**50**) and Canadian areas (**8**): MR, QC, ON, MB, SK, AB, BC and NT where:

- MR = Maritime provinces plus Newfoundland and Labrador (NB, NL, NS, PE)
- NT = Northern Territories (NT, NU, YT)

Maximum of **58** Multipliers

Note: Although the "CA" abbreviation is not used as a multiplier in this contest, the first valid CA county logged will count as the multiplier for California. California stations must log all CA contacts with their [4-letter county abbreviation](#); everything else as two letters, including "DX" for all stations outside of the U.S. and Canada.

B. Non-California Stations

Count all **58** California Counties for a maximum of **58** multipliers.

SCORE:

The final score is the total number of QSO Points multiplied by the total number of multipliers (**58** maximum).

QSO Points = (CW Qs x 3 pts) + (Phone Qs x 2 pts)

Final Score = QSO Points x Multipliers

MODES: CW, PH

BANDS: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15 and 10 meters.

Suggestions: CW on 1815 and 40 kHz up from band edge. Phone on 1845, 3850, 7230, 14250, 21300, 28450. Try CW on the half hour; 160 meters at 05:00 UTC; 80/75 meters at 03:00 and 07:00 UTC.

Notes:

1. All CW contacts must be made outside the Phone sub-bands except on 160 meters.

2: Stations may be worked once on CW and once on Phone on each band.

CLASS ENTRY:

Single-Operator					
Category	Code	Power Output	# Transmitters	# Operators	Maximum Operating Hours
Single-Operator - High Power	SO-HP	> 200 watts	one	one	24
Single-Operator - Low Power	SO-LP	200 watts or less	one	one	24
Single-Operator - QRP	SO-QRP	5 watts or less	one	one	24
Note: Off-times must be a minimum of 15 minutes. Use of spotting nets (operator arrangements involving assistance through DX-alerting nets, Packet Cluster, CW Skimmer, self-spotting, etc) is not permitted. SO2R operation is perfectly acceptable.					
Single-Operator-Assisted					
Category	Code	Power Output	# Transmitters	# Operators	Maximum Operating Hrs
Single-Operator-Assisted - High Power	SOA-HP	> 200 watts	one	one	24
Single-Operator-Assisted - Low Power	SOA-LP	200 watts or less	one	one	24
Single-Operator-Assisted - QRP	SOA-QRP	5 watts or less	one	one	24
Note: Off-times must be a minimum of 15 minutes. It is okay to use spotting networks, packet cluster, CW skimmer, RBN and other similar alerting arrangements, but self-spotting is not allowed. SO2R operation is perfectly acceptable.					
Multi-Single					
Category	Code	Power Output	# Transmitters	# Operators	Maximum Operating

					Hours
Multi-Single - High Power	MS-HP	> 200 watts	one	multiple	30
Multi-Single - Low Power	MS-LP	200 watts or less	one	multiple	30
Multi-Single - QRP	MS-QRP	5 watts or less	one	multiple	30

Note: The single transmitting operator cannot be replaced before 10 minutes after making their first QSO. There is no time limit on band or mode changes. Other operators can listen, spot, or perform any other station function except transmitting.

Multi-Multi

Category	Code	Power Output	# Transmitters	# Operators	Maximum Operating Hours
Multi-Multi - High Power	MM-HP	> 200 watts	multiple	multiple	30
Multi-Multi - Low Power	MM-LP	200 watts or less	multiple	multiple	30
Multi-Multi - QRP	MM-QRP	5 watts or less	multiple	multiple	30

Note: There is no time limit on band or mode changes.

SPECIAL CATEGORIES

Note: On The Log Submission Web-Form, Please Check All That Apply

California County Expedition (CCE)	A California County Expedition is an operation from a temporary location in California using temporary antennas -- and operating positions installed no more than one (1) week prior to the contest period -- using temporary antenna supports (natural supports like trees permitted). CCE stations, including those on a county line, send only ONE county per exchange.
Mobile	"Mobile" means operating in or on a movable vehicle, independent of all commercial power sources, and able to travel at any time without having to disconnect any wiring or change any antennas in order to move to another location. Note: California stations which change counties are considered to be new stations and may be contacted again for point and multiplier credit. The Mobile station which makes the most total QSOs during CQP wins the Mobile plaque.
School	School entries must use the appropriate school call sign and operate from the campus station if one exists. Any school club member may operate including students, faculty, staff, and alumni/ae.
YL Operator	Only YLs entering in single operator categories are eligible for the YL Operator award; those working as part of Multi Op teams are not eligible.
Youth Operator	A Youth Operator is an operator who is younger than 18 years old in his/her local time zone on the last day of the contest. Only Youth Operators entering in single operator categories are eligible for the Youth Operator award; those working as part of Multi Op teams are not eligible.
New Contester	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Open to any station in California who submits a log for CQP with at least 100 QSOs. - Must have never submitted a log with 100 or more QSOs in any other contest. - Station antennas limited to a single tri-bander and wire antennas or verticals and wire antennas. - Only operators entering in single operator categories are eligible for the New Contester award; those working as part of Multi Op teams are not eligible.

CLUB COMPETITION RULES

Club Competition is encouraged. Club members can submit their logs for the club competition by entering the club name in the Cabrillo file 'CLUB' field.

CQP is not an ARRL sanctioned contest so some CQP rules are different from the ARRL rules for club competition. Many of these rules are meant to encourage county expeditions and mobile operations to ensure that all California counties are well represented in CQP. **Please read these rules carefully before entering your Club in CQP Club Competition for 2016.**

1. USA and Canadian clubs must be affiliated with either the ARRL or the RAC.
2. These four large, regional California clubs are not eligible for CQP club competition: NCCC, SCCC, NCDXC and SCDXC.
3. Clubs without a geographical basis and which do not hold in-person meetings are excluded. Such clubs include FOC, CWOPS, QCWA, FISTS, SKCC, etc. **If you have any question about your club's eligibility, please contact us at: info@cqp.org**
4. The definition of the "club circle" for all participating clubs regardless of size is 175 miles (280 km) in diameter--the same as the ARRL circle for large clubs--with the following exceptions:
 - o **California County Expeditions** to sites outside the club's circle may still contribute points to a club's total.
 - o **A club member who resides outside of the club's circle** but who travels to a station within the circle **or** who operates from a California County Expedition may contribute points to the club's total.
 - o **Mobile operations** which travel outside of the club's circle can contribute points to the club's total.
5. Points earned from multi-operator county expeditions may be awarded proportionately to a club's total.

Example 1: if a multi-operator county expedition has 10 members and one of those members belongs to Club X, then Club X may receive 1/10 of the points earned by that expedition.

Example 2: If a mobile station has two operators and one of those operators belongs to Club X, then Club X may receive 50% of the points earned by that mobile station.





It is the responsibility of participants to inform CQP contest officials of any proportional contribution.
6. Clubs should be selected on the **CQP Log Submission Web Page**. Claims for proportional points must be made in the "**SOAPBOX**" field.
7. Points earned operating from a fixed location (i.e., non-expedition, non-Mobile) **outside** the club circle cannot be claimed for club competition.
8. Entrants must be members in good standing of their respective clubs prior to the start of CQP competition.

LOGGING SOFTWARE:

For free CQPWIN logging software, and other resources, please visit the CQP Software Page: <http://www.cqp.org/Software.html>

ENTRIES:

Please submit your log by ONE of the following methods. If you need to correct something in your log, you may resubmit it. The last version of your log received **before the log submission deadline**, will be considered your "official" log. The deadline for submission of all logs is 23:59 UTC on **Monday, October 12, 2015**. If you have difficulty with either log submission method, please email a description of the problem to: info@cqp.org.

	Option	Comment	Link
	Use The CQP Log Submission Form	Preferred Method Please use this form if at all possible. It's easy.	
	Email Your Log As An Attachment	Please Consider Option 1 First.	
NOTES:			
<p>1. Regardless of the method you use to submit your log, it is YOUR responsibility to check our Logs Received page to verify that it has been listed. You can check the CQP Logs Received server here: robot.cqp.org The server is updated daily.</p> <p>2. By submitting a log, the submitter agrees that the log is a public document which may be released at the discretion of the Contest Sponsor.</p>			

AWARDS: 44 plaques (real lumber to hang on your shack wall)

Note: See CQP [Awards](#) Page for a complete list of Award and Sponsors.

SPECIAL CQP WINE - The top 20 CA and top 20 non-CA S/O stations will receive a personalized bottle of NCCC Private Reserve California Wine. Winners under the age of 21 will receive a non-alcoholic, personalized award.

T-SHIRTS - Like the wine, each year's T-shirt is a special vintage. All entries qualify for the special CQP T-shirt -- no minimum number of QSOs needed. The 2016 CQP T-Shirt color will be TBD.

Place your order for a T-shirt by sending an email to shirts@cqp.org stating the sizes and quantities for each size (M/L/XL/XXL), the call sign of the CQP operation, the call sign of the person placing the order, and the address to ship to. Send payment, \$15 (\$20 for DX entries), either via PayPal [using this email address: paypal@nccc.cc] -- or a check to: NCCC, c/o Dick Wilson K6LRN, P.O. Box 273, Somerset, CA 95684-0273. All orders are due by November 15, 2016.

CERTIFICATES - all entrants will receive a special commemorative [Certificate of Achievement](#).

CQP is sponsored by the [Northern California Contest Club](#)