CLUB COMPETITION RULES

Last Update: 20-Jul-2026 at 1600 UTC

Note: You can download a PDF of these rules HERE.

Club Competition is highly encouraged in CQP.

I. Eligibility

A. USA and Canadian clubs must be affiliated with either the ARRL or the RAC. DX clubs have no such requirement.

B. Participants must be bona fide members in good standing of their respective club prior to the start of CQP.

C. Ineligible Clubs: National organizations or clubs without a geographic basis, and which do not hold regular in-person or remote meetings. Examples: NAQCC, CWops, Long Island CW Club, FOC, QCWA, FISTS, SKCCC, DARC, JARL.

D. The Northern California Contest Club (NCCC), the CQP sponsoring organization, is ineligible to participate in the CQP Club Competition. NCCC members are encouraged to join other ARRL Affiliated Clubs and assist with their CQP Club Competition effort.

II. Club Region

A. The "club region" for all participating clubs, regardless of the number of logs submitted, is defined as a choice between a club circle or one ARRL/RAC section. A club circle is defined as a 250 mile radius from the club center. Participants must operate and reside within this club region for their score to be added to a club's total, with three allowed exceptions:

B. Exception 1: California County Expeditions to sites outside the club's region may still contribute points to a club's total. Example: K0EJ traveling from Tennessee to California and operating in a county expedition to Tuolumne County can apply his full score to the Tennessee Contest Group.

C. Exception 2: A club member who resides outside of the club's region but who travels to a station within the region, or operates in a California County Expedition, may contribute points to the club's total.

D. Exception 3: Mobile operations which travel outside of the club's region can contribute points to the club's total. This applies for stations inside and outside California.

E. Points earned operating from a fixed location (i.e. non-Expedition, non-Mobile) outside the club region cannot be claimed for club competition.

III. Club Category

There are **5 categories of California clubs** and **5 categories of non-California clubs**. Categories are based on the number of logs received by each club. To commemorate California's stunning natural landscape, five U.S. National Parks located inside California were selected as club category names. Spanning California from the northwest to the southeast corners of the state, these national parks include forests, mountains, vast desert wilderness, islands in the Pacific Ocean, towering waterfalls, granite cliffs and the tallest trees on Earth. Just as these national parks are different from each other, so too are amateur radio clubs. CQP Club Category names attempt to cherish this fact and to represent different levels of club participation.

CQP Club Category	Number of Logs per Club	About	2025 Park Visitors

Yosemite	31+	Yosemite National Park	4,278,413
Joshua Tree	21-30	Joshua Tree National Park	2,932,644
Sequoia	11-20	Sequoia National Park	1,378,337
Redwood	6-10	Redwood National Park	1,202,480
Channel Islands	1-5	Channel Islands National Park	227,186

IV. Club Scoring

Different clubs have different strengths and goals in the California QSO Party. Some clubs focus on activating as many member home stations as possible. Others prefer to head to the field as a club event or use CQP as a mentoring opportunity for HF operating on CW and SSB. All are valuable goals and will be recognized in the CQP club score tally.

A. **Club Score = Score from logs submitted + Bonus Points**

B. **Score from logs submitted** = The total aggregate score from all logs submitted by club members.

C. **Bonus Points**

- 10,000 points for every log submitted with a unique callsign.
- 50,000 points for every California County Expedition. Can be any CA County. **Maximum of 50,000 bonus points per county.**
- 50,000 points for every California Mobile. 3 county minimum.
- 50,000 points for at least one non-California Mobile. The intent of this bonus is to inspire the mobile stations active in other QSO Parties to use CQP as a test run, which in turn could provide more QSOs from an uncommon state/province. Hypothetical example: Minnesota Wireless Association member K0JP goes mobile to North Dakota for CQP as a test run in preparation for his mobile effort in the North Dakota QSO Party. K0JP activates rare North Dakota in CQP while Minnesota Wireless Association benefits by collecting more points than may have been possible from K0JP's home station.
- 50,000 points for at least one YL S/O log submitted.
- 50,000 points for at least one Youth S/O log submitted.
- 50,000 points for at least one New Contester S/O log submitted.
- Note 1: See CQP Rules for definitions of a CQP Expedition, Mobile, YL, Youth and New Contester.
- Note 2: Minimum 10 claimed QSOs for all club bonuses above. Checklogs are ineligible.

V. Awards

A. Club Certificates

A total of **TEN** certificates will be awarded to the winning clubs defined in Section III. **FIVE** certificates go to clubs inside California and **FIVE** certificates go to clubs outside of California.

B. Operator Certificates

Every operator who was a part of a winning club effort will receive a personalized certificate. This certificate will include the operator's name and callsign. Operators confirmed in the verification step as defined in Section VII will be eligible to receive this certificate. Checklogs are ineligible.

VI. Club Affiliation

It is very important to review your Cabrillo log file carefully in order to make sure your score is correctly applied to your club.

A. **Single-Operator** and **Single-Operator-Assisted**: Entrants may contribute their score to only one club. The club should be indicated in the **CLUB**: line of the Cabrillo log header. The club name should be spelled out and not fully abbreviated.

Example:
CLUB: Southern California Contest Club

B. **Multi-Single** and **Multi-Multi**: Entrants may choose to proportionately award points across station operators' different clubs. Please specify the desired percentage distribution in SOAPBOX lines of the Cabrillo log header.

Example for four operators in a M/M where three are members of Club A and one is a member of Club B:
SOAPBOX: CLUB-SPLIT-BEGIN
SOAPBOX: 75% Mother Lode DX/Contest Club, 25% Redwood Empire DX Association
SOAPBOX: CLUB-SPLIT-END

If these SOAPBOX lines are not entered in the Multi-Single or Multi-Multi Cabrillo log, then all points from the Multi-Op effort will be applied to only one club specified in the CLUB: line of the Cabrillo.

Example:
CLUB: West Valley ARA

VII. Verification

A. The ARRL Club Roster Eligibility List will be used for each club's region definition (club circle or ARRL/RAC section) and verification of operator eligibility. The list used by CQP organizers will be the one posted on this ARRL page preceding the start of CQP. Clubs are encouraged to update their eligibility list on the ARRL page prior to CQP. Clubs are encouraged to update their eligibility list on the ARRL page prior to CQP.

B. If a club does not have an eligibility list loaded on the ARRL page, a roster publicly viewable on a club's web page will be used instead for eligibility verification. If no roster is publicly viewable on a club's web page, the CQP Chair will request club officers to provide a roster by other means. Club members are encouraged to ensure that their callsign appears on their club's roster of members in good standing prior to CQP. Clubs may be omitted from the CQP club results at the discretion of the CQP Chair if a club roster with callsigns and member status is not provided upon request.