

The Fun Contest
Maryland-DC QSO Party Rules
Sponsored by the Anne Arundel Radio Club
(Revised 11 May 2010)

1. Contest Dates. This contest is conducted in two operating periods over the 2nd weekend in August: **14-15 August 2010. Logs are due 14 Sep 2010.**

Period 1: Saturday from 12:00pm EDT to 00:00am EDT (Saturday from 1600 UTC to Sunday, 0400 UTC).

Period 2: Sunday from 12:00pm EDT to 20:00pm EDT (1600 to 00:00 UTC).

2. All questions may be e-mailed to: MDQSOP@w3vpr.org

3. **Make lots of contacts!**

4. **Have fun!**

5. Stations not located in the State of Maryland or the District of Columbia may only work stations located in Maryland or the District of Columbia.

6. Stations located within the state of Maryland or the District of Columbia may work stations located anywhere.

7. There are four station categories:

a. **Club Station** – There are two definitions for this category:

(1) A station operated by a single operator using a single transmitter operating from a single location using a club call sign throughout the duration of the contest or

(2) A station operated by multiple operators using a single transmitter or multiple transmitters while operating from a single location using a club call sign or a single call sign to make all contacts throughout the duration of the contest.

b. **Mobile Station** – A station operated from a vehicle while moving or stationary. All antennas used by a mobile station must be capable of being used while the vehicle is moving.

c. **QRP Station** – A station whose transmitted signal is 5 watts PEP or less.

d. **Standard Station** – A station operated from a single location by a single operator whose transmitted signal exceeds 5 watts PEP.

8. **The Exchange:**

a. **Stations in Maryland or the District of Columbia.** Stations operating in Maryland, Baltimore City, or Washington, DC will indicate their station category (e.g. Club, Mobile, QRP or Standard) and their location (County or City) using the abbreviations in Table 1, below:

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 (Revised 11 May 2010)

County/City	Abbreviation	County/City	Abbreviation
Allegany	ALY	Howard	HWD
Anne Arundel	ANA	Kent	KEN
Baltimore City	BAL	Montgomery	MON
Baltimore County	BCO	Prince George's	PGE
Calvert	CLV	Queen Anne's	QAN
Caroline	CLN	St Mary's	STM
Carroll	CRL	Somerset	SMR
Cecil	CEC	Talbot	TAL
Charles	CHS	Washington	WAS
Dorchester	DRC	Wicomico	WIC
Frederick	FRD	Worcester	WRC
Garrett	GAR	Washington, DC	WDC
Harford	HFD		

Table 1

Example: KB3ATI this is AA3RR Standard station in Anne Arundel county
 AA3RR this is KB3ATI I'm QRP in Garrett county

b. **International Stations.** Stations not operating within the state of Maryland or the District of Columbia will indicate their station category (e.g. Club, Mobile, QRP or Standard) and their location as their **Country** (DX stations other than Canada), their **Province** (Canadian stations), or their **US State**. The following are the Canadian Provinces and Territories used for this contest:

Province	Call Area and Description
Newfoundland & Labrador	VO1 or VO2
Maritime	VA1 or VE1 - Nova Scotia, VE9 - New Brunswick, VY2 - Prince Edward Island
Quebec	VA2 or VE2
Ontario	VA3 or VE3
Manitoba	VA4 or VE4
Saskatchewan	VA5 or VE5
Alberta	VA6 or VE6
British Columbia	VA7 or VE7
Northwest Territories	VE8 - North West Territory, VY1 - Yukon Territory, and VY0 - Nunavut Territory

Table 2

Example: KI3DS this is AG4RR mobile in Kentucky
 AG4RR this is KI3DS we're a Club station in Anne Arundel county

W3VPR this is VE3XYZ. I am a standard station in Ontario
 VE3XYZ this is W3VPR. We are a club station in Washington, DC Whiskey Delta Charlie.

9. The only authorized transmitting modes are: Phone, CW and Digital. All digital contacts are counted as a CW contact.

The Fun Contest
Maryland-DC QSO Party Rules
Sponsored by the Anne Arundel Radio Club
(Revised 11 May 2010)

10. Contacts made via repeaters, digipeaters, or the Internet (e.g., IRLP, EchoLink, etc.) **are not allowed.**
11. Split frequency QSOs are only allowed when made within the same band. All other contacts must be simplex.
12. Cross mode contacts are prohibited.
13. Stations may be worked once per band using each mode. For example: Station "X" can work Station "Y" on each band using each mode for a total of three contacts per band.
14. Mobile stations that change their location (e.g., enter/depart Baltimore City, enter/depart the District of Columbia, change Maryland counties, or cross state lines) may be worked again as a "new" station.
15. Stations will send the category that reflects their highest point value to the stations they worked. For example: A mobile station operating QRP would indicate they were mobile versus QRP.
16. Alaska and Hawaii count only as States.
17. Contacts made during a net operation may not be included. For example: You may not participate in the "3905 Century Club" and claim those contacts for the MDC QSO Party.
18. Contacts made during a concurrent contest may not be included. For example: You may not participate in the European DX CW contest and claim those contacts for the MDC QSO Party.
19. **Scoring.** Points will be earned as indicated below:
 - a. **QSO points.**
 - (1) Each QSO with a **Club station** is worth **10 points**
 - (2) Each QSO with a **Mobile station** is worth **5 points**
 - (3) Each QSO with a **QRP station** is worth **4 points**
 - (4) Each QSO with a **CW station** is worth **3 points**
 - (5) Each QSO with a **Digital station** is worth **3 points**
 - (6) Each QSO with a **Standard station** is worth **1 point**

Note: When there is a conflict between QSO points, e.g., a Club station (10 pts) or a mobile station (5 pts) is operating CW (3 pts) **always use the higher point value** for each contact.

In other words, the QSO points for the CW contact with the club station would be 10 points instead of 3 points and the QSO points for the CW contact with the mobile station would be 5 points instead of 3 points.

- b. **Multiplier points.** One multiplier point is awarded for initial contacts with each station worked as described below.

The Fun Contest
Maryland-DC QSO Party Rules
Sponsored by the Anne Arundel Radio Club
(Revised 11 May 2010)

(1) **MDC Stations:** Stations in Maryland and the District of Columbia earn one multiplier point for initial contacts with:

(a) Each MD County, the cities of Baltimore (BAL) and the District of Columbia (WDC) – 25 maximum

(b) Each State (less Maryland) – 49 maximum

(c) Each Canadian Province – 9 maximum (See Table 2, paragraph 8.b., above)

(c) Each Country – Maryland stations cannot count Canada, the USA, Alaska or Hawaii as a Country.

(2) **Non-MDC Stations:** Stations not operating from within Maryland or the District of Columbia earn one multiplier point for initial contacts with: Each Maryland County, the cities of Baltimore (BAL) and the District of Columbia (WDC). A maximum of 25 multipliers is possible.

c. **Total Score.** Use the MDC QSO Party Summary sheet to calculate your score.

(1) Add the number of QSOs made with stations in each QSO Type (Club, mobile, etc.)

(2) Multiply the total number of QSOs of each type by their QSO value to determine the total QSO points for each QSO Type.

(3) Add the number of multipliers.

(4) Multiply the number multipliers by the total QSO points to get the Total Claimed Score.

20. All Maryland QSO Party Submissions must include the following:

a. Your **QSO Party Log**. The log may be submitted in the Cabrillo format (**which is the preferred format**), in a Microsoft Excel spreadsheet, or in a legible hand-written form. If we cannot read your hand writing, we will not accept your log.

b. A completed **Maryland-DC QSO Party Summary Sheet**. QSO Party logs submitted without a completed QSO Party Summary Sheet will be considered invalid. Instructions for completing the Maryland-DC QSO Party Summary Sheet can be downloaded from our website and include an example of a completed Summary Sheet.

21. Logs and Scoring Summaries **must be received on or before 14 September 2010**. Logs and Scoring Summaries may be submitted via “snail mail” or e-mail to:

a. “Snail mail”

MDC QSO Party
P.O. Box 308
Davidsonville, MD 21035

b. “e-mail” - MDQSOP@w3vpr.org

The Fun Contest
Maryland-DC QSO Party Rules
Sponsored by the Anne Arundel Radio Club
(Revised 11 May 2010)

22. All decisions of the Maryland QSO Party Contest Committee concerning any log, summary sheet, or scores will be considered final. By submitting your entry, you agree to abide by the decisions of the Maryland QSO Party contest committee.

23. **Other stuff.** The use of WARC bands and the 60m band is prohibited. All other amateur bands may be used.

a. **Suggested Frequencies:** The following are suggested frequencies for use during the contest.

- (1) **CW** - 3.557, 7.045, 14.045, 21.045, 28.045, 50.045, 144.045
- (2) **SSB** - 1.895, 3.821, 7.230, 14.271, 21.371, 28.371, 50.131, 144.141, 432.141
- (3) **FM** - 52.525, 146.55, 146.58, 223.40, 446.000
- (4) **Digital** - According to the ARRL Band Plan.

b. **QSO Party Logging software.** There are several logging software programs that support the MDC QSO Party. Here are a few:

- www.n3fjp.com/stateqso.htm - A very large selection of logging software is available.
- www.qsl.net/w3km/gen_log.htm - Download GenLog for free!
- www.n9oh.com/wlmods.html - Mods for WriteLog (www.writelog.com)
- www.n1mm.com – A very large selection of free logging software.

Note: You are not required to use logging software to document your contacts. Listing the above information about logging software available for the MDC QSO Party does not infer or imply an endorsement by the Anne Arundel Radio Club or the MDC QSO Party Committee. Caveat emptor and use all software at your own risk.

c. **Prizes.** Prizes may be awarded in each category and endorsement as indicated below.

(1) **Maryland/District of Columbia (MDC) Stations.** Awards will be given to MDC stations in each category. A plaque will be awarded to the station with the highest score in each category as long as there are a minimum of five entries submitted in each category. If five entries have not been submitted in any category, the winner will receive a certificate. All other stations will also receive a certificate.

(2) **International Stations.** Awards will be given to participating stations outside the State of Maryland in the Standard and QRP categories. A plaque and certificate will be awarded to the station with the highest score in each category (Standard and QRP) as long as there are a minimum of five entries submitted in each category or category. If five entries have not been submitted in any category, the winner will receive a certificate. All other stations will also receive a certificate

(3) The highest scoring station from each State, Province and Country in each category (Standard and QRP) will also receive a certificate indicating their success.

The Fun Contest
Maryland-DC QSO Party Rules
Sponsored by the Anne Arundel Radio Club
(Revised 11 May 2010)

- (4) Any station submitting a log with at least 10 QSOs will receive a certificate.
- (5) Certificates will be awarded for the following endorsements in each category.
 - (a) **YL** (All of the operators must be YLs)
 - (b) **Youth** (all of the participants must be under the age of 18)
 - (c) **MDC VHF-UHF Only** (Stations claiming this endorsement must have operated only in the VHF and/or UHF bands)

d. **Sponsoring a plaque or making a donation.** Persons or organizations interested in sponsoring a plaque or making a donation may contact MDQSOP@w3vpr.org for details.

Good Luck to all and thanks for participating in the Maryland-DC QSO Party – The fun contest!