

W6SX Prime Directive

**The first rule of
contesting is to
have fun.**

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Contesting Live!

How to Have Fun in Contests

*Contest Academy, IDXC
2017*

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It Doesn't Take a Beam!



1520z 11 February 2021, 20-meters RTTY

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2017



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Fun Guidelines

- Read and Understand Contest Rules
- Run and S&P
- Exchange Protocol
- Nothing Extra
- Dupes are OK
- Contest Friendliness
- **Goals**



Goals

- The first rule of contesting is to have fun.
- Beat last year
- Beat your buddy
- Add to club score
- Specific QSO or score mark
- WAS or DXCC or counties
- Improve/learn your station
- Improve operating proficiency



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Read and Understand Contest Rules

- **QST Contest Corral**

<http://www.arrl.org/contest-calendar>

- **WA7BNM Contest Calendar**

<http://www.hornucopia.com/contestcal/index.html>

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Run and S&P

- **Run** – Call CQ and other stations call you
- **Search and Pounce** – Tune around and answer CQing stations



Field Day Example

Exchange: Class and Section
3A South Texas (STX)

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RUN Exchange Protocol

CQ FD W6PH W6PH

- *W6SX*

W6SX 1D ORG

- *2A SJV*

TU W6PH

- *W9IOP*

...



RUN

Exchange Protocol

CQ FD W6PH W6PH (FD)

- *W6SX*

W6SX 1D ORG

- *(W6PH) (TU) 2A SJV*

(W6SX) TU W6PH

- *W9IOP*

...



S&P Exchange Protocol

CQ FD W7RM W7RM

- *W6PH*

W6PH 2B WWA

- *1D ORG*

TU W7RM

Tune and find another CQer



S&P Exchange Protocol

CQ FD W7RM W7RM (FD)

- *W6PH*

W6PH 2B WWA

- *(W7RM) (TU) 1D ORG*

(W6PH) TU W7RM

Tune and find another CQer

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Contest Friendliness

- It's a CONTEST
- Most friendly thing you can do is quickly complete contact per protocol
- Nothing Extra
- Dupes



Contesting Live

Field Day Simulation

- **Exchange: Class and Section**
 - 1E Orange (ORG)
 - Many good ways to make a contest contact
 - Don't worry about 'goofs'
 - All testers goof all the time
 - **Just do it!**



Phonetics

A	Alpha	N	November
B	Bravo	O	Oscar
C	Charlie	P	Papa
D	Delta	Q	Quebec
E	Echo	R	Romeo
F	Foxtrot	S	Sierra
G	Golf	T	Tango
H	Hotel	U	Uniform
I	India	V	Victor
J	Juliet	W	Whisky
K	Kilo	X	X-ray
L	Lima	Y	Yankee
M	Mike	Z	Zulu



W3LPL

Field Day

at W3AO

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=77UPoAD4lj0>

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Contesting Live

CQ FD W6SX W6SX (FD)

- *KD5FBA*

KD5FBA 1D SJV

- *(W6SX) (TU) 1B STX*

(KB5FBA) TU W6SX

- *W9IOP*

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You Don't Need to Log

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You Don't Need to Log, but ...

**A computer logging
program makes contesting
easier and more fun.**



Computer Logging

- Keeps track of dupes
- Keeps track of multipliers
- Keeps track of score
- Can send CW and voice files
- Creates log ready to submit
 - To LoTW
 - To Contest Sponsor



Contest Loggers

- N1MM+
- Skookum Logger
- WinTest
- TR4W
- SD by EI5DI



Resources

- **CQ-Contest List**

<http://lists.contesting.com/mailman/listinfo/cq-contest>

- **3830 Scores** <http://www.3830scores.com/>

- **The Joy of Contesting by Rob Brownstein, K6RB, QST January 2008**

- **ARRL Contest Update** <http://www.arrl.org/the-arrl-contest-update>

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More Resources

- **ARRL** <http://www.arrl.org/hf-contesting-guidelines>
- **RTTY–Fun way to get your
contesting feet wet**
<http://www.aa5au.com/rtty/getting-started-on-rtty/>
<http://www.rttycontesting.com/>
- **ARRL Contest Update**
<http://www.arrl.org/the-arrl-contest-update>



More Resources

- **Contest Clubs**

- <http://www.dxzone.com/catalog/Contesting/Clubs/>
- <https://www.tdxs.net/>

- **RTTY–Fun way to get your
contesting feet wet**

<http://www.aa5au.com/rty/getting-started-on-rty/>
<http://www.rtycontesting.com/>



More Resources

- **Amateur Radio Contesting for Beginners by Doug Grant, K1DG**
- **ARRL Contest Update**
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W6SX First Corollary

Share the fun!

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W6SX Second Corollary

**We all get better
together!**

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Questions

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Reference URL's in the presentation

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<http://www.hornucopia.com/contestcal/index.html>

<http://lists.contesting.com/mailman/listinfo/cq-contest>

<http://www.3830scores.com/>

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