

2008 ARRL 10 Meter Contest Results

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Is it Solar Cycle 24 yet? Solar scientists first observed a sunspot that fits the criteria for the new solar cycle back on January 4, 2008. More recently, solar scientists have announced that the solar minimum has been deeper and longer than average, with almost no sunspot activity in the past year. Whether it is, or it is not, a new solar cycle, when the dates for a radio contest come around you know that Amateur Radio operators will show up. On December 13-14, 2008, it was time to play the game that is radiosport. 1885 Amateur Radio stations took their chances on propagation on the 10 meter band, eager for contacts around the globe.

Despite poor conditions on the higher frequency HF bands, radio contesting continues to grow in popularity and activity. One could understand, however, if the ARRL 10 Meter Contest didn't follow suit. After all, the band is a lot more challenging at solar minimum. But contesters must love a challenge now and then. Activity in the contest improved in 2008. A total of 1,885 logs were entered in the 2008 ARRL 10 Meter Contest, an increase of 299 logs, or 19%, from 2007. The increase in log submissions means that this is likely to be the first solar cycle minimum in which the overall number of logs submitted in the ARRL 10 Meter Contest stays above 1000.

The three Single-Operator Low-Power categories remain the most popular, accounting for a little over half of all log submissions. The most popular of all the categories for DX stations is the Single-Operator CW-Only Low-Power category. At the peak of Solar Cycle 23, the Phone-Only categories were more popular than they have been during the current solar minimum.

Records

A total of 18 new DXCC entity records were set in 2008, scattered in all parts of the globe except South America. Two new records were set in Africa, five in Asia, five in Europe, five in North America, and one in Oceania. There were no new W/VE Division records set in 2008. There were, however, four new W/VE section records set, all in Single-Operator QRP categories. (See www.arrl.org/contests/results for the complete set of contest records.)

Affiliated Club Competition

	Score	Entries
Unlimited Category		
Florida Contest Group	4,388,168	63
Potomac Valley Radio Club	2,490,294	70
Northern California Contest Club	636,430	53
Medium Category		
Frankford Radio Club	1,487,258	19
Central Texas DX and Contest Club	1,272,142	21
Minnesota Wireless Assn	1,141,858	48
Yankee Clipper Contest Club	958,604	36
Society of Midwest Contesters	933,048	40
Grand Mesa Contesters of Colorado	833,048	18
Alabama Contest Group	718,622	14
South East Contest Club	647,136	12
Tennessee Contest Group	590,450	28
Contest Club Ontario	563,104	27
North Texas Contest Club	405,824	7
Mad River Radio Club	336,878	12
Louisiana Contest Club	324,470	5
Central Arizona DX Assn	306,264	14
Central Virginia Contest Club	209,928	6
Southern California Contest Club	185,146	19
Texas DX Society	166,688	3
Hudson Valley Contesters and DXers	159,956	11
Maritime Contest Club	148,680	10
Western New York DX Assn	143,980	5
CTRI Contest Group	141,298	5
Kentucky Contest Group	49,414	6
Carolina DX Assn	45,324	6
Hampden County Radio Assn	38,378	11
Willamette Valley DX Club	38,044	6
Order of Boiled Owls of New York	34,462	3
North Coast Contesters	32,568	3
Oklahoma DX Assn	25,842	4
Rochester (NY) DX Assn	24,542	4
Six Meter Club of Chicago	13,284	6
East Coast Canada Contest Club	4,996	3
Local Category		
Central Virginia Contest Club	209,928	6
Midland ARC	154,270	7
Low Country Contest Club	153,898	9
Mother Lode DX/Contest Club	130,894	8
West Park Radiops	87,172	5
Western Washington DX Club	50,920	7
Metro DX Club	48,266	6
Austin ARC	38,666	4
Athens County ARA	23,340	4
Redmond Top Key Contest Club	21,830	3
Lincoln ARC	19,510	4
Portage County Amateur Radio Service	16,716	8
West Allis RAC	15,792	5
Spokane DX Association	14,658	4
Bergen ARA	10,238	4
Meriden ARC	9,446	3
Panhandle ARC	3,120	3

DX Categories

Most of the increase in DX participation in the ARRL 10 Meter contest in 2008 came from European stations, and Europe now accounts for over half of all the DX logs entered in the contest. Were conditions in Europe better this year? Or did the contest benefit from the increase of interest in HF radiosport? It seems that the latter is the more likely explanation. Five new DXCC entity records were set in 2008 in Europe, but all were newly claimed records and all

were based on entries that made fewer than 50 contacts.

Single-Operator Mixed-Mode

A familiar contest call sign to many, Vitor, PY2NY, took the overall DX victory in the Single-Operator Mixed-Mode QRP category. Second place went to Dusan, YT2RX, operating from Serbia. Bobrov, RW3AI, took third place with 43 contacts from Moscow, Russia. The top entry was Asia was Yoshirou, JH7RTQ, of Fukushima City, who barely outscored two countrymen for fifth place overall.

In the Single-Operator Mixed-Mode Low-Power category, Alejandro, LU5WW, operating from the club station of the Radio Club Puerto Madryn, LU6WG, took the victory this year from Argentina with 411 contacts and 98 multipliers. Two Brazilian stations had a very close competition for second and third places worldwide. Second place went to Alex, PY2SEX (70,560 points), operating from Campinas, near Sao Paulo. Also located in Sao Paulo state, Alan Laure, PY2LSM, was just behind (68,880 points) for third place. The top European score was from Zeky, 9A5ST (9636 points), operating from Croatia, for an eighth place overall finish.

Worldwide victory in the Single-Operator Mixed-Mode High-Power category went to a station from central Europe this year. Manfred, DK2OY of Gelting, Germany, edged out his South American competition with 253 QSOs and 58 multipliers. A close second place went to Pedro, CE3BFZ (45,430 points), from Santiago, Chile. Third place went to Paul, PY3DX (43,032 points), with 216 QSOs and 66 multipliers from Puerto Alegre, Brazil. Last year's category winner, Vidi, ZS1EL, came in 10th place this year, the best finish in the 2008 contest for any station from southern Africa.

Single-Operator Phone-Only

Fourteen stations outside the United States and Canada entered the Single-Operator Phone-Only QRP category in 2008. The winner this year was Francisco, TG9ANF, of Guatemala City, the only entrant in the category with over 100 QSOs.

Winning the Single-Operator Phone-



W/VE

Mixed Mode, QRP

KR4OW	99,684
W2MF	44,574
K4CIA	30,500
K3TW	25,696
VA3DF	23,500
N0UR	20,332
W0RU	9,240
W5ESE	7,896
NA4BW	7,450
WA6FGV	5,472

Mixed Mode, Low Power

W4TAA	241,752
N4DL	217,566
K2PS	189,240
W3EP	153,640
WD5K	132,300
N0NI	125,164
W0ETT	81,774
WQ5L	80,028
K4MF	70,330
K4ADR	65,130

Mixed Mode, High Power

WE3C	435,488
W0AIH	376,704
(NE9U, op)	
K4EA	320,488
W9ZA	264,870
K8LEE	256,048
W0EWD	255,420
N4PN	244,622
N8II	230,076
W4LT	200,502
W0BH	180,432

Phone Only, QRP

KE2OI	8,320
K0HW	5,150
W7YA	4,400
WW0WB	3,984
KB0OLA	2,944
N8MWK	2,944
KK0Q	1,376
W6QU	1,368
(W8QZA, op)	
KD4OFG	1,120
W8JMF	1,020

Phone Only, Low Power

WD4XD	97,818
AJ3T	38,184
K4DMH	34,944
W4GKF	28,880
W3LL	26,796
W5TMC	26,524
AC5O	22,400
WB2RHM	18,040
KA0FSP	17,792
N5MT	17,760

Phone Only, High Power

NR5M	157,294
W5PR	127,904
W0SD	123,960
K5TR	115,472
(WMSR, op)	
K8CC	93,830
(N8NX, op)	
K4WI	92,400
N0QO	89,000
N8RA	87,696
N2EOC	83,172
W0DX	76,496

CW Only, QRP

N5TW	23,904
W5GAI	22,620
N8AP	18,760
N0JK	18,408
W7JI	16,256
N9SF	11,232
N9TF	7,644
N1TM	6,624
W02N	6,300
K2SM	5,600

CW Only, Low Power

W2TX	137,984
WK2G	120,320
WB4TDH	117,744
N4IJ	63,288
K4PG	59,312
K0MF	56,016
W3BGN	55,488
K9OM	52,096
K7HP	44,208
K4FT	40,480

CW Only, High Power

K1TO	386,808
N4BP	284,064
K1ZZ	211,012
K4LQ	181,260
K5NA	172,704
W2UP	136,192
WJ9B	128,316
N5AU	114,460
W0ZA	107,100
W9WI	103,896

Multi-operator

NX5M	434,304
W4UH	386,496
N4CJ	325,248
K4FJ	303,732
W5RU	297,600
N4ARR	292,136
N2MM	216,240
W5YAA	198,370
W4EE	150,300
K3WW	147,732

DX

Mixed Mode, QRP

PY2NY	20,020
YT2RX	4,576
RW3AI	2,652
EW6CU	684
JH7RTQ	588
JK1TCV	230
JH8FAJ	150
PE2KP	42

Mixed Mode, Low Power

LU6WG	132,104
(LU5WV, op)	
PY2SEX	70,560
PY2LSM	68,880
NP3CW	50,848
CE3DNP	41,958
HK3O	15,392
LW4HBR	13,912
LW5EE	12,480
9A5ST	9,636
EA7KJ	7,296

Mixed Mode, High Power

DK2OY	47,792
CE3BFZ	45,430
PY3DX	43,032
PY1NB	25,370
DL4WA	25,116
OE3GCU	12,012
FM5AN	11,808
UX2IO	11,100
HA1YI	11,078
ZS1EL	10,430

Phone Only, QRP

TG9ANF	13,794
LV6D	4,278
(LW3DC, op)	
PY2BN	936
F4FEY	540
I5KAP	540
EA3FF	414
JA2DLM	336
DF1RK	306
VK4ATH	200
IK3XTY	170

Phone Only, Low Power

HI3CCP	117,828
LQ5H	38,308
(LU3HS, op)	
LV5V	24,840
(LU5VV, op)	
VP5JM	24,816
AY8A	23,618
(LU8ADX, op)	
ZV2C	16,626
CE4ETZ	11,440
PU2MTS	10,800
CE2WZ	9,044
PU2LEP	7,848

Phone Only, High Power

LR2F	70,980
(LU2FA, op)	
P4OK	45,632
LS2D	45,384
(LU4DJB, op)	
PY5EW	22,256
PW2P	18,568
EC1KR	17,360
HQ2W	12,400
VK8AA	11,662
(VK2CZ, op)	
G0AEV	9,912
PY5ZD	7,776

CW Only, QRP

LW3EX	8,052
S59D	1,792
YO4XT	1,560
US5VX	1,512
YO8WV	960
Y0SALI	792
G4DBW	540
9A2EY	264
PP5VX	240
F5UKL	240
PA0RBO	240

CW Only, Low Power

PJ2T	103,040
(W0CG, op)	
PY1NX	59,944
LW1E	44,440
HR9/WQ7R	27,264
PY2XC	20,064
XE2S	16,272
J39BS	14,256
9A5MT	12,992
EA4TX	8,960
RV3LO	6,348

CW Only, High Power

LU1HF	343,184
PY2WC	98,112
P43JB	82,468
S57DX	44,772
OL5M	28,236
(OK1GI, op)	
F5IN	27,448
9A2U	20,016
(9A7KNB, op)	
HA8FK	15,660
EA3NT	15,616
EA4KA	14,352

Multi-operator

CW5W	406,000
CX5BW	246,840
LS1D	218,790
CV5K	212,550
PP5MS	183,736
PY3MHZ	135,090
LQ0F	129,990
LR4E	98,358
IO5O	32,240
HQ2GL	26,978

50 QSOs. Janko, S59D, took second place in the category, the best showing by a Slovenian station in the contest. Cristian, YO4XT, came in third place with 27 contacts.

Only one DX station in the Single-Operator CW-Only Low-Power category made over 100,000 points this year: Geoff, W0CG/PJ2DX, who operated at the Caribbean Contesting Consortium's contest station PJ2T on the island of Curacao in the Netherlands Antilles. Second place went to Soni, PY1NX (59,944 points), operating from Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. Mario, LU8DPM, using his contest call sign LW1E, took third place in 2008 with 44,440 points.

Operating from San Francisco, Argentina, Juan, LU1HF, made 978 QSOs to an amazing 89 multipliers for a total score of 343,184 points, the highest score of any DX Single-Operator effort. Second place went to Wal, PY2WC (98,112 points), operating from Aruja in Sao Paulo state in Brazil. Operating from Oranjestad, Aruba, Joop, P43JB, came in third place (82,468 points).

Multi-operator Single-Transmitter

The winner of the Multi-operator category in 2008 was the four-person CW5W team in Cerro Largo, Uruguay, operating from the station of Jorge, CX6VM, and scoring 406,000 points. Second place went to the nearby team of Gustavo, CX7AT, and station owner Pedro, CX5BW, with 246,840 points. Third place went to the two person team at LS1D: Tim, LW9EOC, and Daniel, LU3CT.

W/VE Categories

On Wednesday, December 11, 2008, the worst winter storm in a decade disrupted power for millions in New England. The storm was so severe that a week afterward, nearly 100,000 people were still without power. Many contesters in W1 and W2 watched helplessly as antennas and even towers succumbed to the ice. Despite this major disaster, activity from the New England Division actually increased, from 91 logs in 2007 to 100 logs in 2008. Activity in the Hudson Division increased from 59 to 64 logs.

The top overall score from Canada was made by Gilles, VE2TZT, of Ile-Bizard, Quebec, who scored 91,530 points in the Single-Operator Mixed-Mode High-Power category. Doug, VA3DF, came in fifth place in the Single-Operator, Mixed-Mode QRP category, the only Canadian with a Top Ten score.

Single-Operator Mixed-Mode

David, KR4OW, had the winning W/VE score in the Single-Operator Mixed-Mode QRP category in 2008. Manuel, W2MF, nearly doubled the Southern New Jersey record and finished in second place for W/VE. Third place went to William,

Only Low-Power category this year was Tino, HI3CCP who finished the contest with 1107 QSOs in 54 multipliers from Santiago in the Dominican Republic. Second place went to Victor, LU3HS, operating with the contest call sign LQ5H from Cordoba, Argentina. A very close third place finish went to Jorge, LU5VV, operating with contest call sign LV5V from Bariloche, Argentina. Jorge's score of 24,840 points just edged out fourth place finisher Jody, VP5JM (24,816 points).

In the Single-Operator Phone-Only High-Power category, overall QSO totals were slightly up from the top totals in 2007. This year, the victory went to Roberto, LU2FA (70,980 points), operating with contest call sign LR2F from Rosario, Argentina. Kay,

K6KO, using her Aruban call sign P40K (45,632 points), came out in second place. Dan, LU4DJB, took third place with 45,384 points, operating with the contest call sign LS2D from Buenos Aires, Argentina. David, VK2CZ, operating with the call sign VK8AA from the city of Darwin in Australia's Northern Territories, had one of the best results for Oceania, finishing eighth overall with 11,662 points.

Single-Operator CW-Only

Eight of the top ten scores in the category came from Europe, including three from Romania. Overall DX victory in the category, however, went to Walter, LW3EX, the only station in the category to make over

K4CIA, of Raleigh, NC.

In the Single-Operator Mixed-Mode Low-Power category, victory in the category went to William, W4TAA in West Central Florida. Gary, N4DL, also in the West Central Florida section, took second place with just over 800 contacts in his log. Third place went to last year's third-place finisher, Pete, K2PS, of Southern New Jersey.

With 1163 QSOs in the log, John, WE3C, operating from Eastern Pennsylvania, won the Single-Operator, Mixed-Mode High-Power category this year (435,488 points). Scott, NE9U, operating the well-known WØAIH contest station in Wisconsin, took second place (376,704 points). Neal, K4EA, in Georgia had the third highest score (320,488 points).



Figure 1 — How's this for a "skyhook"? David, VK2CZ, operated as VK8AA in Australia's Northern Territories with this monster beam. The antenna was 85 feet long and it was 140 feet in the air, thanks to the crane.

Single-Operator Phone-Only

Winning the QRP category was John, KE2OI, of Southern New Jersey, with an impressive 40 multipliers. James, KØHW, of South Dakota took second place (and set a new South Dakota section record score. Larry, W7YA, of the Orange section in southern California, makes a repeat appearance in third-place.

Peter, WD4IXD, won the Low-Power category from North Florida with just under 1000 contacts in the log. Robert, AJ3T, from Western Pennsylvania, took second place with 450 QSOs. Third place went to Douglas, K4DMH, of Northern Florida.

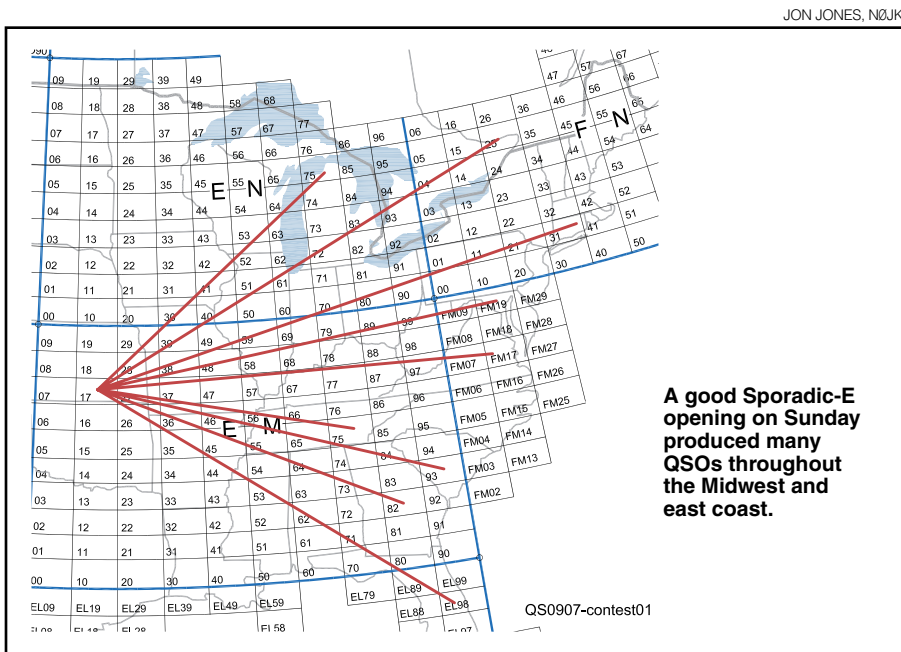
In the Single-Operator Phone-Only High-Power category, George, NR5M, operating from a location northwest of Houston, made 1338 QSOs to 59 multipliers for 157,294

points and first place. Chuck, W5PR, took second place (127,904 points) with 1150 QSOs in 56 multipliers. Ed, WØSD, of South Dakota moved up from fourth place to third place (123,960 points) this year.

Single-Operator CW-Only

After a four-year run by Dale, KG5U, the Single-Operator CW-Only QRP category victory went to Tom, N5TW (23,904 points). Second place (22,620 points) went to Skip, W5GAI. In third place, Spencer, N8AP, made 18,760 points from Michigan.

In the Single-Operator CW-Only Low-Power category, first place went to John, W2TX, of South Florida. Merrill, WK2G, of West Central Florida moved up to a second-place spot in 2008. Third place went to Leonard, WB4TDH, of West Central Florida.



JON JONES, NØJK

A good Sporadic-E opening on Sunday produced many QSOs throughout the Midwest and east coast.

Dan, K1TO, returned to first place in the W/VE Single-Operator CW-Only High-Power category in 2008. Second place this year went to Bob, N4BP, of South Florida. In third place, Dave, K1ZZ, had the best result in the contest for any station in New England.

Multi-operator Single-Transmitter

The five-operator team at NX5M earned its fourth consecutive victory in the W/VE Multi-Operator Single-Transmitter category. Earning the second-place spot was a three-person team at W4UH in South Florida. Chris, N4CJ (who also holds the call sign G4BUE) was joined by his wife June, MØBUE, in a two-person effort from West Central Florida that resulted in a third-place finish.

ARRL Affiliated Clubs Competition

This year, there were 19 clubs in the Local Club category. The Central Virginia Contest Club took the top prize in 2008. Last year's category winner, the Midland Amateur Radio Club of Midland, TX, finished second this year. Seven club members combined for a score of 154,270 points. Twenty-nine clubs qualified for the Medium category. The Frankford Radio Club won first place with 1,487,258 points from 19 logs. Last year's category winners, the Central Texas DX and Contest Club, came in second place. The Minnesota Wireless Association took third place with 48 logs and 1,141,858 points.

Three clubs entered the Unlimited Club category, and moving up from a third-place Medium Club finish last year, the Florida Contest Group took a commanding victory. The Potomac Valley Radio Club came in second place with 2,490,294 points from 70 log submissions. Third place went to the Northern California Contest Club with 636,430 points.

You can find the official list of contest club names on the ARRL Contest Branch web site. If your club is not listed, contact contests@arrl.org, and the team at the Contest Branch will help make sure that your club meets the Affiliated Club requirements and is updated on the list.

Are You Ready for Next Year?

Will conditions on the 10 meter band be any better in December, 2009, than they were in December, 2008? Even if the solar numbers don't look spectacular, you can be sure that thousands of contesters will show up. On December 12-13, 2009, the band will once again come alive with signals from all parts of the globe.