

Results, 2009 ARRL 160 Meter Contest

Excellent conditions + record participation = maximum fun!

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The 2009 ARRL 160 Meter contest (December 4-6) was an historic event! Here are a few numbers that fit into the “maximum fun” equation:

2 — stations breaking the 2000 QSO barrier for the first time ever!

87 — section records broken

95 — stations with more than 1000 QSOs

112 — stations with more than 100 multipliers

1366 — log submissions, another all-time high

Hopefully, good conditions will once again align with the dates of the next ARRL 160 Meter Contest, scheduled for December 3-5, 2010.

Single Operator, High Power

The station of Tom, W8JI, operated by Dan, K1TO, finished in first place with an all-time high 2,046 QSOs. Dan observes, “The top tier of the 160 community has certainly assembled a dazzling array of antennas on FB QTHs...” Fitting that description is John, K9DX, who used his “dazzling array of antennas” to achieve a close second place finish, also surpassing the 2,000 QSO mark.

Third place was gained by Peter, K3ZM, who emphasized working DX and ended up with well over 400 5-point QSOs in his log. Farther north, John, VE3EJ, put in another strong performance to earn a fourth place finish. The battle for fifth and sixth place was fought in the Maine section, with Paul, K8PO, edging out Paul, N1BUG.

The top 12 finishers surpassed the old records for their sections and there were 29 new section records, including some record-setting performances in the western US from “Tree,” N6TR, operating with the club call K7RAT (OR); Ed, W5TM (OK), and George, W0UA, piloting K0RF (CO).

Single Operator, Low Power

Julius, N2WN, repeated his 2008 Low



W/VE

Single Operator, QRP
W0GJ 140,798
W3TS 102,640
N8BB 100,813
K0PK 88,776
N7IR 82,000
K4CNW 81,923
N9NE 74,962
NK8Q 63,492
AA1CA 53,088
W4TMR 51,696

Single Operator, Low Power

N2WN 260,610
K9IG 258,358
K8FH 250,818
WE9V 212,515
KB7Q 202,410
K4FT 199,300
K1HTV 197,870
WB8JUI 197,600
K1EP 193,347
W0UO 184,239

Single Operator, High Power

W8JI (K1TO, op) 695,960
K9DX 674,325
K3ZM 655,819
VE3EJ 621,158
K8PO 602,615
N1BUG 568,490
AA1K 530,140
K1LT 514,304
K5NA 513,549
W5MX 484,500

Multioperator

KC1XX 639,653
K1LZ 591,429
W2GD 585,982
W2FU 577,330
WB9Z 561,467
WE3C 517,370
N1LN 516,864
K3WWW 499,356
N0NI 487,080
W4MYA 475,008

DX

DX Single Operator, QRP
JH4UYB 2

DX Single Operator, Low Power

C6AKQ (N4BP, op) 187,356
EI4CF 6,264
XE2YWH 3,520
G4AFS 3,422
UT7UW 2,000
SP5CJY 1,848
OK6Y (OK2PTZ, op) 1,512
GM3YEH 1,188
F1UVN 1,102
JE1SPY 1,040

DX Single Operator, High Power

6Y7J (UU4JMG, op) 204,768
HC8GR (K6AW, op) 165,426
ZF2AH 126,450
XE2S 77,380
OM2VL 62,952
ON4UN 62,098
CT1JLZ (OK1RF, op) 50,688
G5W (G3BJ, op) 48,944
G3LET 45,828
HC2SL 39,456

DX Multioperator

PJ2T 191,724
VP5CM 163,394
F5IN 30,348
OL5R 18,900
UW2M (UR0MC, op) 15,752
E77DX 15,228
ES5RY 15,200
EA1DR 12,696
5J1A 12,126
JA3YBK 10,640

can continent from different sections; MI (K8FH), WI (WE9V), MT (KB7Q), KY (K4FT), VA (K1HTV), OH (WB8JUI), EMA (K1EP) and NTX (W0UO).

Single Operator, QRP

Succeeding at QRP power level on the 160 meter band is especially rewarding. Glenn, W0GJ, guided his Bemidji, MN station to a repeat victory. Mike, W3TS continued his successful QRP efforts with a second place finish from Eastern Pennsylvania, with Werner, N8BB in Michigan not far behind in third. Paul, K0PK, joined the Top Ten box with his fourth place finish. Other notable QRP performances were Gary, N7IR (AZ); Jack, K4CNW (SC); Todd, N9NE (WI), and Tom, AA1CA (NH).

Multioperator

The crew of operators at KC1XX was the best of the four northeast US efforts that topped this category, not only winning but raising the US/VE Multioperator record by 41k points. They were followed by teams at K1LZ (EMA), W2GD (SNJ) and W2FU (WNY).

Farther west, WB9Z (IL) captured fifth place, just short of the 2000 QSO mark with 1930 contacts. The highest score west of the Mississippi was made by the operators at N0NI (IA) in ninth place.

DX Results

In North America, 6Y7J, operated by Andy, UU4JMG, was the High Power winner, the top DX score overall and a new North American record. Bob, N4BP, traveled to the Bahamas as C6AKQ in the Low Power category, reaching a new continental record and the overall Top Ten before winds blew down his antenna. VP5CM had an excellent Multioperator score, finishing second among all DX stations.

In South America, the Multioperator entry from PJ2T was tops in that category with

Power victory with a new Tennessee record, noting, “...my personal best for an ARRL 160.” Also repeating as runner-up is Greg, K9IG, who boosted his Indiana record by nearly 25 percent despite persistent local noise.

The remaining Top Ten Low Power finishers represent most of the North Ameri-

Division Winners by Category

Single Operator, QRP

Atlantic	W3TS	102,640
Central	N9NE	74,962
Dakota	W0GJ	140,798
Delta	K4RST	18,941
Great Lakes	N8BB	100,813
Hudson	KR2Q	42,432
Midwest	WT0A (KE5RX, op)	18,720
New England	AA1CA	53,088
Northwestern	KX7L	9,408
Pacific	K6EI	43,810
Roanoke	K4CWNW	81,923
Rocky Mountain	KT5E	43,310
Southeastern	N4AX	20,094
Southwestern	N7IR	82,000
West Gulf	N4IJ	28,152
Canada	VE7VV	38,640

Single Operator, Low Power

Atlantic	WY3A	160,724
Central	K9IG	258,358
Dakota	K7RE	148,680
Delta	N2WN	260,610
Great Lakes	K8FH	250,818
Hudson	K1NK	106,026
Midwest	K0DI	155,400
New England	K1EP	193,347
Northwestern	KB7Q	202,410
Pacific	N6RK	123,120
Roanoke	K1HTV	197,870
Rocky Mountain	AC0DS	139,318
Southeastern	K4CWW	80,975
Southwestern	W7RH	159,936
West Gulf	W0UO	184,239
Canada	VE3KF	146,500

Single Operator, High Power

Atlantic	AA1K	530,140
Central	K9DX	674,325
Dakota	K9DU	237,120
Delta	N8OO	459,900
Great Lakes	K1LT	514,304
Hudson	W2XL	240,563
Midwest	N0TT	240,856
New England	K8PO	602,615
Northwestern	K7RAT (N6TR, op)	351,216
Pacific	W7RN (KY7M, op)	266,640
Roanoke	K3ZM	655,819
Rocky Mountain	K0RF (W0UA, op)	345,690
Southeastern	W8JI (K1TO, op)	695,960
Southwestern	AC6DD	149,865
West Gulf	K5NA	513,549
Canada	VE3EJ	621,158

Multioperator

Atlantic	W2GD	585,982
Central	WB9Z	561,467
Dakota	KD0S	226,464
Delta	N4VV	147,105
Great Lakes	W8MJ	397,880
Hudson	N1EU	226,050
Midwest	N0NI	487,080
New England	KC1XX	639,653
Northwestern	W7CT (@NK7U)	224,200
Pacific	NR6O	212,420
Roanoke	N1LN	516,864
Rocky Mountain	W0GG	246,335
Southeastern	K4TD	394,524
Southwestern	N6MA	86,856
West Gulf	NX5M	345,695
Canada	VA3DX	311,562

Affiliated Club Competition

	Score	Entries
Unlimited Category		
Yankee Clipper Contest Club	6,924,804	58
Society of Midwest Contesters	6,773,425	76
Potomac Valley Radio Club	6,714,918	69
Minnesota Wireless Assn	3,977,934	60

Medium Category

Frankford Radio Club	5,215,768	35
Contest Club Ontario	3,448,319	33
Tennessee Contest Group	2,597,177	31
Mad River Radio Club	2,429,687	21
Northern California Contest Club	1,940,834	44
Florida Contest Group	1,587,914	20
South East Contest Club	1,493,338	16
Alabama Contest Group	1,402,156	18
Grand Mesa Contesters of Colorado	1,269,124	15
Rochester (NY) DX Assn	1,110,756	8
Central Texas DX and Contest Club	1,090,531	8
Arizona Outlaws Contest Club	1,017,179	23
Western New York DX Assn	861,390	7
North Texas Contest Club	778,648	6
Contest Group Du Quebec	659,121	5
Hudson Valley Contesters and DXers	605,333	11
Southern California Contest Club	404,383	13
Kentucky Contest Group	362,828	5
CTRI Contest Group	334,024	6
Willamette Valley DX Club	313,814	6
Order of Boiled Owls of New York	277,884	7
Western Washington DX Club	272,543	9
BC DX Club	244,101	4
Carolina DX Assn	241,707	6
North Coast Contesters	223,818	4
Utah DX Assn	219,542	4
Texas DX Society	113,861	4

Local Category

Central Virginia Contest Club	1,405,088	9
Kansas City DX Club	441,335	6
Spokane DX Association	329,686	5
Mother Lode DX/Contest Club	318,603	6
Delaware ARA (Ohio)	278,067	4
Maritime Contest Club	276,985	6
Skyview Radio Society	265,079	3
West Park Radiops	113,320	6
Midland ARC	89,231	3
Allegheny Valley Radio	80,408	3
Southeastern DX Club	77,548	3
Magnolia DX Assn	64,332	3
Metro DX Club	44,174	3

JERRY ROSALIUS, WB9Z



The WB9Z multi-op crew established a new IL Section and Central Division record with 1930 QSOs and 127 multipliers. Top: Jerry, KE9I, Mike, AJ9C, Ralph, K9ZO, Jerry, WB9Z. Foreground: Mike, K9XZ.

HC8GR (operator Steve, K6AW) achieving the second place DX score for High Power.

Europe provided the majority of DX QSOs and multipliers. Leslie, OM2VL's 523 QSOs were enough to beat John, ON4UN's 514 QSOs for the top European in High Power. G5W (operated by G3BJ) and G3LET each worked more than 400 US/VE stations, while CT1JLZ (operated by OK1RF) came close with 390 QSOs. In Low Power, the two best European entries were Niall, EI4CF, and Terry, G4AFS, who managed to make 148 QSOs between them. Mike, F5IN, used the spotting network to reach the top of the European Multioperator list.

Although conditions to Asia were less than stellar in 2009, JH4UYB managed a contact and submitted the only DX QRP entry in the contest. In Low Power, JE1SPY

made 28 QSOs as the top Asian score. JA8NFV was the best High Power entry from Asia, while the crew at JA3YBK pulled 136 US/VE call signs from the noise to be the top Multioperator entry. Several UA9/UA0 stations and JT1CO provided more than 100 DX QSOs and multipliers.

FO8RZ was the only entry from Oceania with just two QSOs, but there were reports of ZL and VK activity. No logs were received from Africa, but a few logs contain QSOs from this continent. Of course, we would like all DX entrants to submit a log for log-checking purposes and to gauge worldwide activity.

Club Competition

The Unlimited Club competition was incredibly close, with the three top clubs having a spread of just 210,000 points out of nearly 7 million. This year's winner is the Yankee Clipper Contest Club, whose 58 entries totaled 6.92M points. Close behind is the Society of Midwest Contesters who had the greatest participation with 76 logs, but hoped for a few more to add to their 6.77M point total. In third, with 6.71M points from 69 entries, was the Potomac Valley Radio Club. The final club to reach the required 50 entries was the Minnesota Wireless Association, with 57 stations represented.

In the Medium Club competition, the 32 logs submitted for the Frankford Radio Club totaled 3.83M points, earning the top spot in this category. The largest group in the Medium Club category was assembled by the Northern California Contest Club, with 44 participants.

The Local Club category saw the Central

Virginia Contest Club at the top spot, with a total of just over 1M points by eight members.

Summary

At the bottom of an extended solar minimum, sooner or later great conditions on the 160 meter band will coincide with a major contest weekend — and that's what happened in 2009! The steady increase in worldwide activity was evident, as well. Many Soapbox comments and Internet group posts talked about "first time" entries, significant station improvements and personal best performances. Scores and participation were at an all-time high.

Good conditions to various parts of the world can occur almost anytime in the solar cycle, and hopefully, will once again align with the dates of a future ARRL 160 Meter Contest. The next event is scheduled for December 3-5, 2010.

Online Expanded Results

The version of this write-up on the ARRL Web at www.arrl.org/contests contains a complete table of all new records, more commentary and analysis, and three interesting sidebars.