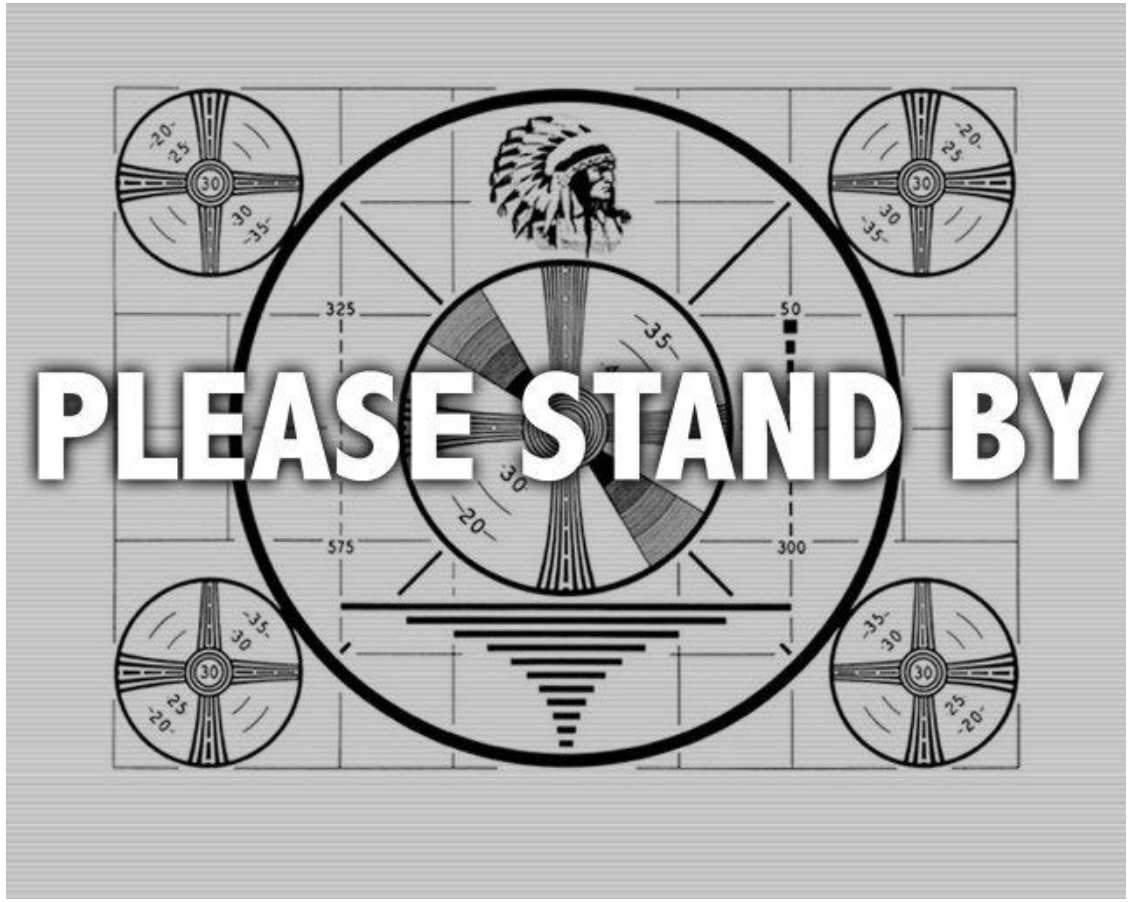
2017 Eastern VHF/UHF Conference – “222 MHz and Up Distance Contest” forum



Moderator: Bart Jahnke, W9JJ – ARRL Contest Branch Manager

222 MHz and Up Distance Contest

ARRL’s NEW "222 MHz and Up Distance Contest" to debut August 5-6, 2017!

1. Objective:

•Work as many stations as possible on the 222 MHz through 241 GHz bands using any allowable mode. A station in a specific grid locator may be contacted from the same location only once on each band, regardless of mode.

• You can work a station multiple times from within a 4-digit square to a 4-digit square, but only the greatest 6-digit distance QSO will be counted from the one or more attempts.

2. When: The first full weekend in August 2017 (**August 5-6, 2017**).

•**Date and Contest Period:** The contest is held on the first full weekend of August, beginning at 1800 UTC Saturday and ending at 1800 UTC Sunday (**August 5-6, 2017**).

3. Entry Categories: There are no single-band, limited-band or power sub-categories.

- **3.1.** Fixed Stations
- **3.1.1.** Single-Operator, Fixed: A station operated at a single location by only one person.
- **3.1.2.** Multi-Operator, Fixed: A station operated at a single location by two or more persons.
- **3.2.** Rover Stations: A Rover is a station that moves beyond the limits of a fixed location during the course of a contest. Aeronautical mobile stations are not allowed. Rover stations may be worked from each four-character grid square in which they operate. If more than one contact on a given band is made between stations in specific grid squares, then the contact with the longest path distance will be counted.
- **3.2.1.** A vehicle may transport only one Rover station including all equipment, power sources, and antennas.
- **3.2.2.** Rover stations must add "Rover" on phone and “/R“ on CW and digital modes after their call sign.
- **3.2.3.** The operator of a Rover may also operate at a Fixed station during the contest period and submit an additional log for a Fixed station entry.
- **3.2.4**. Rovers submitting a score for inclusion in the Club Competition must also include an additional summary sheet indicating the portion of the score that counts for the club score if any of the contacts submitted were made from a location outside of the club's territory (see Rule 6.1.1).

4. Additional Rules:

- **4.1.** Transmitter Power Levels: Any legal transmitter power for the operator's license class, frequency, and station location may be used.
- **4.2.** Emission Modes: All amateur emissions may be used for contacts.
- **4.3.** Exchange: All stations exchange the Six-Character-Grid-Locator ("sub-grid", see http://www.arrl.org/about-grid-squares) of the station. Rovers in motion report their grid locator at the time of each contact.
- **4.3.1.** Fixed stations operated by remote control exchange the grid locator in which the transmitting and receiving equipment is located, not the location of the control point.

5. Scoring: Total score is the sum of QSO Points of all contacts.

- **5.1.1.** QSO Points: The point value for a contact is computed as the center-to-center distance in kilometers between the sub-grid of each station, multiplied by the applicable Band Factor. Contacts between stations within the same sub-grid are assigned a distance of one kilometer.

5.1.2. Band Factors are as follows:

Band	Band Factor
222 MHz	2
432 MHz	1
902 MHz	4
1296 MHz	2
2.3 GHz	6
3.4 GHz	10
5.7 GHz	10
Band	Band Factor
10 GHz	6
24 GHz	20
47 GHz	20
76 GHz	20
122.25 GHz	20
134 GHz	20
241 GHz	20

5.1.3. Scoring Example:

W9JJ Log shows these six QSOs from en44xa:	
K9JK/R in en44bc on 1296 MHz	(147 km x 2 = 294)
W9XA/R in en43xx on 10 GHz	(5 km x 6 = 30)
K8QYZ/R in en74de on 432 MHz	(346 km x 1 = 346)
K8QYZ/R in en73aa on 432 MHz	(347 km x 1 = 347)
K8QYZ/R in en73aa on 902 MHz	(347 km x 4 = 1388)
W9FZ/R in en44xa on 1296 MHz	(1 km x 2 = 2)
TOTAL Contest Score = 2,407	

6. Club Competition - - See “ARRL General Contest Rules”

•**6.1.** A station’s score may be credited to only one Club.

•**6.1.1.** Rover stations that operate outside of the declared territory of a Local club may count only those contacts made from within the territory of the Local club toward the Club score (see 3.2.4).

•**6.2.** A Club score is the sum of scores of stations specifying that specific club affiliation in their contest entry.

7. Team Competition: The purpose of Team Competition is to encourage participation, particularly by amateurs new to contesting on the VHF+ bands.

•**7.1.** Teams are composed of Single-Operator, Fixed; Multi-operator, Fixed and / or Rover category participants operating within a single Contest Region as defined below.

•**7.2.** Teams are classified as Small (two to five members) or Large (six to ten members).

•**7.3.** Team members must be registered for a specific team prior to the start of the contest. Registration consists of a web upload or time-stamped email - containing a list of all participant call signs and the team’s declared Contest Region - sent to the ARRL Contest Branch Manager at contests@arrl.org .

•**7.4.** A participant may only be a member of one team. If more than one registration contains the same participant, the registration received last will be used to determine team membership.

•**7.5.** To be a qualified member of a team, the member must make one valid contact with at least one other member of the same team. Rover members must make at least one contact from within the team’s Contest Region.

•**7.6.** The team score is the sum of scores from qualified members. Rover contribution is limited to that portion of the Rover’s score achieved from within the team’s region.

•**7.7.** A team member's score may also be counted for a club total in the Club Competition.

8. Miscellaneous:

•8.1. A valid contact consists of both call signs, exchanges and acknowledgments.

•**8.2.** A transmitter, receiver or antenna used to contact one or more stations under one call sign may not be used subsequently during the contest period under any other call sign (with the exception of family stations). The intent of this rule is to accommodate family members who must share a station, not to manufacture artificial contacts.

•**8.3.** Contacts may not be made by re-transmitting the signal of either or both stations, whether by satellite or terrestrial means, or by EME. Frequencies regularly occupied by a repeater in a locality may not be used for contest contacts, even if the repeater is turned off.

•**8.4.** All entrants, regardless of category, are permitted to use spotting assistance or nets including but not limited to DX-alerting nets, Internet chat rooms, APRS and other packet radio systems, reverse beacon networks, and repeaters to identify stations available for contacts and to announce (self-spot) their availability for contacts. Announcements shall be limited to call sign, location, band or frequency, mode, transmitting sequence and listening direction. These methods of spotting assistance may also be used to coordinate antenna aiming prior to initiation of the contact and to explain contest rules, such as the exchange required, for those who need clarification. Such assistance may not be used to facilitate the completion of any contact once the contact has commenced. This means such assistance may not be used to convey receipt or non-receipt of any required element of a contact or to request a repeat of any required element of a contact.

9. Awards:

•**9.1.** Top Single-operator, Fixed score in each *222 MHz and Up Distance Contest* Region.

•**9.2.** Top Multi-operator, Fixed score in each *222 MHz and Up Distance Contest* Region where significant effort or competition exists.

•**9.3.** Top Rover score in each *222 MHz and Up Distance Contest* Region

•**9.4.** Top Club score in each *222 MHz and Up Distance Contest* Region

•**9.5.** Top Small Team score in each *222 MHz and Up Distance Contest* Region

•**9.6.** Top Large Team score in each *222 MHz and Up Distance Contest* Region

10. There are 18 Contest Regions

1	WA - OR - VE7 - NT
2	ID - MT - VE6
3	CA - NV
4	UT - WY - CO
5	AZ - NM - WTX
6	ND - SD - VE4 - VE5
7	NE - KS - MO
8	NTX - STX - OK - AR - LA
9	IL - IN
10	MN - WI - IA
11	MI - OH - VE3 - NNY - WNY - WPA
12	KY - TN
13	MS - AL - GA - FL - SC
14	NC - VA - WV - MDC - DE
15	NJ - EPA - ENY - NLI
16	CT - MA - ME - NH - RI - VT - VE2
17	VE9 - VE1 - VY2 - VO
18	DX (ANY OTHER AREAS INCLUDING ALASKA, HAWAII, US POSSESSIONS AND MARITIME MOBILE)

11. Log Submission:

- **11.1.** Cabrillo-formatted logs must uploaded via http://contest-log-submission.arrl.org/
- **11.2.** The deadline for submission of entries is 14 days following the contest. **(1800 UTC August 20, 2017).** Entries received after the deadline may be considered check logs.

12. Other Rules: See "General Rules for All ARRL Contests" and "General Rules for ARRL Contests on bands above 50 MHz." Questions regarding this contest should be emailed to contests@arrl.org.

The End!

