

# THE eQRM

MAY 2022



## The BVARA in Beaver County Pennsylvania

Beaver Valley Amateur Radio Association

W3SGJ

2M Repeater

145.310

PL 131.8



**On the Cover:** Here is a great photo of some April shower May flowers. These daffodils are very beautiful. I am so happy that Spring is here and Summer is on the way! What Ham related thing has the Spring weather brought you? Plans for Hamfest, Field Day....

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### Check into our nets

<b>Wednesday 2 Meter</b>	<b>Wednesday 10 Meter</b>
<b>8:30PM on 145.310 MHz PL 131.8</b>	<b>9:00PM on 28.470 MHz</b>

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# Who We Are

## 2022 BVARA OFFICERS

President: Jack Spencer, KZ3Z

Vice President: Dan Grazulis, KB3VSP

2nd Vice Pres.: Doug Lawrence, K3GTX

Treasurer: Pam Spencer, W3PMS

Secretary: Norm Trunick, K3NJT

Director: Tony Pavilonis, K3AHP

Director: Jim Allen, KC3IXE

Trustee: Doug Hanna, N4YKQ

## MONTHLY MEETINGS

E-Board meetings are now held the Saturday before the monthly club meeting.

VE testing begins at 5:00 PM.

Regular meetings are at 6:30 PM

All meetings are held at the  
Beaver County Emergency Services  
Center (A.K.A. THE 911 Center )  
351 14th Street  
Ambridge, PA 15003  
on the second Thursday of every month  
(unless otherwise stated).

## 2022

May 12

Jun 09

Jun 25-26 Field Day

Jul 14

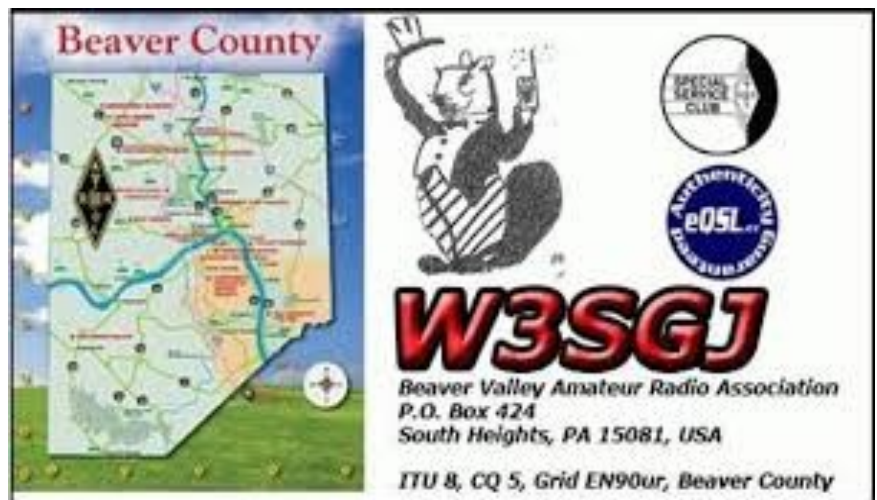
Aug 11

Sep 08

Oct 13

Nov 10

Dec Christmas Party





# This Month

## *May Special Session:*

*Speaker:* Club Members and You

*Topic:* Roundtable Help with Questions from You

### *What's It All About:*

New to ham radio? Are you wondering about new digital modes with your equipment? Maybe you have questions about antennas, setting up your station, how to make an HF contact, or how to interface your computer to your ham equipment. Perhaps your questions are even more basic like rules and regulations, which bands are best to use, where to find operating resources like band plans, what to do after you make contacts and how do you save or conveniently create a useful log. Maybe you have problems with annoying noise or need help in selecting some equipment. The list goes on and on . . .

Because of the number of new club members, we've been approached as a club to provide help in answering your questions. At our monthly club meeting, a roundtable discussion with your participation is planned. You don't have to be a member of the BVARA; you may just have a question or two that's been bothering you about our ham radio hobby. In fact, you could be new to the hobby or a seasoned veteran with questions. Whether it's technical or about rules/regulations or operating or equipment, we want to help you. We'll start our roundtable around 7:15 PM at the Baden Community Center at 149 State St. in Baden PA. Please join us with your questions!

### *Rich's Background:*

K3SOM - Extra Class Ham, Licensed since 1962, VE,  
B.S. Electrical Engineering

# More this Month

## Weekly

The Freedom Square Diner in Monaca has a great wait staff. Come let them take your order.

Thursday Morning Breakfast  
(or you can have lunch)

**Come join us!**



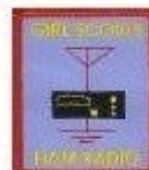
The BVARA meets every Thursday at the Freedom Square Diner in Center Township, just to the right of the Cinemark Center Township Marketplace at 09:30 AM. All radio amateurs and those interested in amateur radio are encouraged to come join us at our Thursday morning breakfast.

**See you  
Thursday at**



**RACES / ARES**

The eQRM Urges All County Hams to Participate.



# Get your License or Upgrade

If you are interested in getting your first FCC license or upgrading your current amateur radio license, the Beaver Valley Amateur Radio Association holds VE Test sessions (Volunteer Examinations) the second Thursday of each month at the Beaver County Emergency Services Center in Ambridge Pennsylvania prior to our BVARA Club meeting. If there is no meeting there is no test session. Please come take your test with us!

For more information, contact :  
Rich Soltesz, K3SOM  
(724) 847-0610  
k3som@arrl.net



## VE TEST SESSIONS

Beaver County Emergency Services Center 351 14th Street Ambridge, PA 15003.  
Tests begin promptly at 5 pm on the same day as BVARA Club Meetings  
(the second Thursday of the month).  
All classes of amateur radio license tests are administered.



ALL candidates MUST bring ALL of the following:

1. 2 forms of I.D. - one MUST be a photo I.D.
2. A pencil AND a pen with blue or black ink.
3. The original AND a photocopy of any valid ham license.
4. The original AND a photocopy of any C.S.C.E.
5. The test fee of \$15 - cash only.
6. Your FRN Number. (free from the FCC, call for details)

# New License and Upgrades

BVARA VE Testing

## Testing this Month :



### April 2022 VE Test Session Results

Our April VE Test Session had seven successful candidates, with the participants achieving their goal of passing the exam. Our electronic filing system once again worked superbly. A congratulations email was then sent to the candidates with a snippet of their license page with their new callsign and/or verification that all information was entered correctly.

Our testing was conducted at our normal location at the Beaver County Emergency Services Center in Ambridge, PA. Because of a priority scheduling change, our **May 2022 VE Testing activity will be at the Baden Community Center at 149 State St. in Baden PA.** We will return to the Emergency Services Center in June for our VE testing. See page 11 for more details.

Congratulations to:

Paul Berendt, KC3TZW, Wampum, PA passed the Technician exam

Jeremy LeRose, KC3TZU, Belleview in Pittsburgh, PA passed the Technician exam

Shawn Spinnenweber, KC3TZV, Brookline in Pittsburgh, PA passed the Technician exam

Keith Custard, KC3TMC, Beaver, PA passed the General exam

Ron Havranek, KC3ROP, Baden, PA passed the General exam

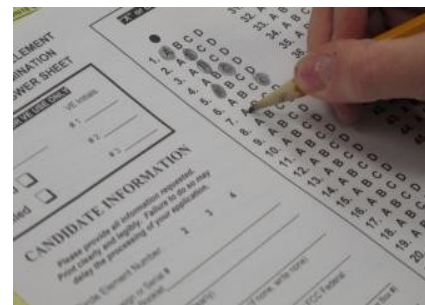
Ron Victorelli, KC3TZZ, Coraopolis, PA passed both the Technician and General exam

Colin Moccia, KA3VRZ, Moon Twp, PA passed the Extra exam

All of our BVARA testing would not be possible without the help of the following Extra-Class VE Team members:

Reg Genola – W3REG,  
Tony Pavlonis – K3AHP,  
Mick Pyzoha – N3OJP,  
Bart Stack – KB3NFM, and  
Bob Winkle – N3AZZ

73 from Rich Soltesz - K3SOM, VE Liaison



# Membership Information

By becoming a BVARA member you help secure the future of Amateur Radio in Beaver County. Additionally, the BVARA receives a portion of each ARRL membership you purchase!

## Join the BVARA and ARRL

Sign up for:	Price	
<input type="radio"/> BVARA full membership	25.00	_____
<input type="radio"/> BVARA student membership	15.00	_____
<input type="radio"/> BVARA associate membership	10.00	_____
<input type="radio"/> BVARA Child under 21 at home membership	5.00	_____
One year ARRL membership	49.00	_____
A Club Donation		_____
ARRL Member?      Yes      No	Total      Enclosed	_____

Your License Class (If you have one.)

<input type="radio"/> Technician	Name _____
<input type="radio"/> General	Address _____
<input type="radio"/> Advanced	_____
<input type="radio"/> Extra Class	Email _____
	Phone _____
	Your Call sign _____
	Your Signature _____

Make check or money order payable to:

The Beaver Valley Amateur Radio Association, P.O. Box 424  
South Heights, Pa 15081



# Hamfests & General Announcements

## 2022 Breezeshooter's Hamfest



Saturday June 4th-Sunday & June 5th the Breezeshooter's Hamfest  
will be held at the Butler Fairgrounds Route 422, Pennsylvania.



# It's Your Dime

Remember back when you could communicate by “Pay Phone” for ten cents? This page is for anyone who wants to communicate with the BVARA community and beyond. Please send me your article that you would like posted on this page. Please, only topics and language in good taste. As the editor I reserve the option to post it or ignore it. Send your dime to me at: [kc3bxc.73@gmail.com](mailto:kc3bxc.73@gmail.com)



# Of Interest to All

## Just for the Month of May!

The conference room at the 911 Center, we usually use for our monthly meeting is unavailable. Jack and Pam have reserved the Baden Community Center for our May monthly meeting. The address is 149 State Street, Baden, PA.

Several years ago this is where we held our Christmas dinner. The facility is located within the building that contains the Baden Police Department on the main floor, with the Community Center located on the floor just below it. Parking is down and behind the building, the Community Center doors are located with easy access straight from the parking lot behind the building.



## Our June Monthly meeting?

We will be back for the June meeting, and from then on, at the Beaver County Emergency Services Center in Ambridge PA.

# Of Interest to All

## Hamvention 2022 will be held May 20 – 22



### Hamvention 2022

Friday, May 20, 2022

Saturday, May 21, 2022

Sunday, May 22, 2022

#### **Greene County Fairgrounds**

120 Fairground Road, Xenia, OH 45385 [map it]

Hamvention, the world's largest amateur radio gathering at Greene County Fairgrounds.

Hamvention boasts over 500 indoor exhibits and over 2,500 outdoor exhibits, showcasing the latest in amateur radio equipment, technology, computer software and hardware - along with hard-to-find radio and computer accessories and equipment. Every major ham radio equipment manufacturer is expected to present their product lines. Concurrent forums, a huge outdoor flea market, VE testing, prizes, and more make attendance a very memorable event.



# Of Interest to All



Have you started planning what you are going to do for  
June 25-26 Field Day 2022?

## **Some New Rules Going into Effect this Year for ARRL Field Day 02/09/2022**

After taking a few detours over the past couple of years due to the COVID-19 pandemic, [ARRL Field Day](#) rules are being updated on a permanent basis starting this summer. ARRL conducted a Field Day community survey with invitations propagated far and wide, and direct emails sent to more than 15,000 individuals and ARRL-affiliated clubs. After sorting through, reviewing, and discussing the survey results, the ARRL Programs and Services Committee recommended a number of rule changes for ARRL Field Day, which will take place this year over the June 25 – 26 weekend.

Starting this year, the maximum PEP output for a transmitter used by anyone submitting a Field Day log will be 100 W. The power multiplier of 2 will remain in place, and the high-power category will be removed from the rules. Until this year, the maximum low-power limit had been 150 W for most ARRL-sponsored operating events. The power multiplier will remain at 5 for QRP participants running a maximum of 5 W or less. As previously announced, 100 W is now the low-power category limit for all ARRL and IARU HF Contests, effective January 1, 2022.

A couple of changes instituted initially as accommodations for the COVID-19 pandemic will remain. Class D (Home) stations will continue to be able to earn points for contacts with other Class D stations. The club aggregate scoring change initiated in 2020 as a temporary measure will become part of the permanent rules. In the aggregate scoring plan, the scores of individual stations are combined under the score of a single club.

Another change, involving Rule 7.3.2 Media Publicity, has been modified. Rules to date have offered 100 bonus points for attempting to obtain publicity and demonstrating same. With the ease of posting via Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and various other media websites, Field Day participants will now be required to obtain publicity, not just try to do so. Any combination of bona fide media hits would qualify for the bonus points. For example, posting the details of your upcoming or ongoing Field Day activity, or your Field Day results, on a club or news media site, on Facebook, or via Twitter and Instagram would meet the bonus criteria. Photos and videos are encouraged as part of media posts.

# Of Interest to All

## “Can You Hear Me Now?” – Marconi Day Guests To Showcase the Invention and Evolution of Radio on Monday April 25.

[APRIL 20, 2022](#)

The final hour of *Teleforum* on Marconi Day celebrated the hobby and tradition of Amateur Radio. Tony Pavilonis, K3AHP and Rich Soltesz, K3SOM are representatives from the [Beaver Valley Amateur Radio Association](#) and talked about the popularity of doing more than just listening. Since its beginning, wireless communication has always been an amazing way to exchange information between people. Initially, radio waves were used to send and receive Morse Code signals back and forth between individuals. Here is a sample of our stations call letters, WBVP, WMBA and WJAS, translated to Morse Code:



WBVP



WMBA



WJAS



### Morse Code Sample WBVP, WMBA, WJAS

Being connected with other people around the world with wireless communication is very important and it has become a big part of our everyday lives. Long before the internet and cellular phones made this type of communication commonplace, radio pioneers were the ones who first envisioned and then introduced it. While it has evolved over the years, two-way radio wave voice communication continues to proliferate today in an F.M. bandwidth that is a little higher than the one you can pick up in the dashboard of your car. Amateur Radio operators work their craft between 1.8 and 148 Megahertz and above. Beaver Valley Amateur Radio Association opened the door to this amazing world as part of Marconi Day on Beaver County Radio.

[International Marconi Day](#) took place this year on April 23, 2022. The day was a 24-hour amateur radio event which celebrated the career of Italian wireless communications pioneer, Guglielmo Marconi. The event takes place each year on the Saturday closest to Marconi's birthday, which was on April 25, 1874. The on-air tribute to Marconi and the special segments on Beaver County Radio took place on Marconi's birthday, Monday April 25, 2022.

(Courtesy: *Beaver County Radio, Teleforum*, with thanks to Mark Peterson, Frank Sparks, and Eddy Crow)

# Of Interest to All

## Tri-State Radio Fest – We Have a Winner

The Tri-State Radio Fest was held on April 24<sup>th</sup>, 2022 at the Center Stage Banquet Hall in Monaca, PA. This event is sponsored by the Pittsburgh Antique Radio Society (PARS). This was the 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Antique Radio Flea Market. The sponsors pride themselves on supporting antique radios as well as ham radio and audio equipment but specify “No PC Hardware!”

The BVARA has frequently been a supporter of this event by purchasing a Vendor Table as a meeting place for members and a specific place where members may offer to sell some of their equipment. This year, our members noted that a large number of ham radio operators were in attendance.

Larry, KC3ROS won the Grand Prize of a Zenith Table Radio from the late 1930s that had been completely restored and refinished by a member of the Pittsburgh Antique Radio Society (PARS). Both Larry and his wife Rosie were quite pleased by the attractiveness and the quality workmanship that was performed by a PARS member. About 10 years ago, George Hostovichak, NN3J (SK) won a Zenith TransOceanic Radio at an earlier event. About two years later, Bob DeMarco, WA3ZRM won a stylish Art Deco desk-top radio. Congratulations to all!



# Bits and Pieces

Hello All,

Finally, we have some warm weather! There were a couple of days here in the high 80s, it was almost too warm this time of year. It snowed just the week before. We may need a little more time to get accustomed to the warmer temperatures Mother Nature provides us. I am not complaining, I am making a suggestion. I don't want Mother Nature upset.



I put up a temporary vertical antenna for 10 meters (My quarter-wave vertical for 10 meters is about 96 inches tall). I am planning on getting that "dadgum pole" in the ground as soon as the ground is not so soft. I have a pole truck contracted to come plant that pole for me. I don't want it getting stuck! I just have to wait a little longer. What about you? Do you have some Ham related upgrade you are making? Let me know.

I am patiently waiting for the Breeze Shooters Hamfest. Okay, the truth is, I can hardly wait! One of the small things I really appreciate is the playing of the National Anthem before the hamfest officially starts. I am a proud American and I am glad to be a part of the Breeze Shooters by respecting the playing of the Star Spangle Banner. I remove my hat, stand with respect and am quiet till the last note is played. I always look forward to this display of American loyalty.

Our next BVARA Club Meeting will be at a different location. See page 11 for more details. This location will only be for the May meeting. The BVARA will return to the Beaver County Emergency Services Center, Ambridge PA in June and from there on. We will also be at Field Day for the last full weekend in June.

Is everyone ready for Field Day 2022? This will be a spectacular event! It takes you to make it that way. Please make plans to attend and be an active participant. The food, comradery and radio are always a great time. Come to the Old Economy Park on June 25-26. If you can come for the entire time come, if you can only come for a few hours, come. This is always an event that highlights our radio hobby.



Clear on your final, but I will be monitoring.

73 KC3BXC





# Radio Sport

## Contest Corral

May 2022

Check for updates and a downloadable PDF version online at [www.arrl.org/contest-calendar](http://www.arrl.org/contest-calendar).

Refer to the contest websites for full rules, scoring information, operating periods or time limits, and log submission information.

Start - Finish Date-Time Date-Time	Bands	Contest Name	Mode	Exchange	Sponsor's Website
1 1300 1 1900 3.5-28	AGCW QRP/QRP Party	CW	RST serial class (A/B)	agcw.de/contest/qrp-qrp	
2 0000 2 0100 1.8-28	K1USN Slow Speed Test	CW	Name SPC (max 20 WPM)	www.k1usn.com/sst.html	
2 1630 2 1729 3.5, 7	OK1WC Memorial (MWC)	CW	RST serial	memorial-ok1wc.cz	
3 0100 3 0159 1.8-50	Worldwide Sideband Activity Test	Ph	RS OMWYL/Youth	www.sac.com/rules.html	
3 0100 3 0300 3.5-28	ARS Spartan Sprint	CW	RST SPC power	arsqr.blogspot.com	
3 1700 3 1900 3.5-14	RTTYops Week Sprint	Dig	Other's call your call serial name	rttyops.com	
4 1200 4 1300 1.8-28	A1Club AWT	CW	RST name	a1club.org/contest/awt	
4 1300 4 1400 1.8-28	CWops Test (CWT)	CW	Name mbr or SPC	cwops.org/cwops-tests	
4 1700 4 2000 144	VHF-UHF F18 Activity Contest	FT8	4-char grid square	f18activity.eu/index.php/en	
4 1900 4 2000 1.8-28	CWops Test (CWT)	CW	Name mbr or SPC	cwops.org/cwops-tests	
4 2300 5 0300 All	MIE 33 Contest	CW Ph	RS(T) age	www.ztv.ne.jp/soda/33/annual/44/44rule-e.html	
5 0000 6 0300 7	Walk for the Bacon QRP Contest	CW	RST SPC name mbr or power (<13 WPM)	qrptest.com/pigwalk40	
5 0300 5 0400 1.8-28	CWops Test (CWT)	CW	Name mbr or SPC	cwops.org/cwops-tests	
5 0700 5 0800 1.8-28	CWops Test (CWT)	CW	Name mbr or SPC	cwops.org/cwops-tests	
5 1700 5 1900 3.5-14	RTTYops Week Sprint	Dig	Other's call your call serial name	rttyops.com	
5 1800 5 2200 28	NRAU 10-Meter Activity Contest	CW Ph Dig	RS(T) 6-char grid square	nrrfcontest.no/index.php/hm1-contests	
5 1900 5 2000 3.5, 7	EACW Meeting	CW	RST mbr name EA province or country	eacwspain.es/eacwmeeting	
5 2000 5 2200 1.8-50	SKCC Sprint Europe	CW	RST SPC name mbr or "none"	skccgroup.com	
6 0145 6 0215 1.8-21	NCCC RTTY Sprint	Dig	Serial name QTH	ncccsprint.com	
6 0230 6 0300 1.8-21	NCCC Sprint	CW	Serial name QTH	ncccsprint.com	
6 2000 6 2100 1.8-28	K1USN Slow Speed Test	CW	Name SPC (max 20 WPM)	www.k1usn.com/sst.html	
7 0001 8 2359 28	10-10 International Spring Contest, CW	CW	Name mbr or "0" SPC	www.ten-ten.org	
7 0300 7 0859 3.5-28	RCC Cup	CW Ph	RS(T) mbr or ITU zone	rcccup.ru	
7 0800 7 1400 All above 902	Microwave Spring Sprint	All	6-char grid square	sites.google.com/site/springvhfupprints	
7 1200 8 1159 3.5-28	ARI International DX Contest	Ph CW Dig	RS(T) 2-letter Italian province or serial	www.arl.it	
7 1200 8 1200 3.5-144	P9AA Cup, Dig	Dig	RST serial	site.urs.asso.fr/index.php	
7 1200 8 2359 1.8-50	SKCC Weekend Sprintathon	CW	RST SPC name mbr or "none"	www.skccgroup.com	
7 1300 8 0700 1.8-28	7th Call Area QSO Party	CW Ph Dig	RS(T) 7th-area state/country or SPC	7qp.org	
7 1500 8 0300 1.8-28	Indiana QSO Party	Ph CW	RS(T) IN county or SPC	www.hdxcc.org/inqp/rules.html	
7 1700 8 2359 1.8-VHF	Delaware QSO Party	CW Ph Dig	RS(T) DE county or SPC	www.fisarc.org/qso-party/rules.htm	
7 2000 8 2359 3.5-28	New England QSO Party	CW Ph Dig	RS(T) New England county/state or SPC	neqp.org/rules	
8 1000 8 1400 7	WAB 7 MHz Phone	Ph	RS serial WAB square or country	wab.internip.net/Contests.php	
9 0000 9 0200 1.8-28	4 States QRP Group Second Sunday	CW Ph	RS(T) SPC mbr or power	4sqrp.com/SSS/ssr_rules.pdf	
9 1900 9 2030 3.5	RSGB 80-Meter Club Championship, SSB	Ph	RS serial	www.rsgbcc.org/hf	
11 1700 11 2000 432	VHF-UHF F18 Activity Contest	FT8	4-char grid square	f18activity.eu/index.php/en	
14 1200 15 1159 1.8-28	CO-M International DX Contest	CW Ph	RS(T) serial	cqm.srr.ru/en-rules	
14 1200 15 1200 3.5-28	VOLTA WW RTTY Contest	Dig	RST serial CQ zone	www.contestvolta.com	
14 1700 15 0300 7-28	Canadian Prairies QSO Party	CW Ph	RS(T) VE4/5/6 district code or SPC	cpqp.ve4hams.ca	
14 2300 15 0300 50	50 MHz Spring Sprint	All	4-char grid square	sites.google.com/site/springvhfupprints	
15 2300 16 0100 1.8-28	Run for the Bacon QRP Contest	CW	RST SPC mbr or power	qrptest.com/pigrun	
18 1700 18 2000 12G	VHF-UHF F18 Activity Contest	FT8	4-char grid square	f18activity.eu/index.php/en	
18 1900 18 2030 3.5	RSGB 80-Meter Club Championship, Data	Dig	RST serial	rsgbcc.org/hf	
19 0000 20 0300 14	Walk for the Bacon QRP Contest	CW	RST SPC name mbr or power (<13 WPM)	qrptest.com/pigwalk20	
19 0030 19 0230 3.5-14	NAQCC CW Sprint	CW	RST SPC mbr or power	naqcc.info	
19 1900 19 2000 3.5-14	NTC QSO Party	CW	RST mbr or "NM" (25 WPM max)	qsl.net/ntc/party.html	
21 0300 22 0900 50-1296	SARL VHF/UHF Digital Contest	Dig	RST 6-char grid locator	www.sarl.org.za	
21 0600 21 2100 3.5-28	UN DX Contest	CW Ph	RS(T) Kazakhstan district code or serial	undxc.kz/rules-eng	
21 0800 21 1959 3.5-28	YOTA Contest	CW Ph	RS(T) age	www.ham-yota.com/contest	
21 0800 22 1100 3.5	NZART Sangster Shield Contest	CW	RST serial Branch number (if ZL)	nzart.org.nz/activities/contests	
21 1200 22 1200 1.8-28	His Majesty King of Spain Contest, CW	CW	RST EA province or serial	concursos.ure.es/en	
21 1200 22 1200 3.5-28	EU PSK DX Contest	Dig	RST EU area or serial	eupsk.club/eupskdx/eupskdxrules.pdf	
21 1400 22 0200 1.8-144	Arkansas QSO Party	CW Ph Dig	RS(T) AR county or SPC	www.arkqp.com	
21 1600 21 2159 1.8-50	Feld Hell Sprint	Dig	Mbr SPC grid	sites.google.com/site/feldhellclub	
21 2100 22 0200 3.5	Baltic Contest	CW Ph	RS(T) serial	lrf1.ben/balticcontestrules	
23 0000 23 0100 1.8-28	QRP ARCI Hootowl Sprint	CW	RST SPC mbr or power	qrp-arci.org/contest	
25 0000 25 0200 1.8-50	SKCC Sprint	CW	RST SPC name mbr or "none"	www.skccgroup.com	
26 1400 26 2200 3.5, 7	QRP Minimal Art Session	CW	RST class number of components	qrpc.de/contestrules	
26 1900 26 2030 3.5	RSGB 80-Meter Club Championship, CW	CW	RST serial	www.rsgbcc.org/hf	
28 0000 29 2359 1.8-28	CQ WW WPX Contest, CW	CW	RST serial	www.cqwpw.com	
30 1900 30 2030 3.5-14	RSGB FT4 Contest	FT4	4-char grid square	www.rsgbcc.org/hf	