

2019 WFD Rules

New For 2019

Paper Logs will be accepted

Purpose: To foster Ham camaraderie, field operation, emergency operating preparedness, and just plain on the air, outdoor fun in the midst of winter for American, Canadian, and DX Amateurs. Don't let those winter doldrums keep you locked up in the house... get out and play some radio!!

When: Winter Field Day runs for 24 hours during the last full weekend in January each year from 1900 UTC (2pm EST) Saturday to 1900 UTC (2pm EST) Sunday. For 2019 the dates are January 26th and 27th. Station set-up may commence no earlier than 1900 UTC (2pm EST) on Friday, January 25th. Station setup may consume *no more* than 12 hours total. How & when you schedule/spend those 12 hours is up to you.

Bands: All Amateur bands, HF, VHF, & UHF except 12, 17, 30 and 60 meters.

Modes: Any mode... CW, SSB, AM, FM, DStar, C4FM, DMR, Packet, PSK, SSTV, RTTY, Olivia, Satellite, etc...

Suggested Frequencies: *(to make it easier for entrants to find each other)*

HF CW – 1810-1820, 3.530-3.550, 7.030-7.050, 14.035-14.055, 21.030-21.050, 28.030-28.040

HF SSB – lowest 30 kHz of the US General Class Phone bands (160m-15m), 28.400-28.425MHz (10m)
6m/VHF/UHF – adjacent to, *but not on*, nationally recognized simplex calling channels.

Entry categories: *(..if operating as a group under one call, all stations in your entry must fit the category you choose. Also see further clarification in “definitions” below)*

Indoor: Operation from inside a remote, insulated, heated (*or cooled, depending on your local weather*), and weather-protected structure where an Amateur station is normally not available. (Park buildings/cabins, community center, EOC, senior center, club shack, etc).

Outdoor: Operation from a location partly or fully exposed to the elements and *at least* 30 feet away from your normal station location and not using any part of a previously erected antenna system or ham station. A campground, park pavilion, canopy, picnic table, tent, pop-up camper, or a backyard shed/tent/deck, etc may be used. Operation from a non-insulated car/truck/van/boat (*mobile or not*) is considered “outdoor”. **Home:** Operation from inside a home or *inside* another structure attached to a home that could or would be the usual location of an Amateur station (*garage, sunroom, etc*), *generally* using a previously erected antenna system. A “Home” entrant may still be eligible to claim the “alternate power” bonus if not using commercial power. Use of any pre-existing (*on site*) or permanently installed antenna system or station components renders your station a “Home” station.

Entry Class: your entry “*class*” is a number designated by the number of stations in your entry that are capable of simultaneous transmission. (*Explained further in summary below*)

Exchange: Your WFD exchange will be a combination of your “*class*” and “*category*” and your ARRL/RAC section as described below, using an appropriate letter designator or phonetics (*examples: 1I, 2H, 5I, 6O, 3H, 9I, etc*) In short: Call sign, Class + Category, ARRL Section (or DX).

Example: K4YM this is KB8X, we are Two Hotel, Ohio ..or in CW: K4YM de KB8X TU 2H OH...

KB8X this is K4YM, thank you, we are Twelve India, West Central Florida ..or in CW: KB8X TU 12I WCF

In summary: There are only 3 *categories* of entry: Indoor, Outdoor, and Home as described above and in the definitions. Your entry *class* will depend on the number in your exchange. That number will be determined by the number of stations capable of *simultaneously* transmitting at your WFD site. If you only have one station set up, but plan on using it on several bands and modes (*example*: 160-2m, CW, SSB, FM, Digi, etc), the number in your exchange would be “1”. If you have 10 stations set up and operators working at all of them, regardless of bands, and modes, the number in your exchange would be “10”. If you have only two operators, but have two HF stations set up and a *third* and possibly *fourth* station dedicated to VHF, UHF, or a Satellite contact, your exchange number would be “2”, as one op would have to leave a station idle to make contacts on the other. In other words, don’t count a station where one station has to be left idle to make contacts on another. Once you decide upon your *number* of stations (*class*), you *must* use it for the duration of the contest. There are no points awarded for number of stations and it does not affect your score.

QSO Points: 1 point per Phone QSO, 2 points per CW & Digital QSO... Busted exchanges will be penalized by 1 additional point for each missed exchange or call sign. Duplicate contacts (*same call, band, and mode*) will not be counted, but will not be penalized.

Mode and Band Multipliers: Count 1 multiplier for each mode operated per band. For example, operating CW and Phone on 80, 40, 15 and 10 meters, CW and PSK31 on 20m, FM on 2meters & 440 would be a total multiplier of 12x.

Power Output Multipliers: >100W = 1x, 100W or less = 2x, QRP = 4x (*QRP defined below*)

Bonus points:

1. You may claim 1500 bonus points if no commercial power is used in powering your WFD station. (see "alternate power" definitions below). Your logging-only computer *may use any* available power.
2. You may claim 1500 bonus points if your operation is "Outdoors" (*see definition below*).
3. You may claim 1500 bonus points if your operation is not a "Home" operation (*remote*).
4. You may claim 1500 bonus points for making a QSO via Satellite (*once only, see Satellite rule*).
Example: Operating *outdoors* on your back deck table more than 30 feet from your usual station *without commercial power* and using a temporary WFD antenna, set up within the allowed timeframe, would be 1500 + 1500 = 3000 bonus points (outdoors, no commercial power), while operating from a campground tent using commercial power and making one Satellite QSO would be 1500 + 1500 + 1500 = 4500 bonus points (outdoors, not home, and Satellite).

Note: There must have been at least 1 valid QSO in order to claim any bonus points. This is to ensure that someone claiming bonus points without actually making any contacts cannot win a category! Bonus points may not be claimed unless all stations covered in your entry qualify as well.

Claimed Score Tabulation: QSO Points x Power Output Multiplier x Band/mode multiplier + Bonus Points.

Log submission deadline and contents: Enter your Log Summary utilizing the "Input 2018 Log Summary" button located on the website homepage. Logs must be submitted to www.wfda@winterfieldday.com via email before 0000 UTC March 1st to be considered. Logs should contain the following in the subject line... "WFD 2017 Log K8XXX" with K8XXX being the callsign *you* used for the event. Logs **MUST** be submitted as an *attached* Cabrillo File, **not** as an email text. If simply submitting a question about WFD, please put "WFD Questions" in the subject line to ensure your query gets to the right in-box. **ALL** logs must be in Cabrillo format and should contain the following information:

Frequency: kHz, band, or a generic frequency for the band. Frequency accuracy is not used to judge valid QSOs.

Modes in the log: **CW** = CW. **PH** = Phone, as in AM, SSB, FM, C4FM, DStar, Mototurbo, DMR, etc (*..if the end result is voice transmission, it's phone*). **DI** = Digital, as in RTTY, Olivia, Packet, PSK, SSTV, ATV (*if the end result is text or pictures on a screen, it's digital*). Note: Working the same station in multiple digital or phone modes on any one band will result in "dupes" in your logging software.

Date and time: UTC/GMT (*..need not be exactly accurate. Exception: QSO's time-stamped/logged outside the contest period will be disqualified*)

QSO data required: Entrant's Call, Class + Category, ARRL/RAC Section --- Call worked, Class + Category, ARRL/RAC Section. Any station worked without an ARRL/RAC section designation is to be logged simply as "DX" in the space allotted for the section identifier. DX entrants would give DX or their country as their "section" in their exchange.

Bonus Points: Please enter your calculated bonus points in the Cabrillo Soapbox comments as shown directly below with a short explanation. The soapbox is just above the main body of the log in the header.

The Cabrillo Entry template is as follows:

START-OF-LOG: 3.0

CREATED-BY: N3FJP's Winter Field Day Contest Log 1.6

CONTEST: WFD

CALLSIGN: W8D

LOCATION: OH

ARRL-SECTION: OH

CATEGORY: 10

CATEGORY-OPERATOR: SINGLE-OP

CATEGORY-STATION: PORTABLE

CATEGORY-TRANSMITTER: ONE

CATEGORY-POWER: LOW

CATEGORY-ASSISTED: NON-ASSISTED

CATEGORY-BAND: ALL

CATEGORY-MODE: MIXED

CATEGORY-OVERLAY: OVER-50

SOAPBOX: 1,500 points for not using commercial power.

SOAPBOX: 1,500 points for setting up outdoors.

SOAPBOX: 1,500 points for setting up away from home.

SOAPBOX: Bonus total 4500 (remote location, outdoors, and generator pwr) (*example*)

CLAIMED-SCORE: xxxxx (*your calculated total score including bonuses*)

OPERATORS: Call #1, Call #2, Call #3, etc

NAME: Your Name (*contact person*)

ADDRESS: ### Your Street

ADDRESS-CITY: Anywhereville

ADDRESS-STATE-PROVINCE: UrQTH

ADDRESS-POSTALCODE: UrZip

ADDRESS-COUNTRY: UrCountry

EMAIL: Urmaladdress@mail.com

-----info sent----- -----info rcvd-----

QSO:	freq	mo	date	time	call	#Cat	sec	call	#Cat	sec
<u>QSO:</u>	03750	PH	2017-01-28	1911	K5XXX	12I	STX	WB9XXX	2H	IL
QSO:	07030	CW	2017-01-28	2021	K5XXX	12I	STX	K8UO	14I	MI
QSO:	14070	DI	2017-01-28	2031	K5XXX	12I	STX	K6XXX	14I	MI

Results will be posted on the Winter Field Day Association website (winterfieldday.com) as we check and score them. Your pictures, videos, description of operations, and logistics are encouraged and welcome at both the website and the WFD Facebook group.

Paper Logs and logs not in correct format: (*new for 2019*) Paper Logs will be accepted. However, they must be legible and in the correct Cabrillo format or they will be rejected. They must reach my QTH before the DEADLINE posted above. A PDF form will be available for download.

Mail logs to: Tom WD8MBE, 235 Leonard Ave NW, Massillon, OH 44646

On your return address, please include the callsign used during the event.

Logs submitted in wrong file formats, as email texts, and as screen captures will no longer be accepted. Logs must be submitted in the correct Cabrillo format and as an attached file in your email.

Further definitions & rules clarifications:

Station Location Limitations: A WFD operation, regardless of the number of stations operating under one call sign, must be located in one physical location; ergo all station equipment, including antennas, feed lines, and accessories used must be located within a 1000 foot (300m) *diameter* circle at the site chosen. Remote station operation (*via internet link*) is allowed, but may only enter WFD as a “Home” station (*w/o bonus pts*) since a remote station, almost by definition, is previously assembled and operates off local commercial power.

Qualifying Alternate/Non-Commercial Power: Any power not connected to the commercial power grid... generator (*stand alone or built into an RV*), battery (*which may not be re-charged from commercial mains while in use*), solar power (*yours*), hydroelectric (*yours, not the local power company's!*), wind power (*yours*), etc. You may only recharge batteries *in use* using *alternate* power... generator, solar, hydro, wind, etc. Batteries, *when not in use*, may be charged by any means available. WFD operations claiming the “alternate power” bonus, must run *all* station equipment and accessories from an alternate power source, with the exception of the logging-only computer. In multiple station set-ups, that means all stations working under one call sign must do the same. If even one station in a multi-station set-up uses commercial power, the group *may not* claim the bonus.

Station accessories & power requirements: Your logging-only computer/device may use *any* power available (*..in a real emergency there'd likely be little contest type QSO logging going on*). If you are claiming an “alternate power” source for bonus points, any peripheral devices that assist in the making of WFD QSOs must also run on an “alternate power” source. Simply put, if your computer is used to generate the transmission of or the decoding of WFD QSOs and you're claiming *alternate power*, it must also run on *alternate power*. This standard also applies to any other external devices used in making or decoding transmissions like CW keyers/decoders, tablets/iPads, voice memory keyers, soundcard links (*rigblasters, etc*), equalizers, and audio filters (*timewave, etc*).

QRP: CW = 5 watts maximum carrier. **Phone/Digi** = 10W maximum peak power.