

2011 ARRL CW Sweepstakes Results

Ali vs Frazier, Mets vs Yankees, Bruins vs Canadiens, Trott vs Martin — excuse me?

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Yes, it's been shaping up that way for about the past 10 years, at least as far as the ARRL November CW Sweepstakes are concerned. Matt Trott, K7BG and Randy Martin, KØEU have been battling in Single Operator, Low Power for at least as long as the online records database goes back, to 2001. And some of those have been epic battles between the two — in 2001, Randy beat Matt by only three QSOs.

While it hasn't always been Randy and Matt splitting No.1 and No.2, when it has it's been Randy coming out on top. Not this year. Matt's shaken his bridesmaid status with a convincing 32 QSO victory over his Colorado friend.

Sweepstakes is a contest that's almost as old as ham radio itself and it remains one of the most-popular domestic contests. A lot of that has to do with The Sweep — it's one of a few major contests where you can — and lots of people regularly do — work all of the multipliers. Canada and the US are split up into 80 sections as multipliers (83 beginning in 2012) and many stations find the challenge of working all 80 to be their main motivation.

Some stations even set 80-in-80 — working nothing but new sections — as a particular challenge and if there was an award for 80-in-80, this year it goes only to John, N6MU whose 80-in-80 in Single-Operator, Low Power survived log checking. VE9AA came close, working 79-in-79. It's not easy for a few reasons: You have to make sure your log is golden (zero copying errors) because if you lose any QSOs to log checking, you miss your target. As well, you can really only do it by search-and-pounce (S&P), which is hard since some stations in some of the rarer sections also only work S&P.

Single Operator, Low Power (A)

The biggest category by a large margin with 611 operators entered was won by Matt, K7BG who edged his friend and longtime rival Randy, KØEU 192,960 to 187,680. Matt, who traveled to Denver in 2010 to visit Randy and see his station, credits improved high-band propagation for the win. "Propagation seemed good all the way around," he said. "I had all the mults in the bag by 0600Z the first night. That took the pressure off to go mult hunting on Sunday. Hats off to Randy for the manifold wins he has had in this category over the years. It will be a long, long time before anybody comes close to his phenomenal performance."



Top Ten by Category

Single Operator, High Power		Single Operator Unlimited, Low Power	
N2IC	235,520	KK7S	168,480
N9RV	232,000	VA2WA	
VY2ZM		(VA2WDQ, op)	167,840
(K1ZM, op)	229,760	KE7X	167,360
NØNI		K2NNY	
(AG9A, op)	227,040	(K2DB, op)	165,760
KH7X		K8BL	158,080
(KH6ND, op)	219,360	N9CO	156,000
N5RZ	218,720	N4FN	154,720
N2NT		K3AU	
(N2NC, op)	216,000	(K2YWE, op)	154,080
WDØT	215,360	ACØDS	143,040
K6LA	212,000	N2MM	140,000
W7RN		Multioperator, High Power	
(N6TV, op)	210,720	W6YI	225,600
Single Operator, Low Power		W2FU	208,800
K7BG	192,960	KP2M	205,920
KØEU	187,680	VE6EX	190,720
NAØN	183,680	W5RU	189,440
N9CK	178,066	WØDLE	183,680
N8OO	175,040	KØBJ	182,880
N7VM	174,560	W4RM	169,280
KØLUZ	171,520	W6TK	163,200
NO3M	169,920	N6WIN	160,320
W7WA	169,760	Multioperator, Low Power	
KØAD	168,640	NP4DX	181,760
Single Operator, QRP		N6KI	128,320
W7RM		K3LID	100,800
(N6TR, op)	145,518	KØUK	79,772
K4RO	124,030	WR4I	69,888
WØMHS	119,520	VE4DR	60,532
NØUR	115,340	WA6KYR	52,128
NN7SS		WDØGTY	35,568
(K6UFO, op)	114,080	N2AW	16,048
KØPC	113,568	KK5OV	12,480
KØAV	112,320	School Club	
W1XX	109,512	W6YX	213,600
N7IR	109,336	KØHC	
K9ZO	108,546	(WØBH, op)	179,040
Single Operator Unlimited, High Power		W4UAL	55,616
N6RO	210,560	W3ABT	
K6LL	210,080	(K3BHx, op)	53,592
K3MM	209,120	N5XU	
W4MR		(AA5BT, op)	36,656
(AA4NC, op)	204,160		
N4ZZ	200,480		
NY3A	196,800		
K7NV	193,600		
KB7Q	185,120		
K6SRZ	184,640		
N4BP	182,720		

competition for 2011 and returned to the top of the podium. Hot on his heels was Pat, N9RV who missed Steve's mark by 22 QSOs. Like A-category winner K7BG, Pat's Montana QTH seems to be benefiting from increased high-band propagation. Pat beat or matched Steve on all bands but 15, where Steve's 352 QSOs to Pat's 211 made the difference. Pat scored 345 QSOs on 10 to Steve's 270, but the 10 meter gains weren't enough to offset that 15 meter advantage.

Pat said he's not worried about band-by-band results since you can only work a station once. For someone who says he's still "learning the ropes" of SS, he's doing pretty well, having tied for first last year and missing the title this year by a nose.

Single Operator, QRP (Q)

There's a TV show called "Glutton for Punishment" in which host Bob Blumer has competed in eating stinging nettles, husking coconuts and cycling up an infamous Tour de France stage to the peak of Alp d'Huez. But he's never faced the true punishment: facing off against some of the world's best operators in a contest with arguably the most complex exchange around, using just 5 W of power. Tree, N6TR who still holds the QRP record from a 2002 effort at W5WMU, won QRP for 2011 with 145,518 points. Kirk, K4RO took second, followed by WØMHS.

Single Operator Unlimited, High Power (U)

The sun rising in the east, the Charlotte Bobcats losing another game — and N6RO and K6LL at the top of the Unlimited category. There are some things you can just count on. Unlimited allows operators to use spotting but since most top stations work all available multipliers quite quickly, it's also handy for finding new stations to work. You can only work each station once so every new one is welcome, particularly on Sundays.

"I somehow managed to squeeze by Dave, K6LL again but it was the hardest work I've ever done in SS," said Ken, N6RO. When Ken said "squeeze," he wasn't kidding. His 1316 QSOs just nudged out Dave's 1313. Both earned a sweep. Indeed, only nine QSOs separated Ken from No. 3 Ty, K3MM. As propagation ramps up, expect this battle to be quite hot again this year.

Unlimited is the second most-popular category with 272 logs, yet the scores are routinely lower than the top scores in Single

Where does Matt go from here? "The trick to increases in score from here on out will be to develop skills in working part-time stations on Saturday who may just show up for an hour or two to run some stations of their own. If I am running and not finding them, they may not be around on Sunday when I will be doing more S&P with the second radio."

Single Operator, High Power (B)

Fellow *QST* author Steve, N2IC returned to

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Division/Plaque Category	Winner	Plaque Sponsor	Division/Plaque Category	Winner	Plaque Sponsor
Overall Winner			New England		
Single Operator High Power CW	N2IC	Trey Garlough, N5KO	Single Operator High Power CW	K8PO	Mark Olsen, KF1V
Single Operator Low Power CW	K7BG	Sean Kutzko, KX9X	Single Operator Low Power CW	K1BX	Michael McLaughan, K1DM
Single Operator QRP CW	W7RM		Single Operator QRP CW	W1XX	Mark Olsen, KF1V
	(N6TR, op)	QRP Amateur Radio Club International	Single Operator Unlimited High Power CW	W1SJ	Mark Olsen, KF1V
Single Operator Unlimited High Power CW	N6RO	Joe KO4RR & Victoria N4WV	Single Operator Unlimited Low Power CW	W1WBB	Mark Olsen, KF1V
Single Operator Unlimited Low Power CW	KK7S	Icom America	Multioperator High Power CW	No Entrant	
Multioperator High Power CW	W6YI	In Memory of Jerry Gokowsky, WA9HCZ	Multioperator Low Power CW	WA1QKT	Icom America
		Icom America	School Club CW	No Entrant	
Multioperator Low Power CW	NP4DX	Icom America			
School Club CW	W6YX	Straight Key Contest Club	Northwestern		
Atlantic			Single Operator High Power CW	N9RV	Icom America
Single Operator High Power CW	AA3B	Icom America	Single Operator Low Power CW	K7BG	Paul Beringer, NG7Z - Western Washington DX Club
Single Operator Low Power CW	NO3M	Potomac Valley Radio Club	Single Operator QRP CW	W7RM	Phil Yasson, AB7RW
		Icom America		(N6TR, op)	
Single Operator QRP CW	K2ZR	Milt Coleman, K4OSO	Single Operator Unlimited High Power CW	KB7Q	Icom America
Single Operator Unlimited High Power CW	K3MM	Icom America	Single Operator Unlimited Low Power CW	KK7S	Icom America
Single Operator Unlimited Low Power CW	K2NNY		Multioperator High Power CW	K7GT	Icom America
	(K2DB, op)	Icom America	Multioperator Low Power CW	No Entrant	
Multioperator High Power CW	W2FU	Icom America	School Club CW	No Entrant	
Multioperator Low Power CW	K3LID	Icom America			
School Club CW	W3ABT				
	(K3BHX, op)	Icom America	Pacific		
Central			Single Operator High Power CW	KH7X	The Carroll Dean Jensen Memorial (K6CDJ)
Single Operator High Power CW	W9RE	Society Of Midwest Contesters	Single Operator Low Power CW	KF6T	Robert A. Wilson, N6TV
Single Operator Low Power CW	N9CK	Society Of Midwest Contesters	Single Operator QRP CW	W6JTI	Jim Davis, NN6EE
Single Operator QRP CW	K9ZO	Sean Kutzko, KX9X	Single Operator Unlimited High Power CW	N6RO	Icom America
Single Operator Unlimited High Power CW	NE9U	Straight Key Contest Club	Single Operator Unlimited Low Power CW	K7GK	Icom America
Single Operator Unlimited Low Power CW	N9CO	Icom America	Multioperator High Power CW	W6BO	Straight Key Contest Club
Multioperator High Power CW	K9SD	Icom America	Multioperator Low Power CW	No Entrant	
Multioperator Low Power CW	No Entrant		School Club CW	W6YX	Icom America
School Club CW	No Entrant				
Dakota			Roanoke		
Single Operator High Power CW	WD0T	Minnesota Wireless Association	Single Operator High Power CW	N4AF	Potomac Valley Radio Club
Single Operator Low Power CW	NA0N	Minnesota Wireless Association	Single Operator Low Power CW	N4UA	Icom America
Single Operator QRP CW	N0UR	Tod Olson, K0TO	Single Operator QRP CW	W7IY	Icom America
Single Operator Unlimited High Power CW	K1KD	Minnesota Wireless Association	Single Operator Unlimited High Power CW	W4MR	Icom America
Single Operator Unlimited Low Power CW	K0MPH	Icom America		(AA4NC, op)	
Multioperator High Power CW	K0HB	Minnesota Wireless Association	Single Operator Unlimited Low Power CW	K4XD	Icom America
Multioperator Low Power CW	No Entrant		Multioperator High Power CW	W4RM	Icom America
School Club CW	No Entrant		Multioperator Low Power CW	WR4I	Icom America
			School Club CW	No Entrant	
Delta			Rocky Mountain		
Single Operator High Power CW	WO4O	Icom America	Single Operator High Power CW	N2IC	Grand Mesa Contesters of Colorado
Single Operator Low Power CW	N8OO	Icom America	Single Operator Low Power CW	K0EU	Icom America
Single Operator QRP CW	K4RO	Icom America	Single Operator QRP CW	K0AV	Colorado QRP Club
Single Operator Unlimited High Power CW	N4ZZ	Icom America	Single Operator Unlimited High Power CW	W0ZA	Icom America
Single Operator Unlimited Low Power CW	N4DW	Icom America	Single Operator Unlimited Low Power CW	AC0DS	Icom America
Multioperator High Power CW	W5RU	Icom America	Multioperator High Power CW	W0DLE	Icom America
Multioperator Low Power CW	No Entrant		Multioperator Low Power CW	K0UK	Icom America
School Club CW	No Entrant		School Club CW	No Entrant	
Great Lakes			Southeastern		
Single Operator High Power CW	W5MX	Mad River Radio Club	Single Operator High Power CW	NP2X	Tom Alderman, W4BQF
Single Operator Low Power CW	W1NN	Mad River Radio Club	Single Operator Low Power CW	K0LUZ	David Brandenburg, K5RQ
Single Operator QRP CW	N5EE	Mad River Radio Club	Single Operator QRP CW	N4JF	Straight Key Contest Club
Single Operator Unlimited High Power CW	K8BZ	KD8LL & K4EQ - N8CVH Memorial	Single Operator Unlimited High Power CW	N4BP	Charlie Wooten, NF4A
Single Operator Unlimited Low Power CW	K8BL	In Memory of Robert "Val" Edwards, W8KIC	Single Operator Unlimited Low Power CW	N4PN	Icom America
Multioperator High Power CW	W8EDU	In memory of Raleigh Wert, W8QOI	Multioperator High Power CW	KP2M	Icom America
Multioperator Low Power CW	K4BRI	Icom America	Multioperator Low Power CW	NP4DX	Icom America
School Club CW	No Entrant		School Club CW	W4JAL	David Brandenburg, K5RQ
			Southwestern		
Hudson			Single Operator High Power CW	K6LA	Icom America
Single Operator High Power CW	N2NT	Icom America	Single Operator Low Power CW	AA6PW	Larry Serra, N6NC
Single Operator Low Power CW	(N2NC, op)	Icom America	Single Operator QRP CW	N7IR	N6HE and W6DLD
Single Operator QRP CW	W2LK	Icom America	Single Operator Unlimited High Power CW	K6LL	Icom America
Single Operator Unlimited High Power CW	KR2Q	Icom America	Single Operator Unlimited Low Power CW	KU7Y	Icom America
Single Operator Unlimited Low Power CW	W2VQ	Icom America	Multioperator High Power CW	W6YI	Icom America
Multioperator High Power CW	WA2PJJ	Icom America	Multioperator Low Power CW	N6KI	Icom America
Multioperator Low Power CW	AB2DE	Stuart Silverstein, K3UEI, Memorial	School Club CW	No Entrant	
Multioperator Low Power CW	No Entrant				
School Club CW	No Entrant		West Gulf		
			Single Operator High Power CW	N5RZ	David Brandenburg, K5RQ
Midwest			Single Operator Low Power CW	W8FN	David Brandenburg, K5RQ
Single Operator High Power CW	N0NI	Icom America	Single Operator QRP CW	K5NZ	In Memory of Mick Lange, WBSRSS
Single Operator Low Power CW	(AG9A, op)	Icom America	Single Operator Unlimited High Power CW	W5RQ	Icom America
	K0VBU	Society of Midwest Contesters	Single Operator Unlimited Low Power CW	N1CC	Icom America
Single Operator QRP CW	W0MHS	Icom America	Multioperator High Power CW	No Entrant	
Single Operator Unlimited High Power CW	N0XR	Icom America	Multioperator Low Power CW	WD0GTY	Icom America
Single Operator Unlimited Low Power CW	NU0Q	Icom America	School Club CW	N5XU	
Multioperator High Power CW	K0BJ	Icom America		(AA5BT, op)	David Brandenburg, K5RQ
Multioperator Low Power CW	No Entrant				
School Club CW	K0HC		Canada		
	(W0BH, op)	Icom America	Single Operator High Power CW	VY2ZM	Icom America
			Single Operator Low Power CW	(K1ZM, op)	Icom America
			Single Operator QRP CW	VE5ZD	Icom America
				VA3FX	QRP Amateur Radio Club International
			Single Operator Unlimited High Power CW	VE3KI	Icom America
			Single Operator Unlimited Low Power CW	(@ VE3FU)	Icom America
				VA2WA	Icom America
				(VA2WDQ, op)	Icom America
			Multioperator High Power CW	VE6EX	Straight Key Contest Club
			Multioperator Low Power CW	VE4DR	Icom America
			School Club CW	No Entrant	Icom America

Regional Leaders

Northeast Region (New England, Hudson and Atlantic Divisions; Maritime and Quebec Sections)			Southeast Region (Delta, Roanoke and Southeastern Divisions)			Central Region (Central and Great Lakes Divisions; Ontario Section)			Midwest Region (Dakota, Midwest, Rocky Mountain and West Gulf Divisions; Manitoba and Saskatchewan Sections)			West Coast Region (Pacific, Northwestern and Southwestern Divisions; Alberta, British Columbia and NWT Sections)		
VY2ZM (K1ZM, op)	229,760	B	N4AF NP2X	198,400 195,520	B B	W9RE W5MX	209,120 185,760	B B	N2IC N0NI	235,520	B	N9RV KH7X	232,000	B
N2NT (N2NC, op)	216,000	B	K4BAI	185,440	B	K9CT	177,440	B	(AG9A, op)	227,040	B	(KH6ND, op)	219,360	B
AA3B	203,680	B	W4AU	149,600	B	K1LT	173,440	B	N5RZ	218,720	B	K6LA	212,000	B
K8PO	196,000	B	N4UU	143,676	B	KE9I	169,120	B	WD0T	215,360	B	W7RN		
KD4D	193,600	B							WX0B (K5GA, op)	209,600	B	(N6TV, op)	210,720	B
												VE7CC	206,880	B
NO3M	169,920	A	N8OO	175,040	A	N9CK	178,066	A	K0EU	187,680	A	K7BG	192,960	A
N8NA	167,680	A	K0LUZ	171,520	A	W1NN	161,760	A	NA0N	183,680	A	W7WA	169,760	A
K1BX	165,760	A	K1TO	163,840	A	AJ9C	158,560	A	N7VM	174,560	A	N7XU		
W2ID			NA4K	143,840	A	K9KM	132,404	A	K0AD	168,640	A	(K4XU, op)	166,240	A
(@ K9RS)	148,160	A	K1PT	139,672	A	KV8Q	132,160	A	N0AT			KF6T	155,360	A
K1XM	144,960	A							(N0KK, op)	166,080	A	AA6PW	152,000	A
W1XX	109,512	Q	K4RO	124,030	Q	K9ZO	108,546	Q	W0MHS	119,520	Q	W7RM (N6TR, op)	145,518	Q
K2ZR	99,176	Q	W7IY	104,052	Q	N9NE	100,932	Q	N0UR	115,340	Q	NN7SS		
KR2Q	85,488	Q	N4JF	99,066	Q	VA3DF	97,032	Q	K0PC	113,568	Q	(K6UFO, op)	114,080	Q
W1QK	71,288	Q	K3TW	91,884	Q	N5EE	93,288	Q	K0AV	112,320	Q	N7IR	109,336	Q
AA1CA	59,496	Q	K4QPL	88,638	Q	W19WI	86,856	Q	K5NZ	93,784	Q	W7YAQ	107,840	Q
			W4MR (AA4NC, op)	204,160	U	NE9U	159,200	U	W0ZA	170,400	U	N6RO	210,560	U
K3MM	209,120	U	N4ZZ	200,480	U	VE3KI		U	K1KD	167,360	U	K6LL	210,080	U
NY3A	196,800	U	N4BP	182,720	U	(@ VE3FU)	158,080	U	KT0R			K7NV	193,600	U
WX3B	177,280	U	KE3X	180,640	U	VE3RZ	157,440	U	(K0OB, op)	166,720	U	KB7Q	185,120	U
AB3CX	174,880	U	AD4EB	176,160	U	K9NR	154,400	U	WT9Q	163,360	U	K6SRZ	184,640	U
WR3Z	173,760	U				W9IU	115,814	U	N0XR	162,740	U			
VA2WA (VA2WDQ, op)	167,840	UL	N4PN	154,720	UL	K8BL	158,080	UL	AC0DS	143,040	UL	KK7S	168,480	UL
K2NNY			K4XD	131,840	UL	N9CO	156,000	UL	K0MPH	131,930	UL	KE7X	167,360	UL
(K2DB, op)	165,760	UL	N4DW	129,920	UL	KB9S	102,542	UL	N0SXX	130,560	UL	K7QQ	115,498	UL
K3AU			AA4FU	116,000	UL	K9WX	99,060	UL	W0PI	119,360	UL	VA6AM	99,856	UL
(K2YWE, op)	154,080	UL	KU8E	99,680	UL	K4FXN	77,262	UL	N1CC	100,960	UL	K7GK	95,940	UL
N2MM	140,000	UL												
K3MD	113,280	UL												
W2FU	208,800	M	KP2M	205,920	M	W8EDU	147,200	M	W0DLE	183,680	M	W6YI	225,600	M
W3LJ	41,890	M	W5RU	189,440	M	NT8V	77,600	M	K0BJ	182,880	M	VE6EX	190,720	M
AB2DE	38,710	M	W4RM	169,280	M	K9SD	73,766	M	K0HB	151,200	M	W6TK	163,200	M
			AD4Z	146,624	M				N0MA	69,120	M	N6WIN	160,320	M
			N4FX	121,760	M				K0JA	44,352	M	K7GT	81,212	M
K3LID (WM3O, op)	100,800	ML	NP4DX	181,760	ML	K4BRI	11,152	ML	K0UK	79,772	ML	N6KI	128,320	ML
WA1QKT	480	ML	WR4I	69,888	ML	KC8OBH	10,340	ML	VE4DR	60,532	ML	WA6KYR	52,128	ML
			N2AW	16,048	ML	W8PLP	9,152	ML	WD0GTY	35,568	ML			
									KK5OV	12,480	ML			
W3ABT (K3BHX, op)	53,592	S	W4UAL	55,616	S							W6YX	213,600	S

Operator, High Power. The reason for that may be nothing more than geography. The Top 5 stations in U were each the top station in their sections regardless of category, sometimes by large margins. Some sections just get better skip angles than others and the hottest sections seem to have a propagation pipeline into the heart of the US ham population centered, approximately, on Ohio.



After years of "close, but no cigar" efforts, Montana's own Matt Trott, K7BG, finally pulled off a SS CW victory in Single Operator, Low Power. [Photo courtesy Matt Trott, K7BG]

Single Operator Unlimited, Low Power (UL)

New for 2011, the Unlimited, Low Power category is a place to play for those with access to spotting but who don't have or don't wish to use an amplifier. Like A-category, 150 W is the maximum allowed. UL was quickly embraced by operators. With 148 logs, it was the fourth most-popular category. The category was won by Chadd, KK7S from WWA. Coming in second was VA2WA, piloted by Victor, VA2WDQ who narrowly beat out Fred, KE7X.

"I really like the Unlimited, Low Power category! It's hard enough finding new sections to work and then actually working the rare ones with low power. Being able to see them on a spotting network is extremely helpful!" said Bob, K8BL whose 158,080 points were good for a victory in UL in the Central Region and No.5 in UL overall.

Multipoperator, High Power (M)

Unlike 48-hour marathons, SS — with a 24 hour limit — doesn't earn a huge following in Multipoperator categories. But those who play multiop all seem to have fun doing it.

M-category can be quite the production, too, with some great food to fuel the troops and some excellent camaraderie. W6YI rode to a large victory over No. 2 W2FU with 105 more QSOs. KP2M in the Virgin Islands placed third and Alberta's VE6EX was fourth.

Multipoperator, Low Power (ML)

Also a new category for 2011, ML wasn't embraced as heartily as was Unlimited, Low Power with 14 logs entered. But it appears to be a great introduction to SS with an inspirational appearance in Top 10 available to stations that otherwise wouldn't.

VE3 — Four Sections in 2012

Ontario will consist of four sections for the 2012 Sweepstakes. There will be a Greater Toronto section (like LAX or SF), and North, South and East Ontario sections. Section abbreviations will be announced in due course — make sure your logging software is up to date before the 2012 contest!



Bob Liddy, K8BL, of Mentor, Ohio shows what a modest station can do: He made the best score in the Central Region in the new Single Operator Unlimited, Low Power category, which was also good for 5th in the country. [Photo courtesy Bob Liddy, K8BL]

NP4DX won ML with 181,760 points and 1,136 QSOs, which is an excellent result for a station limited to 150 W. That score would have put them into eighth place in multiplier against stations with the full 1500 W available. N6KI placed second at 128,320 points followed by K3LID.

School Club (S)

A record was set in 2011, with W6YX at Stanford University at 213,600. W6YX

operator, Mike, N7MH said he was excited to join School category when it was opened up to alumni. In second place was Bob, KØBH, operating KØHC at Hesston College in Kansas.

With all the fine schools throughout Canada and the United States it would be good to see more entries in this category, which is designed to help Elmer students and staff into Amateur Radio contesting. A recent change

opened up the category to alumni (previously, only current students and staff could enter) which should make it more attractive for hams to go back to their alma mater and get more people involved in the category. Sadly, only 5 entries were received in the School Club category.

The low entry count is something Mike, N7MH and Rebecca, KBØVVT lament. "I would like to see at least one School Club category entry for each of the 80 ARRL sections," Rebecca wrote (prior to the addition of three new sections for 2012).

Use the Database

There are a number of ways you can compare your score against others. With the online database at www.arrrl.org/results-database you can sort by section, by category, and by club membership. It is a meaningful way to add context to your efforts, to find ways to improve your score, and to gain inspiration you might lack if you only focus on the Top 10.

See You in November!

The 2012 November CW Sweepstakes runs from 2100 UTC November 3 to 0259 UTC November 5. A sweep will be a little harder this year as the Canadian province of Ontario has been split into four sections that are yet to be named, growing the section count to 83. Dust off your paddle (and broom) and get ready for some contesting fun!



Radiosport

2012 ARRL June VHF QSO Party

Fun in the sun on 50 MHz + up!

- E-mail logs to junevhf@arrrl.org. Paper logs to ARRL June VHF QSO Party, 225 Main St, Newington, CT 06111.

- Logs must be postmarked by 0300 UTC Wednesday, July 11, 2012.

Sporadic E propagation peaks in the Northern Hemisphere between May and August. For VHFers, this means excellent openings on 6 and even 2 meters, and the ARRL June VHF QSO Party capitalizes on the sporadic-E season. There have been incredible sporadic-E openings for this contest three years in a row. The ARRL June VHF QSO Party has established itself as the best VHF+ contest around!

- Most all-band rigs made today have a VHF band or two in them. Take your rig; get an antenna for 6 or 2 meters and set them up in your back yard, on a nearby hilltop, operate from your car or operate portable from a rare grid square and be the DX!

**1800 UTC Saturday June 9 –
0300 UTC Monday, June 11**



"No Problem, Mon!" Don Drennon, N4TZH/R sets up in the Florida Keys in EL94 during the 2011 ARRL June VHF QSO Party. Sadly, the Conch Republic doesn't count for DXCC. [photo courtesy N4TZH]

Complete rules and entry forms can be found at www.arrrl.org/sweepstakes