



Results - Rookie Roundup – August 2012 (RTTY)

This was my first contest. Overall, this was a great initiation into contesting. I would highly recommend this type of contest to all those new to ham radio. – KJ6YEB/W6YX (Roderick's complete comment is included in the Soapbox section of this writeup.)

This was the second running of the RTTY version of the ARRL's [Rookie Roundup](#) after last year's successful start and the first with a Multioperator category. The "hot" district this time was the 4th which zoomed to 11 entries from 6 different states. The band conditions didn't cooperate very well so the more southerly stations tended to do the best.

David W2HAO was actually in Guam (KH2) but found the going a little lonely. *"I just couldn't get through to the mainland today. I spotted many RR QSO's, but I just could not be heard. Maybe next time. It was fun trying."* Sometimes that long east-west path can be tough during mornings in the Pacific. Be sure to add a suffix showing you are DX if you are not operating from the US – a DX call sign adds an S unit, for sure!

Scores	Call Area
1	VE, XE, DX
2	WØ
2	W1
1	W2
1	W3
11	W4
3	W5
6	W6
5	W7
1	W8
1	W9

We had three "repeat Rookies" show up again in the results this year – welcome back!

- 1st district: N1EN (ex-AB1OD) (2nd place, 3rd place last August)
- 4th district: KK4BJV (top score overall, 1st place last August)
- 7th district: N7SMI (1st place, district winner last August)

In addition, two Rookies re-appeared as Elmers or non-Rookie entries – thanks!

- 1st district: WA1N (2nd place last August)
- 6th district: K6YL (district winner last August)

The top scores were from the coast and the Southeast. Peter KJ6PUN (no joke!) turned in a score of 5328 points from the northern-California W6YX station of the Stanford University radio club with the guidance of last-year-Rookie, Joanna K6YL, Rebar N6DB, and Rick N6DQ. Nearly equaling Peter, Scott KK4BJV worked a lot of DX and piled up 4995 points from Alabama.

	KJ6PUN	KK4BJV
Rookie QSOs	34	29
Non-Rookie QSOs	76	77
Multipliers	37	37
Final Score	5328	4995

For more news and technical information, operating tips, and upcoming contests, subscribe to the [ARRL Contest Update](#) by checking the "subscribe" box on your ARRL Member Information page.

There was another close call in the 4th district. KK4JXD (FL) placed second with 1800 points and then there was an extremely close finish as only 17 points separated N4LWR (FL) with 1518 and W4SDJ (NC) with a score of 1501. Keep those keyboards busy!

The top Multioperator score this time was a close race between W4MLB (FL) with 2542 points and K7RDG (AZ) with 2291 points. The W4MLB team of five operators was able to find just a few more QSOs than the two-operator squad at K7RDG who found a couple of extra multipliers to make it competitive.

In the Team competition – well, we only had one Team entry and it was all from one station! The three operators at W6YX submitted as a single W6YX Team. Brownie points all 'round for the novelty of having three stations at one location! Let's get a few more teams going next year.



Check out the intensity at multi-single-op W6YX! (both photos are by ex-Rookie, Joanna K6YL) On the left (left to right) are Roderick KJ6YEB (Rookie '12, Technician), Rick N6DQ, Peter KJ6PUN (Rookie '11, General), Keith KJ6PUO (Rookie '11, General), and Larry "Rebar" N6DB. The right-hand photo is of the same people from the other end of the table. If this was fun – be sure to try the big CQ World Wide Contests and the ARRL Sweepstakes this fall!

If you've enjoyed the Rookie Roundup, check out the upcoming fall contests in the ARRL's Contest Corral – both in QST and as a downloadable PDF at www.arrl.org/contest-calendar. You can also check out the WA7BNM and SM3CER online contest calendars. There are lots of digital contests as the fall contest season gets into full swing. The really big digital contest this fall is the [CQ World Wide RTTY Contest](#) on Sep 29-30. There will be hundreds and hundreds of stations to work all around the world.

PDF certificates for all stations will be ready shortly courtesy of Bruce, WA7BNM – watch the Rookie Roundup Blog (www.arrl.org/rookie-roundup) for more information!

December 16th will be Rookie Roundup – join the fun with your keyboard. Find a CW with the [FISTS club](#), started with CW.



the date for the CW version of practice up a bit and you'll be able to straight key, a paddle and keyer, or a Elmer to help you get going – such as dedicated to helping hams get

KK4EVI and KK4JRB used the Rookie Roundup as an opportunity to learn to learn RTTY by using the station in their club's emcomm trailer. (Photo by AJ4UB)

Tell your friends and your club about Rookie Roundup! For those Rookies who are graduating to non-Rookie status, it was great having you participate – why not put on your Elmering hat and help a Rookie get started. We'll see you in the next one!

73, Sean Kutzko KX9X, ARRL Contest Branch Manager

PS – When control operators are involved, there is the potential for confusion about call signs and identification for some of the stations. A Technician call sign cannot be used on the HF phone bands (other than 10 meters) without adding the control operator's call. For example, a Technician such as KE7VDA working 20 meter phone at her station with control operator K6UFO would have to sign KE7VDA/K6UFO to show that the control operator is authorized for those frequencies, or simply use the control operator's call sign. (See FCC §[97.119](#))

For multioperator entries using a single call sign, such as a club, only the club's call sign must be used, assuming a control operator is on hand. If you would like to use your own call sign while operating at a club station, sign your call followed by a slash and the club's call.

For non-Rookie operators, should you encounter an operator identifying with a call sign not authorized for that frequency, politely inform them of the problem, make sure there isn't some mistake, and then suggest the correct procedure as you would like to be informed of a problem with your operating – no need to get upset as we all make mistakes.

[For those readers unfamiliar with the contest, Rookies (hams licensed during the past three years) work each other as well as non-Rookies while the Non-Rookies may only work Rookies. That format makes it very similar to the old ARRL Novice Roundup and the Rookie Roundup has a similar mission – to give new hams a contest just for them and encourage them to operate on the HF bands.]

SOAPBOX

(It's called "soapbox" from the old term of "standing on a soapbox" to make a public comment. The following soapbox commentary was collected from the scores received web page.)

Multi-op

This input replaces the earlier input. Julia's call was added to the list of calls. She was the primary operator. -- W4MLB

We only operated for three hours from the club EMCOMM trailer, but it was a great introduction to digimodes and the trailer capabilities. Another veteran brought his WinLink2000 kit and demonstrated HF email. -- KK4EVI

Unfortunately, the SFI was on a downward trend and 15m had virtually no RTTY activity at our location, so we worked every RR RTTY station we could hear on 20m! We found scant few new contacts the last hour of operation. Special thanks to Gene, W5DDW, for the use of his fantastic station and for being the best Elmer a Ham could have! -- W5DDW

This was the first operation by the St Charles High School Radio Club. The club will have its own equipment in place and on the air in time for School Club Roundup - see you there! 73, Daniel, Ellen, and Ward -- NØAX

Single-op

Great Contest! Too bad more bands were not open. -- AB1QB

Didn't have much time to play this afternoon. Figured that I'd try to hand out a few CT's in between a sked and a net. I'll admit that I did feel a little guilty about being a Rookie with a 1x2 call, but getting D64K on first call on a couple of bands, without needing to correct my call makes up for that guilt. :) -- N1EN(ex AB1OD)

Almost no one was on the air. -- KB3VNH

Conditions were rough stateside but great for DX!! Was able to work 6W (Senegal), J6 (St Lucia), and ZD7 (St. Helena) for new DX. Plus I (Italy), PY (Brazil) and HC2 (Ecuador) were booming. Hope everyone had as much fun as I did, 73 de KK4BJV, Scott

As a new HAM this was a great way to work a new mode of the hobby. -- W2DEN

HC2/AL10 is a German On DX-Pedition in Ecuador. I counted this as a unique entity of Ecuador. -- KK4JSJ

Just realized I am still a Rookie and so I jumped in for my first Rookie Contest. Lots of fun. -- KJ4VTH

Score may be low, but it was fun. -- N4MEP

Great contest. Learned a lot about my antenna performance. -- KF5PWJ

I really enjoyed my first chance to operate a digital mode in a real contest and appreciated the coaching from Joanna (K6YL), Rebar (N6DB), and Rick (N6DQ). -- KJ6PUN (at W6YX)

Thanks to Joanna (K6YA), Rebar (N6DB), and Rick (N6DQ) for the excellent coaching and access to the wonderful Stanford station. -- KG6PUO (at W6YX)

This was my first contest. I really enjoyed the experience, and I would like to thank Joanna K6YL and Rick N6DQ with helping me with the mechanics of the contest. Not to mention the hard work of Rebar N6DB for setting up the station on a beautiful northern California Sunday morning. Also I want to thank the other members of the team, Peter KJ6PUN and his dad Keith KJ6PUO. Thanks guys! Overall, this was a great initiation into contesting. I would highly recommend this type of contest to all those new to ham radio. -- KJ6YEB (at W6YX)

A lot of fun and first time using RTTY. Will want to do it again sometime soon. -- KJ6NGF

Conditions were very poor and few operators online. It would probably provide a much better experience to shorten the roundup to maybe 3 hours. Calling CQ for 4 hours and averaging one response every 10 minutes is not terribly fun. Thank you for organizing the RR and I look forward to the next one. -- N7SMI

Great Fun and my 1st Roundup! -- WM9I

I tried and tried. I just couldn't get through to the mainland today. I spotted many RR QSO's, but I just could not be heard. Maybe next time. It was fun trying. -- W2HAO/KH2

Non-Rookies

Always fun working the Rookies in this event. I made my station available to Becky, W1BXY for a short time and she got some experience with RTTY. She's taking the General class in a couple weeks, so hopefully you'll hear her on 20 meters soon. Sean KX9X -- KX9X

Great conditions and it was good to see a lot of returning rookies from last year! -- WA1N

First Time - Interesting. Too bad there was not more participation. Glad to be able to pass out a few QSO's Needs to be better suggestions for difference in CQ header for Rookie vs Non-Rookie so OM do not waste time calling other OM. Some rookies used "[call] (11) CQ" to set them apart, I used "CQ ROOKIES KU4V (78)"; others you had to guess, then call them anyway. I will participate again! -- KU4V

GREAT way to introduce "Rookies" to HF and RTTY! I enjoyed it. I am a NON-Rookie entry- Calling CQ R (vs CQ RR) seemed to have people calling me who were licensed pre-2010, and therefore non-rookies, and as I read the rules, these QSOs don't count. But I am submitting what happened and hope ARRL can straighten it out - wouldn't be the first time I misread rules...Thanks for a great concept! Would have spent more time in the chair but our club had its annual picnic today and they were in the Lighthouse/Lightship weekend, as well. But it was fun while it lasted....Thanks again! 73, Ray N6HE

Humm, starting to wonder who the real "Rookies" were! An awful lot of great RTTY ops out there. Superb job! I hope to see all of you in the next RTTY contest. -- KS5A

It was difficult to call CQ and get only rookies to respond. -- NX8G

Results – ARRL Rookie Roundup – August 2012 (RTTY) – Single-operator								
Call Used	Operator Call	QTH	Rookie QSOs	Non-Rookie QSOs	Multipliers	Score	Place	Call Area
AB1QB	AB1QB	NH	22	30	21	1554	1	1
N1EN	N1EN	CT	10	18	14	532	2	1
AC2IK	AC2IK	NY	13	20	18	828	1	2
KB3VNH	KB3VNH	PA	4	8	10	160	1	3
KK4BJV	KK4BJV	AL	29	77	37	4995	1	4
KK4JXD	KK4JXD	FL	14	44	25	1800	2	4
N4LWR	N4LWR	FL	14	38	23	1518	3	4
W4SDJ	W4SDJ	NC	25	29	19	1501	4	4
KK4JSJ	KK4JSJ	KY	18	22	20	1160	5	4
KJ4VTH	KJ4VTH	VA	18	24	17	1020	6	4
W4TZM	W4TZM	NC	17	5	18	702	7	4
KJ4SZL	KJ4SZL	VA	11	13	14	490	8	4
N4MEP	N4MEP	GA	10	9	8	232	9	4
KF5PWJ	KF5PWJ	TX	13	30	21	1176	1	5
AE5ZC	AE5ZC	AR	7	2	6	96	2	5
KJ6PUN	KJ6PUN	CA	34	76	37	5328	1	6
KJ6PUO	KJ6PUO	CA	17	42	30	2280	2	6
AG6IF	AG6IF	CA	9	28	21	966	3	6
KJ6YEB/W6 YX	KJ6YEB	CA	10	22	17	714	4	6
KJ6NGF	KJ6NGF	CA	7	10	11	264	5	6
K6TDI	K6TDI	CA	6	6	10	180	6	6
N7SMI	N7SMI	UT	14	21	18	882	1	7
KF7SXD	KF7SXD	WA	5	7	5	85	2	7
AE7DW	AE7DW	AZ	2	2	3	18	3	7

KL3HR	KL3HR	AK	1	1	2	6	4	7
KD8RML	KD8RML	WV	9	9	9	243	1	8
WM9I	WM9I	IL	4	7	9	135	1	9
W2HAO	W2HAO	KH2	0	3	1	3	1	DX
Results – ARRL Rookie Roundup – August 2012 (RTTY) – Multi-operator								
Call Used	Operator Calls	QTH	Rookie QSOs	Non-Rookie QSOs	Multipliers	Score	Place	Call Area
W4MLB	AK4WU, KK4DOE, N4OKI, KK4JSN, AK4WT	FL	18	46	31	2542	1	4
KK4EVI	KK4EVI, KK4DFZ, KK4JRP	SC	3	4	4	40	2	4
KF5STR	KF5STR, KC5DCT, KF5KAS, KF5VET, K5KRE	TX	17	39	22	16-6	1	5
K7RDG	KF7PDV, KF7VVJ	AZ	26	27	29	2291	1	7
KDØQLW	KDØSJF, KDØPES	MO	9	16	16	544	1	10

Non-Rookie Participants:

KX9X, WA1N, AJ1E, AB4SF, KU4V, AJ4CG, WB4M, N6HE, K7LLC, KS5A, N7NEV, NX8G, NØMTC – these stations submitted a score on the contest web page but many, many more made contacts with the Rookie operators. Thank you to all of the experienced contesters that either made it into a Rookie’s log or made a station available to them for the contest!,