

Results, 1991 ARRL 160-Meter Contest

The gentleman's band makes for the gentleman's contest!

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With the sunspot peak a few years behind us, the low bands are starting to open up. Conditions during this year's contest were much better than last year's. Static and atmospheric noise were low, making it much easier to copy signals. John, W2GD, claims, "This was the best activity ever! The extremely quiet conditions enhanced the chances to work all states and lots of DX." John, KN1H, reports, "Conditions were excellent, with little noise."

With a little luck from ole Sol, maybe the 1992 contest will even be better, but topping the 1991 scores won't be an easy task. There were 34 new Division records and a new QRP overall-score record set this year. Check the boxes for the new records. Good band conditions and a low noise level make for a good contest, and this was the best 160-Meter Contest we've had for quite some time.

In many people's minds, high power and 160 meters go hand in hand. You'd even think that it's the most popular single-operator entry category—not so! The low-power category has emerged as the most popular of the three entry classes. This is only the second year we've offered low-power and QRP entry categories in the 160-Meter Contest. The low-power category has made great headway in proving itself. We received 229 entries, as opposed to last year's 174—a 31.6% increase! The top-scoring low-power single operator, Ralph, K9ZO, finished with a higher score than about 85% of the high-power single ops. But of course, the other 15% of the high-power entries accounted for the top 30 single-op scores in the contest.

The number of entries in all categories increased this year. The high-power single-op category surged upward 10%, with 208 entries. QRP entries were also up slightly, with 29 entries this year and 23 in 1990.

In the single-operator high-power category, Jeff, K1ZM, finished with 254k points, beating his winning score from last year by 40k points for the highest score in the contest. Jeff worked an amazing 1076 W/VE and 64 DX contacts in 76 ARRL Sections and 27 DXCC countries! Although scoring 22k higher than last year, Richard, K5NA, finished in second place for the second year in a row. He worked 944 W/VE and 59 DX contacts in 74 ARRL Sections and 24 DXCC countries.

The biggest difference in the single-operator high-power category and the low-power category is the number of DX stations worked by each. The high-power stations worked far more than the low-power stations, as one would expect. On low-power, the strategy was more like grabbing a new multiplier by working one of the North or South American sta-

tions rather than running DX as the high-power guys did.

The top scoring low-power finisher, K9ZO, worked 713 W/VE and 4 DX contacts in 67 ARRL Sections and 4 DXCC countries. Louis, K9ALP, finished second, working 686 W/VE and 4 DX QSOs in 69 ARRL Sections and 4 DXCC Countries.

Dana, W3TS, beat his 1990 QRP-record score by 14k, setting the new QRP record at 45,008 points. Dana worked 383 W/VE and two DX QSOs in 56 ARRL Sections and 2 DXCC countries. Close behind was Jim, NZ8B, with 42k points. He worked 327 W/VE and 2 DX QSOs in 62 ARRL Sections and 2 DXCC countries for second place QRP.

The crew at KN8Z broke the old Great Lakes Division record and placed first among the multioperator stations, scoring 224,874 points. Of their 1170 QSOs, they managed 26 DX contacts and 18 DXCC countries and 75 ARRL Sections. Last year's first place team at K2WI finished second this year with 218k points. They worked 1053 W/VE and 39 DX QSOs in 75 ARRL Sections and 20 DXCC countries.

The breakdown of W/VE and DX QSOs and multipliers of the top finishers in each entry category should give you a better grasp on plotting your 1992 entry this December 4-6. When planning your effort, remember that 1830-1850 kHz should be used for intercontinental QSOs only, in compliance with the ARRL band plan. This year we received a few complaints. Thanks.

SOAPBOX

I wish I'd been able to mount a serious effort! (AI7B). I think my makeshift antenna had a radiation angle of 90° (AA7BG). I worked 48 states with QRP! (NZ8B). Conditions were fair, but I didn't hear much DX (NW3C). I had a 50% increase in QSOs compared to last year (KI6CK). I never cease to be

amazed at how many stations can be worked with only five watts (NI9C). There were lots of stations and big signals in evidence (N4YDU). I put a lot of effort into three Beverage antennas for receiving, and they performed well (AA6DT). I had fun until the inverted L shorted to a guy wire at 1 AM Sunday (K3MD). This was a real good contest! (W4XD). It was a lot of fun, even with a limited antenna (K3YDX). I made 97 QSOs the first hour with 100 watts—that's my kind of fun (WR3E). This was my first 160-Meter Contest in a long time (W8WE). Conditions must have been good, as this was the first time I've tried QRP in the 160-Meter contest. Next year, I'll try to be up for more of the sunrise and sunset propagation (K2LGJ). This was my first time in this contest and I was surprised (KF0GV). I was able to work the West Coast with an 80-meter half loop, so conditions must have been good (WA1GUV). I heard the West Coast coming in at 59+, but couldn't break through with 5 watts. I need more radials! (KN1H). I couldn't stay awake past 1 AM the second night (WA1HYN). This was my first contest with a good 160-meter antenna (K1K1). This was the first time I've been on 160-meters in 34 years (K4PIC). It's a big thrill when your call is returned and you work a station on the East Coast running QRP (WB6IMC). We used an off-the-air AM broadcast station's 150-foot towers with an acre of almost solid copper under the ground (KU4J). I had fun working with a G5RV in a tiny lot (K1JKS). This was my first 160-Meter Contest from my new QTH—I have lots of antenna work ahead of me! (AA1K). I never would have believed that I could work California with a G5RV converted to a Marconi with a banana plug and alligator clips (NQ4K). I just couldn't stay awake past 1 AM! (N6BK). I wish I could have played the entire contest! I had a 131 hour for the best domestic rate ever on CW! Conditions were great! (WD8LLD). Activity and conditions were better than I've ever heard before in this contest. It was nice to get a break from the high A and K indices (NJ2L). I'm a newcomer to 160; despite using a dipole and running low power, I got out much farther than expected. By the middle of the second evening, we had worked almost everyone we could hear (WT1M). Conditions were much better than last year (KN1M). I could never work on a night shift! The local 50-kW AM station does well—unfortunately, it does well in the DX window (AA4NC). It was hard to believe that so many stations appeared during the contest that you seldom hear at other times (W4SNH).

Top Ten

Single Operator QRP

Call	Score
W3TS	45,008
NZ8B	42,496
NJ9C	35,032
W10O	33,280
AJ9C	32,076
N9JF	29,120
W8VK	26,600
N5RZ	26,491
NI9C	26,468
KX4V	25,576

Single Operator Low Power

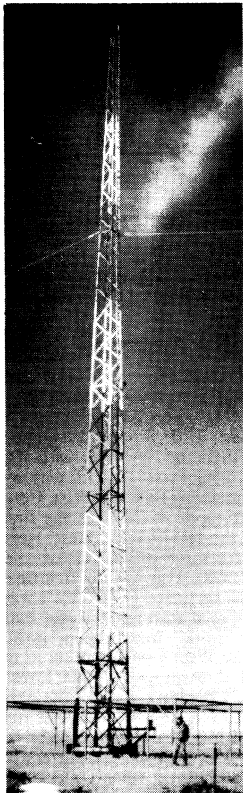
Call	Score
K9ZO	102,666
K9ALP	101,470
WA1UJU	100,300
NW3C	98,770
W2CRS	90,724
NO0Y	84,023
N9AW	72,624
WB9CIF	64,086
W5XJ	62,012
WD0T	56,442

Single Operator High Power

Call	Score
K1ZM	254,616
K5NA	213,934
AB4RU	196,560
(AA4GA,op)	
K8CC	188,659
(AA8AV,op)	
W0EJ	185,074
N4AR	162,278
AA4NC	161,280
N0TT	158,178
K1K1	154,473
WB1GQR	154,198
(WB2JSJ,op)	

Multioperator

Call	Score
KN8Z	224,874
K2WI	218,595
K3LR	200,024
K7EG	186,823
NX1G	182,574
KU4J	181,390
K1LT	176,205
W2GD	172,208
W0AIH	165,170
N8EA	162,880



The group at NA7R used this 140-foot ground-insulated tower for transmitting and a 550-foot Beverage for receiving.

Division Leaders

Division	QRP	Low Power	High Power	Multipoperator
Atlantic	*W3TS	*NW3C	W8UM	K2WI
Central	NJ9C	*K9ZO	*KE9I	W0AIH
Dakota	—	*WD0T	W0HW	—
Delta	—	N5GW	N8UM	WA5NYG
Great Lakes	*NZ8B	*K9ALP	K8CC (AA8AV,op)	*KN8Z
Hudson	AA2U	*WA2VYA	K1ZM	*W2GD
Midwest	*W0GWT	*NO0Y	*W0EJ	*NC0P
New England	*W1OO	*WW1C	K1KI	*NX1G
Northwestern	—	*N6NR	*K7QQ	NK7U
Pacific	—	*AJ6T	W6GO	*KG7D
Rocky Mountain	—	*W2CRS	AA6TT	NA7R
Roanoke	*KX4V	N4YDU	AA4NC	W4XD
Southeastern	*K4MJ	K4IQJ	*AB4RU	*KU4J
Southwestern	*WB6IMC	*N6BK	*N6SS	AA6DT
West Gulf	*N5RZ	*W5XJ	*KC5DX	AA5BL
Canada	*VE3DO	*VE3OSZ	VE3KP	VE7ZZZ

*Division record



Jon Jones, NO0Y, tunes the series capacitor on his shunt-fed vertical.



John Dunker, NJ9C, relaxes after his fifth-place QRP finish.



Well-known contester Yoshiyuki Matsuda, JH4NMT, was able to participate from Niger as 5U7M.

Scores

Scores are listed by DXCC Countries and ARRL/RAC Sections. Within each country or Section, single-operator scores are listed first, then multipoperator scores. Each line score lists call sign, final score, total QSOs, total multipliers and power (A = QRP, B = low power, C = high power, D = multipoperator).

DX

Portugal				
CT1AOZ	2,200	50	22	B
Germany				
DK2BL	192	12	8	B
Dominican Republic				
HI160M (HI8A,op)	10,062	117	43	C
Panama				
HP1AC	870	29	15	B
Japan				
JE1SPY	2,400	50	24	C
JJ1NNJ	1,938	51	19	C
JH1HGC	1,512	42	18	C
JJ1NJG	980	35	14	C
JA7NI	400	20	10	C
JF2ONG	18	3	3	B
JH3CYZ	8	2	2	A
JH8ZHQ (JA1LTR,JE1s QMV,SCJ, JH1s BBT,GNU,KLA,TXG,JK1GKG, JR1JUV,JA0VSH)	3,792	79	24	D
JA3YKC (+ ops)	208	13	8	D
Czechoslovakia				
OK1JDX	396	18	11	C
Belgium				
ON4WW	40	5	4	B
Denmark				
OZ5PA	8	2	2	B

Aruba				
P40V (AI6V,op)	55,744	416	67	C
Mexico				
XE2/W9DHK (+WB9AJZ)	7,072	104	34	D
Venezuela				
YV1OB	25,960	220	59	C
Niger				
5U7M (JH4NMT,op)	2	1	1	C
West Malaysia				
9M2AX	2	1	1	B
1				
Connecticut				
K1KI	154,473	745	93	C
NJ2L	47,790	396	59	C
K1TO	38,016	279	66	C
W1WEF	35,739	306	57	C
W0MHK	33,696	306	54	B
NY1V	23,136	238	48	B
WD5T	16,950	165	50	C
K1YRP	10,302	150	34	B
K1TN	10,076	113	44	C
N8RA	10,062	114	43	C
N4XR	8,272	94	44	C
N1FQK	6,368	98	32	B
AB1U	6,270	103	30	C
W1QV	6,076	98	31	C
KB1H (+NET)	28,275	210	65	D

Eastern Massachusetts				
K5MA	104,571	605	81	C
W1PL	57,013	358	71	C
K1JKS	45,136	391	56	C
K1ST	42,151	335	61	C
N1DM	22,448	261	43	B
AK1P	19,872	213	46	B
K8PO	19,516	235	41	A
W1MK	15,390	201	38	B
W1AX	11,280	138	40	C
KQ1V	10,296	143	36	B
W1FJ	6,336	96	33	B
W1FDR	5,610	81	34	C
N1AU	3,360	51	32	C
K1NTR	2,990	65	23	B
KB1KM	2,438	53	23	B
NR1J	1,848	42	22	B
K1TWF (+NET)	27,600	286	48	D
WT1M (+K1MBO)	18,901	229	41	D
Maine				
KN1M	68,931	486	69	C
W1OO	33,280	305	52	A
KA1FHD	11,736	163	36	C
W1DEO (+K1TEV)	23,232	167	66	D
New Hampshire				
N1HFE	32,825	361	45	B
AK1L	25,192	265	47	C
WS1E	18,384	190	48	B
W1PH	17,114	196	43	C
KN1H	10,234	149	34	A
W1ARE	4,536	81	28	B
NX1G (+NET)	182,574	831	98	D

Rhode Island				
WA1HYN	32,193	324	49	C
K2MN	15,752	179	44	B
W1OP (N1s AKO,JDA,W1s EYH,GS, WN1A,ops)	33,124	317	52	D
Vermont				
WB1GOR (WB2JSJ,op)	154,198	844	86	C
WW1C	35,868	366	49	B
WA1GUV	29,088	300	48	B
N4DW	9,468	130	36	B
Western Massachusetts				
W1BYH	35,448	306	56	C
KA1GWQ	19,950	195	50	B
K2IM	12,600	175	36	B
N1JAC	3,250	65	25	B
NITZ (+NET)	54,362	338	77	D
2				
Eastern New York				
K1ZM	254,616	1140	103	C
K5NA	213,934	1003	98	C
K2DW	30,096	339	44	B
KF2O	18,042	138	62	C
KN2Q	17,885	181	49	C
N2CJJ	11,248	152	37	B
WB2PUH	2,444	47	26	B
WA2YEI	1,024	32	16	A
WA2UKP (+WA2JQK)	8,968	118	38	D
NYC-Long Island				
W2WW	11,562	120	47	C

N2GC	10,374	130	39	B
WB2DLA	6,090	100	30	B
K2OV5	456	19	12	B
W2CWW (K2LUQ,KA2s DMQ,YDW, KB2GBK,NA2V,NT2X,ops)	59,328	456	64	D
Northern New Jersey				
WA2SRQ	151,032	829	87	C
N2LT	77,720	571	67	C
WA2VYA	50,944	395	64	B
WB2VVV	40,040	361	55	C
K2WK	30,900	250	60	B
W2HCA	10,064	136	37	B
AA2U	7,296	114	32	A
N2KJM	4,466	77	29	B
KB2BKH	2,990	65	23	B
KA2SSX	2,200	50	22	B
W2JEK	48	6	4	A
W2GD (+NET)	172,208	862	94	D
Southern New Jersey				
W2EA	14,560	182	40	B
N2VW	11,638	122	46	C
K2PS	10,878	128	42	C
K2TD	8,626	112	38	B
K2MK	784	28	14	B
K2WI (+N2NU,WW2Y)	218,595	1092	95	D
K2SB (+NET)	11,178	120	46	D
Western New York				
WF2W	127,510	761	82	C
K2KIR	91,650	602	75	C
KU2A	51,849	404	63	C

