

# 2022 – 2023 School Club Roundup Results

The next two School Club Roundups will take place October 16 – 20, 2023, and February 12 – 16, 2024.

The main objective of School Club Roundup (SCR) is to acquaint school-age students with the fun of amateur radio. The October 2022 and February 2023 sessions showed significant rebounds in participation since the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. SCR is sponsored by the Long Island Mobile Amateur Radio Club (LIMARC) and ARRL.

## Working Out the Details

SCR is not intended to be a contest, even though many operate like it is. Some entrants use the scores to track their improvement over previous years. Entries range from a handful of contacts submitted by individuals and smaller clubs to more than 1,000 contacts submitted by larger clubs.

Some individual entrants have been under the impression that only contacts made with schools count toward your final score. While some individual participants may choose to work only schools, all contacts made during the event count. Additionally, entry categories are declared by the entrants. A school club entrant should indicate the highest grade level category that applies, which is not necessarily determined by the age of the students.

## Participation Outcome

The October 2022 session received 68 entries, while the February 2023 session received 96 entries. There have been only two other February SCR sessions with more participation. There were at least five first-time new school club and non-school club entries.

Full results and downloadable certificates are available at <https://contests.arrl.org>.

## The Ones Who Stand Out

This year, we would like to recognize some of our individual participants. Bill Burgess, VE3CRU, participates in SCR hoping to encourage younger amateur radio operators, and has been a leader among the individual entrants. Luc Decroos, ON7DQ, has been our most consistent DX entrant. After he retired from teaching, his school club closed, and Luc has been participating in SCR as an individual ever since. Without the support of individual entrants, the school club stations would have few stations to contact.

Some outstanding individual participant LIMARC members include Tony Castiglia, NY2A, and Julia Gatti, N2PPL. Other club members operated, but they did not submit entries.

## Soapbox Comments

At Brooklyn Technical High School's Amateur Radio and Wireless Tech Club station, W2CXN, Dan Benitez, KD2ZEN, ran such a big pileup that it was difficult to keep up with the logging. "It felt empowering. Never have my words commanded so many people at once. [It's] definitely something I can look at with pride," Dan said.

The Midlands STEM Charter School Amateur Radio Club in South Carolina received its new vanity call sign, KS4TEM, just in time for the February 2023 session. This was the first time the club was active all 5 days of the SCR, and the students had a blast!



Eighth-grader Nora Gray displays Lingle Middle School Amateur Radio Club's first QSL card from the February 2023 School Club Roundup. [Robert Hill, K5NZV, photo]

Carole Alexander, KG4DTM, reported that the October 2022 session was the first time students at Montross Middle School in Virginia participated in SCR. Many of the students had never encountered ham radio before. They set up their station in the library so that when students came in to exchange books, they could observe and participate if they wanted to.

Check out other soapbox comments at <https://contests.arrl.org>.

## Looking Ahead

For more information and discussions about SCR, join our email group at [scr@groups.io](mailto:scr@groups.io) or visit [www.arrl.org/school-club-roundup](http://www.arrl.org/school-club-roundup). You can also contact us at [scr@limarc.org](mailto:scr@limarc.org). All modes that support the full SCR exchange are allowed for the event (as of this writing, WSJT-X does not support SCR). If you use a less common mode, please describe what you did in the comments and soapbox area at <https://contests.arrl.org/contestssoapbox.php>. Be sure to include photos of your activities!