

2019 NEBRASKA QSO PARTY RULES (Rev 29 June 2019)

Highlights for this Year

- The QSO Party will be only one day, Saturday, September 7, 2019.
- FT8 is allowed, but only in a separate competition.
- Bonuses will be given for working NEØQP, and the ARRL NE Section Manager, KAØBOJ.
- For the QSO exchange, signal reports are optional.

General Information

Objective. Stations outside of Nebraska to work as many Nebraska stations/counties as possible. Stations in Nebraska to work everyone.

Dates/Times. The QSO Party (QP) will be held over one day: Saturday, September 7, 2019. The QP will start Saturday 1300z (8:00 AM CDT) and end 0100z Sunday (8:00 PM CDT Sat).

Modes. For the regularly scored contest, modes are CW, Phone (SSB, AM, FM) and Digital (RTTY, PSK, and other digital modes, but not FT8). We encourage FT8 participation but FT8 will be scored separately. See separate description of the FT8 rules.

Exchange. For all modes except FT8, stations outside of Nebraska send State, Canadian Province or DXCC Country (S/P/C). Stations in Nebraska send NE county. For FT8, stations exchange grid square. For all modes, exchange of signal report is optional.

Recommended Frequencies. On CW, suggested frequencies are +/- 1.805, and on other bands 35+ kHz up from the lower band edge. On Phone suggested frequencies are +/- 1.915 and near, but not on, 3.865, 7.265, 14.265, 21.365, and 28.465; and 50.175. For FT8, 1.840+, 3.573+, 7.074+, 14.074+, 21.074+, and 28.074+ All VHF/UHF bands are allowed. WARC band contacts do not count. Please be courteous of stations that may have scheduled operations on the various bands.

Entry Classes. There are three: Out-Of-State, Nebraska Fixed, and Nebraska Mobile/Portable.

Scoring (except for FT8)

Final Score equals (QSO Points x Power Multiplier x Geo Multiplier) plus Bonus

The Summary Sheet (provided separately) should help guide the scoring. Summary Sheets can be downloaded, and filled in using the "Fill&Sign" mode of Adobe Acrobat. Save the "filled-in" form with your call in the file name, and attach it to your email.

Some QSO Party logging software does not provide complete summaries.

QSO Points. Contacts with the same station on different bands are considered unique, and contacts with the same station on the same band but with different modes are also considered unique. QSOs with the same mobile/portable station from different counties are also considered unique, even on the same band and/or with the same mode.

Each unique phone contact is worth 1 point. Each unique CW or digital contact is worth 2 points.

Power Multiplier. For all stations regardless of class/mode, there is a single Power Multiplier based on the maximum transmitted power output used during the QSO Party. If all QSOs are made QRP (5 watts or less) the power multiplier is 5; if less than 150 watts, the multiplier is 2; otherwise the power multiplier is 1.

Geo Multiplier. For stations outside of Nebraska, this multiplier is the total number of Nebraska counties worked. Count each Nebraska county only once per contest. The multiplier for out-of-state stations has a maximum of 93 counties.

For stations in Nebraska (either fixed or mobile/portable) the multiplier is the total number of Nebraska counties worked plus the total number of States/Provinces/Countries (S/P/C). The maximum number of states worked is 50, and the maximum number of Canadian providences worked is 13. Count each Nebraska county, and each S/P/C, only once per contest.

For Nebraska mobile/portable stations, calculate the geographic multiplier as above for all QSOs without regard to county of operation, band, or mode. Count each S/P/C and county only once per contest.

NOTE. A list of Nebraska County abbreviations is provided on the website (www.NEQP1.org). It is the same list used in 2016.

Bonus Points

25 bonus points for each unique QSO with NE0QP, same as last year.

25 bonus points for each unique QSO with KA0BOJ.

50 points for Mobile/Portable Stations for each county they make a QSO from.

FT8 Competition

Count 2 points for each unique QSO. The power multiplier is 1, so power has no effect on score.

For stations outside of Nebraska, the geo multiplier is the total number of grid squares of only NE stations worked. Count each Nebraska grid only once per contest. The multiplier for out-of-state stations has a maximum of 13.

For stations in Nebraska (either fixed or mobile/portable) the geo multiplier is the total number of grid squares in Nebraska or outside Nebraska. Count each grid only once per contest.

For Nebraska mobile/portable stations operating FT8, calculate the geo multiplier as above for all QSOs without regard to county of operation, band, or mode, that is, credit for a grid square is only once per contest.

Regarding bonuses for FT8 stations, for either fixed stations or mobile/portable, bonuses are earned for contacts with NE0QP and KA0BOJ, just as they were for non FT8 scoring, and mobile/portable stations get a bonus for operating in different counties.

To get the final score, multiply FT8 QSO Points times the geo multiplier based on grid squares only, and then add bonuses.

Additional Information

Entries. Deadline for all entries is two weeks after the contest ends, this year 21 September 2019. The deadline will be determined by postmark on letters, or dates on emails. A separate log with FT8 QSOs needs to be submitted for consideration in the FT8 competition.

All entries must contain a completed Summary Sheet and a log with band, mode, date, UTC time, call of the station worked, and exchange sent/received. See the website, for a file containing a blank Summary Sheet.

Note: For submittals that have five (5) QSOs or less, you may elect to have us calculate your score. Simply request it in your email (or letter) when you submit the log.

Entrants are encouraged to submit an electronic log. Only Cabrillo format will be accepted for electronic logs. Otherwise submit hand logs. Submit entry materials in either of two ways:

(1) By e-mail: Please send the Log and Summary Sheet to KA0BOJ @ ARRL.org, or,

(2) By USPS Mail: Mr Matt Anderson, KB0BOJ, 14300 NW 98th Street, Raymond, NE 68428

Awards. All entries will receive a participation certificate. As there have been in previous years, depending on sponsors, there will be plaque and gift card awards. Tand these will be posted separately on website.

Miscellaneous

- For a non FT8 QSO to be valid, each in-state station must copy the call sign and the S/P/C or county of the contacted station, and each out-of-state station must copy the NE county. For FT8, only call and grid square is required. Signal report is optional for any mode.
- Nebraska Mobile/Portable stations that change counties are considered to be a new station in each county, and may therefore be counted again for QSO points and geo multiplier credit for the new county.
- Nebraska Mobile/Portable stations should sign with their [call]/[county].
- Nebraska Mobile/Portable stations may operate from county lines, but only two counties at a time. A single exchange on the air is ok, but enter it twice in the log, once for each county.
- Cross mode contacts and repeater contacts are prohibited. All contacts must be simplex.
- Spotting, including self spotting, is encouraged.
- Known mobile/portable activity will be posted before the contest, as well as bonus station's schedules. See website.
- Only one transmitter may be transmitting at any one time. Multiple receivers are allowed. Remote operation is allowed but only from the same transmitter/receiver site location for the entire contest.
- Entrants are encouraged to post estimates of their scores at www.3830sores.com .

Conditions of Entry. By submitting an entry, entrants agree to be bound by these rules and their intent, by the regulations of their licensing authority, and by the decisions of the Nebraska QSO Party Committee. Awards may be added or deleted depending on participation.