1) <u>Contest Sponsor:</u> The Anne Arundel Radio Club (AARC)

2) <u>Contest Dates</u>: This contest is conducted in a single 14-hour operating period beginning on the second Saturday in August at 1400 UTC and ending at 0400 Sunday UTC.

3) <u>Entry Acceptance</u>: Valid entries must be received within 14 days of the end of the contest.

4) <u>Station Categories</u>: There are five categories. You may only enter under one category.

   a) <u>Club Station</u> (Club) – A station operated by a single operator using a single transmitter and using a club call sign throughout the duration of the contest or a station operated by multiple operators using a single or multiple transmitters, using a single call sign (whether a club call sign or individual call sign throughout the duration of the contest. Both require that all stations be operated from the same fixed location.

   b) <u>Rover Station </u>(Rover) – A MDC mobile or portable station which operates from three or more MDC contest locations as listed in Table 1 during the contest period.

   c) <u>Portable Station</u> (Portable) – An amateur radio station set up in a temporary location. Portable stations include the same basic equipment as fixed and mobile stations. Mobile stations using antennas that are not connected to the vehicle are considered portable stations.

   d) <u>Mobile Station</u> (Mobile) – A station operated from inside a motorized vehicle in motion or parked, regardless of the number of operators or number of transmitters. A station transmitter(s) must be safely operated from inside the vehicle, using antennas mounted on the vehicle and not attached elsewhere. Power must not be sourced from a utility/power grid. For safety reasons, a single operator should only operate while parked.

   e) <u>Fixed Station</u> (Fixed) – A station operated from a <u>fixed</u> location by a single operator using a single transmitter with a transmitted signal output of less than 1 watt (PEP) to the legal limit during the QSO Party. Fixed amateur radio stations are typically established in a permanent structure with equipment that is not intended for portable operation. Fixed stations are generally powered from commercial electrical supply available in the building.

5) <u>Power Categories</u>: There are three power categories. You may only enter under one category. The highest power used during the QSO Party determines the power level.

   a) QRP - 5 watts or less during the OSO Party.

   b) LOW - 100 watts or less during the QSO Party.

   c) High - above 100 watts.

6) <u>Modes</u>: Only two transmitting modes are allowed.

   a) <u>Phone:</u> Any phone mode may be used.

b) <u>CW:</u> Only International Morse Code may be used.

7) The Exchange: The exchange is simple. You give your <u>Call Sign</u> and <u>Location</u> to each contacted station. Your location will be as follows:

a) For stations outside of Canada and the United States, use your country.

b) For Canadian and non-MDC stations, use your province or state.

c) For MDC stations, use your county or city as indicated below in Table 1.

No.	County/City	Abbreviation	No.	County/City	Abbreviation
1	Allegany	ALY	14	Howard	HWD
2	Anne Arundel	ANA	15	Kent	KEN
3	Baltimore City	BAL	16	Montgomery	MON
4	Baltimore County	BCT	17	Prince George's	PGE
5	Calvert	CLV	18	Queen Anne's	QAN
6	Caroline	CLN	19	St. Mary's	STM
7	Carroll	CRL	20	Somerset	SMR
8	Cecil	CEC	21	Talbot	TAL
9	Charles	CHS	22	Washington	WAS
10	Dorchester	DRC	23	Wicomico	WIC
11	Frederick	FRD	24	Worcester	WRC
12	Garrett	GAR	25	Washington DC	WDC
13	Harford	HFD			

Table 1

8) Exchange Examples:

   a) W3VPR this is N3ADF in Queen Anne (QAN if using CW) county.

   b) N3ADF this is W3VPR in Anne Arundel (ANA if using CW) county.

   c) W3VPR this is AG4RR in Kentucky (KY if using CW).

   d) AG4RR this is W3VPR in Anne Arundel (ANA if using CW) county.

9) Canadian Provinces: The following are the Canadian Provinces and Territories used for the purposes of this contest.

Province	Call Area and Description
Newfoundland & Labrador	NL
New Brunswick	NB
Nova Scotia	NS
Prince Edward Island	PE
Quebec	QC
Ontario	ON
Manitoba	MB
Saskatchewan	SK
Alberta	AB
British Columbia	BC
Northwest Territories	NT
Nunavut Territory	NU
Yukon Territory	YT

Table-2

Example:

   W3VPR this is VE3XYZ, I am in Ontario (ON if using CW).

   VE3XYZ this is W3VPR, we are in Washington DC Whiskey Delta Charlie (WDC if using CW).

10) Miscellaneous Rules:

    a) Make lots of lots of contacts.

    b) Stations not located in the state of Maryland, or the District of Columbia may only receive credit for contacts with stations located in Maryland or the District of Columbia (MDC section) Stations located in the state of Maryland or District of Columbia may work stations anywhere.

    c) Club stations must operate from a single location.

    d) The use of repeaters, digipeaters, satellite retransmission, or the Internet (e.g., Echo Link) is not allowed.

    e) Cross-mode contacts are prohibited.

    f) Stations may be worked only once per band per mode except as exempted by paragraph g. below. This means that any station (so long as one is in one of the locations listed in Table 1) may contact any other station on any band up to two times, provided a different mode is used each time.

    g) Stations that change their location from one MDC entity (as listed in Table 1) to another, shall be considered as a "new" station, and may be worked again from this new location in all contest modes for contest credit for both stations involved. Similarly non-MDC stations who change their location from one US State, Canadian Province, or country to another shall also be considered a "new" station.

    h) For the MDC QSO party, Alaska, and Hawaii count as States only.

    i) Participating stations may not count Maryland as a state they have worked. The emphasis is on working Maryland Counties, Baltimore City or Washington DC.

    j) Contacts made during a net operation may not be included.

11) All MDC QSO Party 2024 submissions must be made using the online submission form found at www.w3vpr.org/qso_party_submission_2024 and that submission must contain a Cabrillo log.

12) Self-spotting in any form is not permitted. Self-spotting is defined as the practice of sending a spot advertisement of your station's call sign and current operating frequency.

13) Authorized and Suggested Frequencies: Contacts on WARC bands, 60 meters, and VHF/UHF are not allowed. The following are suggested frequencies for use by W3VPR during the contest.

    a) CW: 3.557, 7.045, 14.045, 21.045, 28.045

    b) SSB: 1.895, 3.821, 7.230, 14.271, 21.371, 28.371

14) Scoring:

    a) Contact Points will be based on the mode used to complete the contact, as follows:

      i) 3 points if the contact was made in CW mode (using International Morse Code)

      ii) 1 point if the contact was made using phone.

15) <u>Multipliers for all entrants:</u> The total number of all Contact Points will be multiplied by each of the following multipliers in sequence. (See example below).

    a) <u>Station Category Multiplier:</u> Based on the category for which the station is entered.

      i) 1 if the Entrants Station Category is Club.

      ii) 4 If the Entrants Station Category is Rover.

      iii) 3 the Entrant's Station Category is Portable.

      iv) 2 If the Entrants Station Category is Mobile.

      v) 1 if Entrants Station Category is Fixed.

    b) <u>Power Category Multiplier:</u>

      i) 3 If the Entrants Power Category is a QRP station.

      ii) 2 If the Entrants Power Category is a Low Power station.

      iii) 1 If the Entrants Power Category is a High-Power station.

16) <mark>State Multiplier points for MDC Stations:</mark> Stations in Maryland and the District of Columbia earn one multiplier point for making initial contact with the following:

    a) Each Maryland County, and cities of Baltimore (BAL) and the District of Columbia (WDC) – 25 maximum.

    b) Each State (less Maryland) – 49 maximum.

    c) Each Canadian Province – 13 maximum.

    d) Each DXCC country except the United States of America, Canada, Hawaii, and Alaska.

    e) Multiplier points described in a) through d) above will be added together before being used as a multiplier.

17) <mark>State Multiplier points for non-MDC Stations:</mark> Stations not operating from within Maryland or the District of Columbia earn one multiplier point for making initial contacts with:

    a) Each Maryland County, the cities of Baltimore (BAL) and the District of Columbia (WDC) – 25 maximum.

18) <u>Bonus Points: (MDC or non-MDC)</u>

    a) <u>Fifty bonus points</u> will be awarded to each station submitting a contest log with at

least one confirmed contact with station W3VPR (The call sign of the Anne Arundel Radio Club). The Fifty points may be claimed on the website entry.

b) <u>FIVE HUNDRED bonus points</u> will be awarded for working all 25 MDC jurisdictions during the MDC QSO Party.

i) TWO HUNDRED-FIFTY bonus points will be awarded for working 13 of the 25 MDC jurisdictions during the MDC QSO Party.

19) Inaccuracies in form of submissions, especially flagrant ones, will result in rejection of submission.

20) <u>Total Score:</u>

a) Add the number of contacts (qso's) made using each of the two Modes listed in item 6 above. (CW or Phone)

b) For each Mode multiply the number of Contact Points noted in 14.a.i) and 14.a.ii) above. Add those numbers together to produce the number of Contact Points earned. (qso's x mode value = contact points).

c) Determine the Station Category Multiplier noted in 15.a) above and the Power Category Multiplier noted in 15.b).

d) Next, based on whether you are entering from within Maryland-DC (MDC) or outside of Maryland-DC. Determine either your In-State Multiplier Points, or your Out-Of-State Multiplier Points as applicable(Items 16 & 17 above). Consider this amount to be your State Multiplier.

e) Now multiply your Contact Points times your Maximum Power Multiplier times your Station Category Multiplier times your State Multiplier to create your ***Basic Score***. The formula for this is:

(Contact Points) x (Maximum Power Multiplier) x (Station Category Multiplier) x (State Multiplier) = (Basic Score)

f) Next determine if you have earned any ***Bonus Points***.

i) If you have contacted W3VPR during the contest, in any mode, you earn a one-time 50 bonus points.

ii) If you worked all 25 MDC jurisdictions during the contest, you earn 500 bonus points. If you worked 13 MDC jurisdictions during the contest, you earn 250 bonus points.

g) Add your Basic Score to your Bonus Points to get your Total Score. The formula follows:

(Basic Score) + (Bonus Points) = (Total Score).

You are done. You have your Total Score.

Example:

> If you make 1 phone, and 1 CW qso, your Contact Points are 1+3 for a total of 4 points. If you used a maximum transmit power of 100 watts, your power multiplier is 2, and your total is 4 x 2 or 8. If your entry category is "Fixed Station", your category multiplier is 1, and your total is 1 x 8 or 8. If you lived in Maryland and made those 3 contacts with 3 different counties, your state multiplier is 3, and your total becomes 3 x 8 or 24 points. And finally, the bonus points are calculated and added to the basic score. A contact with W3VPR would add 50 bonus points for 24 + 50 or 74 points. Thus, you would report a total of 74 points.

21) The judges will use this same method to compute your score based on the entries made on your submitted entry form. This will be done electronically to avoid issues. Failure to fill in the form completely may result in rejection of the entry form by the judges.

22) QSO Party logging software: There are several logging software programs that support the MDC QSO Party, which include the creation of a Cabrillo file. Here are a few:

- *http://www.n1mm.com – This free software can be adapted to a large number of on-air contests.*

- *http://www.n3fjp.com/stateqsoparty.html – A very large selection of logging software is available*

- *http://www.qsl.net/w3km/ -- Download GenLog for free!*

- *http://writelog.com – A very large selection of logging software is available*

NOTE: You are not required to use logging software to document your contacts. The above listing does not infer or imply an endorsement by the Anne Arundel Radio Club or the MDC QSO Party Committee. Caveat emptor (Buyer Beware!). Use all software at your own risk.

23) Logs: All Maryland QSO Party Submissions must comply with the following rules:

a) The participant's MDC QSO Party Log must be in the Cabrillo format. No handwritten logs are allowed in 2024. All entrants must use the WEBSITE ENTRY form to upload logs.

b) Website entries with associated logs must be received within 14 days of the end of the contest.

c) The website entry form can be found at:
www.w3vpr.org/QSO_Party_Submission_2024

24) All decisions by the Maryland QSO Party Contest Committee concerning any Maryland DC QSO Party submission will be considered final. By submitting your entry, you agree to abide by the decisions of the Maryland-DC QSO Party Contest Committee.

25) <u>Awards:</u> Prizes may be awarded in each category as indicated below.

a) A plaque and certificate will be awarded to the station with the highest score in each category if there are a minimum of five (5) entries submitted in that category. If there are not five entries in a category the first-place finisher will receive an e-mailed certificate suitable for printing acknowledging their accomplishment.

b) Any station ranking in the top five (5) in their category will receive a printed certificate.

c) Any station ranking lower than 5th in their category but logging more than 10 QSO Party Contacts will receive an emailed printable version of a Participation Certificate.

Sample Cabrillo Log File

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KYQP Cabrillo Template
------info sent------ ------info rcvd------
QSO: freq mo date time call rst qth call rst qth
QSO: nnnnn ** yyyy-mm-dd nnnn ************ nnn aaa ************ nnn aaa
QSO: 14000 PH 2009-11-14 1401 WB4KLI 59 WAR KY4DXA 59 WAR
00000000011111111112222222222333333333344444444445555555555666666666677777777
12345678901234567890123456789012345678901234567890123456789012345678901234556
KYQP Sample log
START-OF-LOG: 2.0
CREATED-BY: GenLog v7.0
ARRL-SECTION: KY
CONTEST: KY-QSO-PARTY
CALLSIGN: WB4KLI
CATEGORY: SINGLE-OP LOW
CLAIMED-SCORE: 555
OPERATORS: WB4KLI
NAME: LARRY T. JOHNSON
ADDRESS: 570 WILLOW BEND CIR.
ADDRESS: BOWLING GREEN, KY 42104
ADDRESS: USA
SOAPBOX: Sample KY station Cabrillo log
QSO: 14000 PH 2009-11-14 1401 WB4KLI 59 WAR KY4DXA 59 WAR
QSO: 14000 PH 2009-11-14 1402 WB4KLI 59 WAR K4CMS 59 WAR
QSO: 14000 PH 2009-11-14 1404 WB4KLI 59 WAR W3KM 59 PA
QSO: 7000 PH 2009-11-14 1406 WB4KLI 59 WAR K1JT 59 NJ
QSO: 7000 PH 2009-11-14 1407 WB4KLI 59 WAR WB4LLK 59 PUL
QSO: 7000 CW 2009-11-14 1409 WB4KLI 599 WAR UT7FP 599 UR
QSO: 14000 CW 2009-11-14 1410 WB4KLI 599 WAR KB4NKA/M 599 MON
QSO: 14000 CW 2009-11-14 1411 WB4KLI 599 WAR KB4NKA/M 599 MUH
END-OF-LOG:
Notes:
All times are UTC.
ARRL-SECTION: tag (or v3.0 LOCATION: tag) is used to identify KY stations in log
checking
software. ie: ARRL-SECTION: KY or LOCATION: KY. All non-KY can be ARRL-SECTION:
EPA, LOCATION:
PA, LOCATION: DX etc.
Band can be the actual radio frequency ex: 14235 or band identifiers ex: 14000.
Cabrillo log filenames are urCall.log or urCall.cbr - where urCall is your
callsign.
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