

The KeyNote



Newsletter of the Americas Chapter, FISTS CW Club—The International Morse Preservation Society
Issue 1, 2021

When the Going Gets Tough, the Tough Get CW

by Bryan Bergeron, NU1N

Unlike SSB, CW and Morse Code have a reputation for being relied upon in life-and-death situations. This reputation, rooted in the reality of past wars, is also echoed in the movies. Recall the old-fashioned Morse key used in the 1996 sci-fi thriller "Independence Day?" Or how about the cramped CW operator's room on the ship Achilles in the 2008 film "Stargate Continuum?" In both cases, a message had to get out, and whether because of technological limitations (e.g., "Stargate Continuum") or because of jamming by the enemy (e.g., "Independence Day"), CW was the only reliable mode of communications available.

Hollywood aside, our military once relied on CW to pass encrypted messages to troops and allies. For example, unlike voice communications in WWII, CW communications could be encoded and so was secure even when intercepted.

Enter Ham Radio. As a novice, CW was the only mode of operation I could afford. With a HeathKit DX-60B and a Drake 2B receiver, I could literally work the world on 75 Watts. I had no other option until my first SSB transceiver years later. It was tough cutting through the QRM and other hams with KW amplifiers and beam antennas, but it was possible. I wouldn't have had a chance on SSB or AM.

Today, CW is officially retired from the military and coast guard. Contests aside, if you're



My Drake 2B on the workbench for alignment.

scanning the bands, you're more likely to hear a laid-back rag-chew on CW than anything vaguely resembling emergency communications.

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"When you've worked a FISTS, you've worked a friend."

INFORMATION PAGE

When you have a question about FISTS, go to the source for the correct answer. Posting a question on a chat room or email reflector may yield the answer, but your best bet is to ask a FISTS volunteer or look in the reference issue. Several volunteer contacts and/or email addresses have changed from the last reference issue of *The Key-Note*. Please make note of the following listings.

When emailing a volunteer please put the word FISTS in the title of your email. This will help the volunteer recognize that your email is important and not spam.

Awards and Certificates

Dennis Franklin, K6DF, awards@fistsna.org
4658 Capitan Dr., Fremont, CA 94536-5448

Club Call, KNØWCW

Cody Codianni, KC2LSD, kc2lsd@fistsna.org
413 Martin Court, Leonardo, NJ 07737-1317

Membership Questions; Renewals; Call Changes; Name, Mailing, and Email Address Changes

Dennis Franklin, K6DF, membership@fistsna.org
4658 Capitan Dr., Fremont, CA 94536-5448

FISTS Store Manager

Joe Falcone, N8TI, fistsstore@fistsna.org
9880 Musch Road, Brighton, MI 48116

Activities Manager

"Vacant"

If interested email to:

Joe Falcone N8TI fistsstore@fistsna.org

Website Changes (including getting your personal or club web page linked)

Dennis Franklin, K6DF, webmasater@fistsna.org
4658 Capitan Dr., Fremont, CA 94536-5448

Club Presentation Packets

Joe Spencer, KK5NA, kk5na@kk5na.com
3618 Montridge Ct., Arlington, TX 76016-4821

Code Buddy Volunteers and Buddies

<http://www.fistsna.org/codebuddy.html>

FISTS Sprints

E-logs to sprintlogs@fistsna.org
Mail Logs to: FISTS Sprint Logs
4658 Capitan Drive, Fremont, CA 94536

Get Your Feet Wet Activity Day/G3ZQS Memorial Straight Key Contest

Karl Zuk, N2KZ, feetwetlogs@fistsna.org,
g3zqslogs@fistsna.org
15 Flintlock Ridge Rd., Katonah, NY 10536-2510

The KeyNote Newsletter

Bryan Bergeron, NU1N, keynote@fistsna.org

**We need articles and reviews for
*The KeyNote!***

**NOTE: Image files need to be high resolution
JPGs (at least 1000 pixels wide).**

**Send your Word or text files to
keynote@fistsna.org**

The KeyNote

The Newsletter of the Americas Chapter of FISTS

Issue 1, 2021

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Send articles to:

keynote@fistsna.org

Design: Mary Cronin

Americas Chapter, President's Message

By Joe Falcone, N8TI

Sprints and Other FISTS Activities

The largest problem that the FISTS CW Club faces is lack of FISTS activity on the ham radio bands. We have a great club and a lot of members, with new members being added daily. However, the complaint we hear the most is that there are no FISTS members answering CQs or calling "CQ FISTS" on the air.

Probably the reason for this lack of activity is that much of the time it is easier to read about ham radio activities than to actually engage in them. For example, I love to read about different antennas, but I have not experimented with different antennas for a couple of years now. For us CW types, reading about and looking at pictures of different CW keys is always fun. However, actually pounding brass in a QSO seems to be something that many of us do not actually get to. Don't even get me started about reading about DXpeditions and dreaming about setting up a portable station in some place where warm ocean breezes cause condensation to form on your favorite ice cold drink.

The other day I decided to work a FISTS Sprint. That is a two hour activity where you would make contacts with other FISTS members (and nonmembers), and exchange RST, State, name and FISTS membership numbers. At first, I thought that the bands might have

been dead as the FISTS frequencies were empty. Then, up here in Michigan, I heard a FISTS member from Texas calling "CQ FS," which I took for "CQ FISTS Sprint." His signal was blasting in on twenty meters and easily merited a RST of "599." I did make one other contact. I only worked the Sprint for one hour.

It would have been a lot more fun if more of us were on the air. In fact, ham radio in general would be more fun if there were more FISTS on the air. In addition, given that our club's official name is the "International Morse Preservation Society," we all should get on the air from time to time and preserve Morse Code by actually using it.

I have probably been guiltier than most in not getting on the air regularly. When I do get on the air, I am always surprised how fast the time goes and just how much fun it is trying to copy code and pull signals out of the ether. For over 100 years hams have been communicating with each other through Morse Code. The activity endures, in part, because it is so darn much fun.

Yes, there is Netflix, Disney+ and the Internet to take up our time if we let them. But, radio is still the most fun thing you can do. Let's all try to get on the air more and call "CQ FISTS." We will all be happier for it.

73, de Joe N8TI

When the Going Gets Tough (continued)

We have cell phone, VHF repeater systems, and other technology for that.

Still, if conditions are bad—and they're always bad on HF, given the sun-spot cycle—CW is the only economical modality available for ham radio HF communications. And some hams, like me, live in condos and apartments, where anything over 10 or 20 Watts is going to draw unwanted attention. The stealth aspect of CW is a plus when your spouse and family are sleeping and you want to operate late at night. Just put away that 4 lb brass pounder and take out your iambic keyer.

It turns out that, even in the time of peace and relative prosperity, there's a place for CW in Ham Radio communications. Properly used, it can be stealthy, efficient, and, most of all, fun. Yes, some Hams may be maintaining their CW skills in the event of the Zombie Apocalypse, but I practice CW for the fun of it. I can feel the neurons popping as I listen to CW, unlike the constant cacophony of voices overrunning the SSB bands. Perhaps someone will run a study one day to determine whether using CW on a regular basis offsets or at least delays the normal cortical degeneration that occurs with age. For now, I just want to sit back, earphones on, scanning the CW bands for familiar call signs and the occasional once-in-a-lifetime DX.

73, Bryan
Editor

A Fun and Productive CW QSO

by Dennis Franklin, K6DF

I was operating the club's KNØWCW call sign during the February 6th Saturday Sprint. It was lots of fun, although a bit hard to get used to sending a much different call sign than my short K6DF. Several times I did start to roll into my own call but caught myself. I found it fun to operate with the special call and made a number of enjoyable QSO's.

One call in particular was the most fun of all. During the last part of the two-hour Sprint I received an answer to my CQ FS from Ken WA3RSR/5. We exchanged the needed info at the start of the QSO, I learned that Ken was not a FISTS member but said he was going to join. This made me go right into membership manager mode. I quickly sent back to him, if he wanted to join, I could give him a member number right now over the air and he would be in the club! He sent back OK let's do it! I sent him his new member number 20774 right then and we continued our enjoyable CW chat for awhile longer. By the time we finished our QSO, we had talked for just over a quarter of an hour and he qualified for his New Member Key Patch as well!

This was a fun way for a non-member to join FISTS CW Club.

If you hear WA3RSR/5 on the air, give him a call and enjoy a nice CW chat with Ken. He has a very clean and easy CW fist to copy. Thanks Ken for the CW chat and Welcome to FISTS!

73, Dennis K6DF
FISTS Membership
Manager

WELCOME NEW FISTS AMERICAS CHAPTER MEMBERS

Call	FISTS#	First Name	S/P/C	Call	FISTS#	First Name	S/P/C
KI7DPP	20548	Dave	WA	W0PR	20587	Larry	MN
AA4TG	20549	Tony	VA	N4CTR	20588	Charles	VA
K8SI	20550	James	VA	N7GAP	20589	Grant	OR
W2PLK	20551	Ron	NY	K9DLP	20590	Douglas	IL
KE6JAC	20552	Al	CA	KC2CZK	20591	Richard	NY
N6YMZ	20553	William	CA	N4GPY	20592	Michael	GA
CL3OR	20554	Orestes	DX	KG6U	20593	Douglas	CA
N4WLP	20555	William	FL	K9NUD	20594	Steve	IL
KN4YOO	20556	Edward	TN	K2VOG	20595	John	NY
K5RND	20557	Chris	TX	KB3BFM	20596	Rob	PA
AD0QM	20558	Jeffrey	MN	WP4RPJ	20597	Maribel	PR
KE0ZAR	20559	Dan	CO	W1GXN	20598	Rand	OR
W6SAW	20560	Herb	CA	WA7EM	20599	Edward	CO
KX4AR	20561	Joseph	GA	LW3DG	20700	Eduardo	DX
AB1CW	20562	Howard	MA	KF5TWJ	20701	Jeff	AR
N8YA	20563	Dean	OH	KB0ETC	20702	Brian	SD
AB5M	20564	Scott	OK	WA3UVV	20703	Cory	PA
KJ6PBX	20565	Brian	ID	KD1JT	20704	Dennis	CT
KC2SIZ	20566	Steve	NY	KD3G	20705	Dan	WV
W5KD	20567	Will	TX	VE2XPM	20706	David	QC
K9JEC	20568	Jim	WI	W4MCD	20707	Richard	NC
KD9MGA	20569	Alex	WI	WQ6Q	20708	Joseph	CA
WA9TTY	20570	Terry	IL	W7XFS	20709	Tracy	NV
W8BS	20571	James	WV	WD8RPP	20710	Tim	OH
KE8KKC	20572	Jordan	OH	WN3TIS	20711	Club	PA
KF0BLZ	20573	Angus	CO	N3ARB	20712	Angela	NY
KH6DS	20574	Daniel	HI	W3LSN	20713	James	MD
N2ZUT	20575	Jim	NY	N2FSM	20714	Barry	IN
N1SP	20576	Randy	VT	NN0G	20715	Dana	CO
KG5FZ	20577	Charles	LA	KD2SPJ	20716	Courtney	NJ
N4EES	20578	James	TN	W6PD	20717	Phil	CA
NA4IE	20579	Adam	VA	K6IUZ	20718	Tom	AL
K1CHM	20580	Craig	RI	KN4UFB	20719	Joel	NC
NY2FL	20581	Bill	FL	N3COB	20720	Glenn	MD
N5FTW	20582	Darrell	TX	KA3BEN	20721	Ben	PA
AA7ZZ	20583	Carl	KS	K1KHU	20722	Remi	VT
KK4BMB	20584	Edward	NC	W2EB	20723	Bill	NY
NZ4X	20585	Ronald	FL	AC3GV	20724	Bill	PA
W7CSW	20586	Spence	AZ				

(continued on page 6)

New Members (continued)

Call	FISTS#	First Name	S/P/C	Call	FISTS#	First Name	S/P/C
K1JON	20725	John	VT	K5JF	20762	Jeff	FL
KD2MPU	20726	Kathryn	NY	KN6IUF	20763	Mike	CA
W7WRO	20727	Philip	WY	KE1L	20764	Mark	MA
K8CWW	20728	Bill	OH	KN4UNO	20765	Chris	VA
AB3SX	20729	Jerome	MD	W4TMW	20766	Tom	GA
WA3HGD	20730	Carl	PA	ND2Z	20767	Ron	SC
K4KXA	20731	Dave	VA	N2OEL	20768	Noel	FL
N5CTC	20732	Thomas	TX	W1LLO	20769	Stacy	NC
LU4DCW	20733	Francisco	DX	AA9VJ	20770	Steven	MO
KN4RYD	20734	William	TN	KL1PU	20771	Jacob	CA
KG5QLS	20735	Richard	MS	WW8H	20772	Gary	OH
WA7RJ	20736	Mark	WA	KD2UHF	20773	Theodore	NY
N1RBD	20737	Richard	GA	WA3RSR	20774	Ken	TX
W6MDA	20738	Michael	CA	K9ETC	20775	Patrick	IN
KN4LIA	20739	Cierra	IL	WB5OQF	20776	Ken	NM
AG4CC	20740	Karen	TN	WA3OPX	20777	Joe	FL
KN6EQQ	20741	Chris	CA	AA0FO	20778	Marshall	KS
WA7VFQ	20742	Jim	WA	N5ZN	20779	Anibal	TX
KC3PZY	20743	Jonathan	MD	KI4MRH	20780	Randall	TN
W9FAN	20744	Louis	IL	W1VKE	20781	Vin	MA
AA5ES	20745	Michael	LA	WH6GCD	20782	John	HI
KI5MGI	20746	Judge	TX	WA2ANG	20783	Thomas	NY
WB7XW	20747	Mark	WA	W4MSL	20784	Michael	GA
AG5AR	20748	William	FL	WA8YAN	20785	Phil	MI
KG4OAP	20749	James	VA	N3ZUL	20786	Bryan	MD
KF5ALB	20750	Thomas	TX	KG5MCN	20787	Marvin	TX
NM8B	20751	Greg	OH	KI8KR	20788	Don	MI
NT8B	20752	Leon	VA	WA0ZOG	20789	Mike	MO
W8GWI	20753	David	OH	NF7X	20790	Clay	ID
W2JEF	20754	Jeff	NY	W0BNC	20791	Bob	CO
K3PK	20755	Peter	MD	K5WG	20792	William	OK
K5LB	20756	Peter	TX	N5GJQ	20793	Michael	LA
K5HUN	20757	Blayne	OK	K2GDB	20794	Gael	NY
WG8Y	20758	Mark	NC	N4UOH	20795	Barry	NC
W4JL	20759	David	NC	WA4MCE	20796	Chuck	FL
K9HOU	20760	Robert	TX	N6MMS	20797	Matthew	CA
KE0LUA	20761	Shawna	MO	N4AX	20798	David	AL

FISTS AWARDS

By Dennis K6DF

Congratulations to all who earned operating awards from Nov. 16, 2020 to Feb. 15, 2021

Award certificates will be available for members to download, in PDF format from the Members Area of the Americas Chapter website, to their own computer for printing. Issued awards will no longer be mailed. A list of awards issued to your call/member-number is available in the Members Area. FISTS members may log into the Members Area from the following web page:

www.fistsna.org/memlogon.php

It does not appear much has changed with the “Covid-Caper” going into 2021. I do believe more members are getting on the air since we are all spending more time indoors. While we have the time available, let’s work on those awards we started some months back. Who knows, we may also make some life-long CW friends in the process! I’ve had a wonderful time chatting with some old CW friends such as Larry KA8HFN and Bert F6HKA on 20 and 40 meters. So, while couped up in the house, why not have some fun, get on the air and enjoy CW...

New Members can earn a free FISTS Club Key Patch for making their first 10-minute CW QSO with any FISTS member on any band, so get on the air and make your first 10-minute QSO with a FISTS member to earn your free KEY Patch!

New Member Patches Earned:

K5LNR Paul—QSO with F6HKA
 AB1CW Howard—QSO with K1NIE
 N5NYB Jaime—QSO with KB4JR

KD9KHA Andy—QSO with KA8HFN
 WD8RPP Tim—QSO with KA2GSM
 W6MDA Michael—QSO with W6GIB
 WA3RSR/5 Ken—QSO with KN0WCW
 WJ0C Steven—QSO with KG6T
 WB5OQF Ken—QSO with WX4TW
 NJ3B Jim—QSO with KA8HFN

We have a list of new members shown elsewhere in this issue of *The KeyNote*. Please listen for them on the bands and help them to earn their FISTS Key Patch!

Award certificates are available free to all club members, in PDF format, so dust off those keys and get on the air and start making contacts. Try using the free “Log Converter” program to track your club awards, and it’s also a good general logging program as well. The author of Log Converter, Graham G3ZOD, is constantly providing updates and improvements to the program. This program was last updated on November 3, 2020 to version 4.0.4. This FREE software will track your FISTS awards automatically and allow you to send in your award logs to the FISTS Awards Manager at the click of a button! The best thing about it is...it’s FREE! Log Converter is available for download on the Americas Chapter web site. Look for the download link on the main web page just below the “Welcome New Members” list.

Be sure to check the Americas Chapter web pages for updated awards information and how to apply for them: www.fistsna.org/awards.html.

If you have any award questions or suggestions, send e-mail to me at: awards@fistsna.org.

I hope you and yours stay safe and healthy.

73, Dennis K6DF ..._ . _____ (30)

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FISTS Awards (continued)

FISTS AWARDS ISSUED: Nov. 16, 2020–Feb. 15, 2021

Century Award: G5VZ, G3WZD, OZ8AGB, SQ5VCO

Silver Award: PA0KVA, PA0VLD

Gold Award: VE9VIC, IZ2FME, PG4I

NANFA Award: KE5HL

Millionaire Award: PA3HEN, G5VZ, G3WZD, HK5NLJ, G4TGJ, WU6P, IW2JWD, SQ5VCO

2 Million Award: G3WZD, PA0VLD

3 Million Award: EA6BB, PG4I

4 Million Award: K4NE, 2E0DPH, IZ2FME, IU0HMB, PG4I

5 Million Award: VE9VIC, K4NE

6 Million Award: VE9VIC, M5ABN, IK0IXI, DL5CL, MI0WWB

7 Million Award: M5ABN, DL5CL, LB6GG

8 & 9 Million Award: NP3K, LB6GG

10 Million Award: NP3K

11 Million Award: NP3K, G4MLW

22 Million Award: OK1KW

Spectrum Award: N4SNI, DL3HR, G0BON, PG4I

Spectrum 80M: LB6GG

Prefix 50 Sticker: IZ2FME

Prefix 100 Sticker: IZ2FME, PA3HEN

FISTS Awards Change

NOTE: As stated in last quarter's newsletter, awards will NOT be mailed to Americas Chapter members, but will be available in PDF format for members to download in the Members area of the FISTS-NA website:

www.fistsna.org/memlogon.php

New Membership Applications

Notice that we no longer require a printed membership application. Instead please send an e-mail with your Name, Call, Mailing Address, and e-mail address to:

FISTS Membership Manager

Dennis K6DF

membership@fistsna.org

Nancy Kott Memorial KNØWCW Event—April 10-11, 2021

By Dennis Franklin, K6DF

The 2021 Nancy Kott KNØWCW Memorial Event has been moved to the month of April. This event will run from 0001 UTC Saturday April 10 to 23:59 UTC on April 11, 2021.

This operating event is a celebration of Nancy's lifetime of work for the preservation of CW and FISTS CW Club. All club members are encouraged to get on the air, give out their FISTS numbers and enjoy operating CW. This is a time we can use CW to make new friends, enjoy contacting old friends and promote the use of Morse code on the bands.

Some years ago, Nancy obtained the call sign KNØWCW for FISTS CW Club members in the U.S.A. to enjoy and use on the air. The call sign says it all...KNØW CW. Something she promoted throughout her life as a ham and as President of FISTS CW Club Americas Chapter.

That call sign is an integral part of this event and we encourage any U.S.A. FISTS member to contact Cody Codianni KC2LSD for a time slot to operate using the KNØWCW call on April 10 and 11. He can explain how to use KNØWCW, how to send in your log, as well as sending KNØWCW QSL cards. It is not only easy and fun, but you will be part of and contribute to the success of this event!

Please consider operating KNØWCW for April 10 and 11 by contacting Cody via:

kc2lsd@comcast.net

Use of KNØWCW is only available on a pre-arranged basis. Additional information about the use of KNØWCW is available here:

www.fistsna.org/KNØWCW.html

Hope to hear and work many of our members during this event. 73, Dennis K6DF



Nancy Kott



FISTS Winter Saturday 2021 Sprint Results

QRO Category

Call	Name	State	FISTS#	QSOs	Mem	Non-Mem	Points	Mults	Score
K5YQF	Cecil	TX	8077	20	16	4	88	14	1232
KA8HFN	Larry	OH	11631	10	10	0	50	8	400
KA5VZG	Alan	TN	15363	11	7	4	43	8	344
N8HZM	Marv	MI	8097	7	7	0	35	6	210
WI5H	Mike	TX	16705	3	3	0	15	3	45
N4API	Brian	GA	19975	2	2	0	10	2	20
KB5SSB	Dan	MS	19890	1	1	0	5	1	5

Club Category

Call	Name	State	FISTS#	QSOs	Mem	Non-Mem	Points	Mults	Score
KN0WCW	Dennis	CA	19890	13	11	2	59	11	649

QRP Category

Call	Name	State	FISTS#	QSOs	Mem	Non-Mem	Points	Mults	Score
NN9K	Peter	IL	2047	9	8	1	42	9	378
K3JZD	Jody	PA	17513	6	4	2	24	5	120
KD3CA	Donald	PA	16136	4	4	0	20	3	60
K3RLL	Don	FL	13504	3	3	0	15	3	45
KC2MJT	Nathan	MO	12044	1	1	0	5	1	5

SOAPBOX

KN0WCW—Was lots of fun using the KN0WCW club call for this Sprint. Good to hear so many FISTS on the air during the Sprint. 73, Dennis K6DF

N8HZM—1st FISTS contacts in many years! Used to make a log in early 90s, hope to do more.

KD3CA—Not much activity heard here from FISTS members. Gave up after about 45 min. of calling.

KC3MJT—Got on just before Sprint ended. Nice leisurely chat with Larry, KA8HFN.

K5YQF—Excited about the new format. More opportunity for members to participate. Let's get active!

WI5H—I had mediocre local conditions on the bands and was testing the new IC-705 @ 5 Watts when I heard stations calling CQ FS and figured out I had forgotten about the new Saturday Sprint! So, I decided to go QRO at 10 Watts (the little rig's max barefoot output) to participate in the Winter Saturday Sprint.

NEW SPRINT INFORMATION

Sprints will be held eight times throughout the year on the first Saturday and third Sunday in each of the following months: Feb., May, and Aug., with the exception of Nov., which will be the second Saturday and third Sunday.

OBJECTIVE:

To exchange specified information with as many FISTS members as possible using Morse Code only, and within the time frame stipulated. Sprints are a great opportunity for our newer members to get on the air, meet other club members, and have some fun! We encourage more experienced operators to please QRS to match the other operator's speed.

PARTICIPANTS:

Any properly licensed amateur radio operator, FISTS member or non-member is invited to take part in the contest. At least one of the two stations in each QSO must be a FISTS member.

DATES AND TIMES:

SPRING SATURDAY SPRINT: from 1600 UTC to 1800 UTC on first Saturday in May.

SPRING SUNDAY SPRINT: from 2100 UTC to 2300 UTC on third Sunday in May.

SUMMER SATURDAY SPRINT: from 1600 UTC to 1800 UTC on first Saturday in August.

SUMMER SUNDAY SPRINT: from 2100 UC to 2300 UTC on third Sunday in August.

FALL SATURDAY SPRINT: from 1600 UTC to 1800 UTC on SECOND Saturday in November.

FALL SUNDAY SPRINT: from 2100 UTC to 2300 UTC on third Sunday in November.

BANDS:

Operation is limited to the following amateur bands: 3.5, 7, 14, 21, and 28 MHz amateur bands. Look for other participants around the FISTS frequencies: 3558, 7058, 14058, 21058, and 28058 kHz. You may NOT work the same station more than once.

ENTRY CLASSES:

There are three entry classes: QRO, QRP, and Club.

1. **QRO:** Over 5 watts to legal limit.
2. **QRP:** 5 watts output power or less.
3. **Club:** (regardless of power).

Entry class **MUST** be shown on logs to be considered for entry in a particular class, or will be assumed QRO. An entry must be ONE class only, no combination of classes allowed.

EXCHANGE:

The following information must be exchanged by both stations and shown in your log for each QSO to count as a valid QSO:

FISTS members: RST, S/P/C, first name, FISTS number. *Non-FISTS members:* RST, S/P/C, first name. (Enter "0" Zero if your logging program requires a power entry for non-members.) S/P/C = U.S. State/Canadian Province/DXCC Country

DX COUNTRY STATUS:

U.S. states and Canadian provinces are those states and provinces that are contiguous and found within the North American continent. DX are those entities listed in the current ARRL DXCC publication, other than the above.

MULTIPLIERS:

Each U.S. state (50) and Canadian province (13) counts as 1 multiplier. Count each only once, no matter how many times worked. Each DXCC country counts as 1 multiplier. Count each only once, no matter how many times worked. Canada and the USA do not count as DX multipliers.

SCORING:

Each QSO with a FISTS member: 5 QSO points. Each QSO with a non-FISTS member: 2 QSO points. Final score is total QSO points times the number of multipliers worked.

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New Sprint Information (continued)

CERTIFICATES:

Certificates will be awarded to the first, second, and third place finishers in each Sprint for each Entry Class. End-of-Year Certificates will be awarded ONLY to FISTS members with the highest cumulative point totals in the QRO, QRP and Club categories for all Sprints at the end of the year. Certificate will be sent to the winners via email in PDF format.

LOG SUBMISSIONS:

All log entries must be received within 14 days after the Sprint to be considered valid. Logs not sent to the proper address will not be considered for entry. The logs will be spot-checked for accuracy and correct scoring procedures. All logs MUST contain the following information for entry:

1. Your name, call sign, mailing address, and FISTS Number if member.
2. Club name and call sign if entry is for a club station.
3. Sprint worked—Date of the Sprint worked.
4. Entry class—QRO, QRP, or Club.
5. Number of FISTS members worked.
6. Number of non-FISTS worked.
7. FISTS number for FISTS QSOs.
8. List of multipliers.
9. Your claimed score.

An entry form is available here and on the FISTS website at:

fistsna.org/pdfdocs/sprint_entry_form_rev2.pdf

ELECTRONIC LOGS:

We will accept electronic logs in standard Cabrillo or ASCII Text File format. If you're not sure about your format, please contact the Sprint Manager before the contest entry deadline. E-logs are sent to: sprintlogs@fistsna.org ONLY.

PAPER LOGS:

Send log and entry form to: FISTS Sprint Log, 4658 Capitan Drive, Fremont, CA 94536-5448.

JAN. 1, 2021 CHANGES TO AMERICAS CHAPTER MEMBERSHIPS

All Americas Chapter memberships will be dues-free.

- Expired memberships will be changed to Life memberships on Jan 1, 2021.
- Current paid memberships that expire this year will be changed to Life memberships on their expiration date.
- All New Memberships received after April 2, 2020 will be entered as Life memberships.

Details about printed/mailed newsletter subscriptions appeared in Issue #4, 2020 of the *KeyNote*, which is available on the FISTS website at:

www.fistsna.org/publickeynotes.html

FISTS SPRINT ENTRY FORM

Check Sprint Entered: Saturday _____ Sunday _____ Sprint Date _____

Entry Class: QRO _____ QRP _____ FISTS Club _____

Name _____ Call _____ FISTS # _____ Non Member _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

If Club, Club Name, Call _____ FISTS Nr. _____

E-mail Address (optional) _____

SCORING: Number of FISTS member QSOs: _____ × 5 = Total [A] _____

Number of Non-FISTS QSOs: _____ × 2 = Total [B] _____

Number of multipliers worked: _____ = Total [C] _____

Add [A] to [B] and multiply by [C] to get your TOTAL CLAIMED SCORE = _____

CIRCLE WORKED MULTIPLIERS

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	0	VE	DX
CT	NY	DE	AL	AR	CA	AZ	MI	IL	CO	NB	NF/LB
MA	NJ	MD	FL	LA		ID	OH	IN	IA	NS	NT
ME		PA	GA	MS		MT	WV	WI	KS	PE	YK
NH			KY	NM		NV			MN	QC	BC
RI			NC	OK		OR			MO	ON	
VT			SC	TX		UT			NE	MB	
			TN			WA			ND	SK	
			VA			WY			SD	AB	
						AK					

Please enclose paper logs ONLY, photos, comments, ideas, etc., with your entry and mail promptly to:

FISTS Sprint Logs

4658 Capitan Drive

Fremont, CA 94536-5448

Statement: "I have observed all FISTS Sprint competition rules as well as all regulations for Amateur Radio in my country. My report is correct and true to the best of my knowledge. I agree to be bound by the decisions of the FISTS Awards Committee."

Date _____ Signature _____ Call sign _____

SOAPBOX COMMENTS: