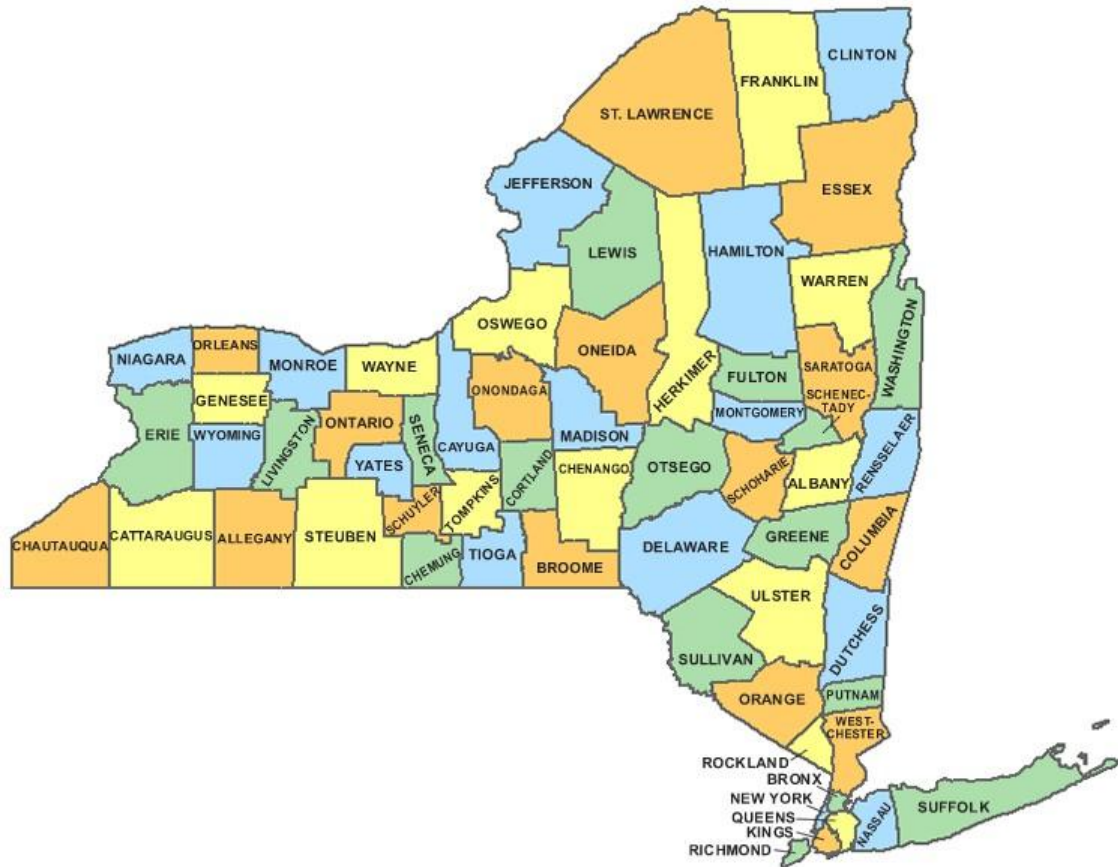# Frequently Asked Questions

New York QSO Party

Phone – CW – RTTY/Digital

What is the NY QSO Party (NYQP)?

Realizing that the NYQP had been inactive for about 25 years, Rick W1TY/W2RTY and Paul AE4PM decided that it was a shame that a state the size of New York did not have its own event. With the ARRL designating 2009 the "Year of the QSO Party", it was time to "re-boot" this event!

The NYQP is a chance for NY operators to be "chased." Other NY stations and everyone else will be looking to contact NY operators. Since the majority of stations will be from the US and Canada, signals should be strong and easy to work. No matter if you prefer SSB, CW or the RTTY/Digital modes, the NYQP has something for you! The most important thing is to have fun.

!!! CQ NYQP !!!

I am operating from NY State. How should I call CQ?

Fixed Station:	CQ NYQP <your call>
Mobile:	CQ NYQP <your call> <current County>
RTTY/Digital:	CQ NYQP <your call>

Example: You are in <u>Monroe County</u> and hear W2RTY, a <u>Wayne County Mobile</u> station:

"CQ NYQP DE W2RTY/M WAY" (Wayne County)

Incorrect logging:	W2RTY/WAY 599 (or 59) WAY
Correct logging:	W2RTY/M 599 (or 59) WAY
You send:	<your call> 599 (or 59) MON

(Each item in its own field in your logging program)

Every time a Mobile station operates from a new County, work them as a new station.

What are the three letter abbreviations that I hear?

Each NY County is given a three letter abbreviation to be entered in the log to complete the QSO. You will receive one from the other station and will give him your County (if in NY) or State (non-NY'er). There is a printable list of the 62 NY Counties on the NYQP web page.

I don't have contest logging software. What do I do?

Easy. Go to the main NYQP logging software page and see what s o f t w a r e packages are configured for the NYQP. Many are free. You can also log using paper. See the FAQ below.

I am operating Mobile from NY. Do I append my call with "/M"?

Yes. Why? If a station logs you with /M and a subsequent contact omits the /M, the logging software will not recognize the match. You could lose the contact and the logging software will not dupe check correctly. The Mobile might also lose the contact points.

I am working a Mobile station from NY State. How should I log the Mobile?

A mobile should send <their call>/M. If they don't the logging software may show a dupe, even if the Mobile is in a new County. They should always send in the same format throughout the NYQP.

I am operating Mobile from NY. How do I change Counties without opening a new log for the new County?

Check your software manual. For N1MM, the "RoverQTH" command has been added to allow "on the fly" County changes. See the N1MM manual for details.

NOTE: Check Mobile stations for the duration the NYQP. Most will travel a number of Counties. A new County means a new station and multiplier to work!

I am a contest rookie. What about me?

The NYQP has instituted an entry class for rookie operators. Please see the rules for details.

Compete with other rookies that are also new to our great hobby. Let the folks with towers, amps and experience fight among themselves! Just follow the NYQP rules at www.NYQP.org and enter as a Single Operator – Rookie. Note: Low Power only (up to 100 watts) for Rookie class.

This award can only be presented to an operator once.

With the NYQP primarily for US/Canadian stations, signals are sure to be strong. See if radio contesting is for you (it was for most in our club!). Learn about propagation, search & pouncing, running, logging software and more. You will finish a better operator... guaranteed.

I am not a very experienced contest operator. Should I call CQ?

Yes! Whether in NY State or not, give it a go. You will quickly learn how it is done effectively by hearing the experienced operators in the contest. Your contact rate will increase dramatically.

I am an experienced contest operator. Should I call CQ?

Obviously yes, however... Remember that if everyone called CQ exclusively, none of those stations would ever work each other. Find a balance of CQ with Search & Pounce that optimizes your contact totals.

High power? Low power? QRP?

You are free to choose any power class you wish within the official rules. Once you have made a QSO with a higher power level you can go back to a lower, but your entry class is the higher one. One hundred watts is plenty in a QSO Party. Feel like a challenge? Try QRP! (up to 5 watts output).

Win a sponsored plaque?

No guarantees. You have to assess your goals. You may choose an entry combination that you want to try out or maybe one that gives you the best chance to win an operating class. The rules page shows all the entry combinations. What is your station and experience best suited for? Usually every Class/Power/Mode combination has a sponsored plaque. As long as you reach the 50 valid contact minimum, you may qualify for one! Check out the plaques and find one you might want to compete for. They are really beautiful! Go to the NYQP web page to see an example.

I am a little pistol. Should I operate? Should I send in a log?

Of course! The NYQP is meant to be fun. Not everyone wins a category but that should not affect having a good time. Do what you are comfortable with. We are betting that you will make far more contacts than you first expected.

No station is required to send in a log, but would be great if you did no matter how many contacts you made. Also it helps the log checkers verify other received logs. Your contest logging software makes this very easy. It also helps the NYQP to know when and where the activity levels are. That makes for better future NYQP planning.

I plan on operating the RTTY/Digital modes. Which one do I choose?

You are free to operate any digital mode such as: RTTY, PSK, AMTOR, Olivia. The real question is, where will I find the activity? We believe that most all stations will be on 45 baud RTTY. PSK is also a possibility.

The NYQP requires a Cabrillo log file submitted. What is that?

Cabrillo is a standardized format for logs. Each field (Call, UTC Time, County, etc) is expected to start in a specific column. This allows the contest sponsors to use computer log checking to cross check logs. It is very important to submit in this format. In fact, the NYQP will only accept logs in this format. The NYQP confirmed contest logging programs do this automatically. But it still pays to verify against the Cabrillo sample on the NYQP web page.

I am paper logging. What do I do?

For those that log on paper, check out this page: http://www.b4h.net/cabforms/nyqp_cab.php. It's a web based Cabrillo log generator. You enter your contacts manually and it will produce and submit a Cabrillo log for you. We strongly suggest that you try computer logging. It makes any contest more fun.

What stations can I contact in the NYQP?

New York stations: Anyone, anywhere: NY stations, all 50 U.S. States, Canadian Provinces and even DX.

Non-New York stations: Contact stations within New York State only.

Could I win a sponsored award plaque?

NYQP has up to 48 plaques in a variety of categories. Put in a good effort and... who knows?

What about the members of my radio club?

The NYQP is designed to be fun. We have everything you need to enjoy the NYQP with your friends. There are Multi Operator entries classes in both the fixed and mobile classes Why not get your entire club involved? There is a plaque for the most combined points turned in. Make sure your log specifies your club affiliation to get the proper credit.

Can I use Packet Cluster or CW Skimmer?

The NYQP allows the use of aids such as the Packet Cluster spotting network and CW Skimmer. We do not allow "self-spotting" however. Self-spotting can result in disqualification.

Where will I find NYQP activity?

It is always hard to predict band openings and the NYQP is open from 160 meters all the way up to the highest Amateur allocations.

We expect the primary bands to be 20, 40 and 80 meters. After sundown in NY we expect that 40 and 80 meters will be the place to be. The NYQP participants will be easy to find.

Don't forget to always re-check the Mobile entries. Remember that once they change Counties, you should work them again. It is very important to check 75/80 meters during the daylight hours, especially for NY Mobile stations. Once the Mobiles leave a County, don't expect them to return there.

Each station can be worked 3 times on each band, once each on SSB & CW & RTTY/Digital. Remember that this depends on the entry class you choose. Again, if they change Counties they are a new station.

Why are RTTY/Digital contacts worth 3 points per QSO?

Let's review: SSB QSO worth 1 point
CW QSO worth 2 points
RTTY/Digital worth 3 points
States and Counties (NY stations) are Multipliers
Counties (non-NY stations) are Multipliers

The first consideration is the time it takes to complete a QSO. SSB is considered the quickest with RTTY/Digital the most difficult.

Past that, should activity slow towards the final hours of the NYQP, RTTY/Digital gives stations an opportunity to migrate to an alternative mode. As RTTY/Digital is the highest point mode, it pays to make as many of these contacts as possible. It can have a major effect on your final score.

Remember that there are single mode entry (and power output) classes for each: SSB, CW and RTTY/Digital.

I sent my log to the NYQP. How do I know it was received?

Every log received will get an automated reply to confirm receipt.

When will the NYQP results be posted?

The release of results is targeted for April. It can be a moving target as we are all volunteers and sometimes life gets in the way. ☺ We try to hold results to coincide with our annual awards banquet and check the NYQP webpage often.

Questions?

Check out our web page at www.NYQP.org Still need help?
Contact the NYQP team at Info@NYQP.org *Don't expect
an answer on contest day!*

Finally...

The posted NYQP Rules are the official word on the NYQP.

I had a blast in the NYQP. When is the next one?

<u>Always </u>the third Saturday in October
10:00 AM until 10:00 PM Eastern

Our thanks go to the Rochester DX Association for supporting the NYQP.

Since 1947
www.RDXA.com

The terminology NYQP, NY QSO Party and New York QSO Party are Service Marks of the contest organizing committee.