

# ARRL Rookie Roundup - Rules



## **1. Mission and Object**

1.1. Mission: To encourage newly-licensed operators (“Rookies”) in North America (including territories and possessions) to operate on the HF bands and experience competitive Amateur Radio operating. Experienced operators (“Non-Rookies”) are strongly encouraged to participate and help new operators – either on the air or in person.

1.2. Object: Rookies exchange information with as many other stations as possible on the 80, 40, 20, 15, and 10 meter HF bands. Rookie entrants are encouraged to read “*HF Contesting – Good Practices, Interpretations and Suggestions*” at [www.arrl.org/contests/hf-faq.html](http://www.arrl.org/contests/hf-faq.html).

## **2. Time Period, Modes, Frequencies and Power:**

2.1 Time period: The third Sunday of April, August and December from 1800 UTC through 2359 UTC.

2.2 Modes: April = SSB, August = RTTY, December = CW.

2.3 Frequencies: To find contest activity, tune near these frequencies:

2.3.1. Phone: 3.850, 7.225, 14.240, 21.325, and 28.400 MHz.

2.3.2. CW: 3.550, 7.050, 14.050, 21.050, and 28.050 MHz.

2.3.3. RTTY: 3.580, 7.080, 14.080, 21.080, and 28.080 MHz

2.4 Power: All categories are limited to 100 watts transmitter power output.

## **3. Entry Categories:**

3.1 Single-Operator, Rookie

3.1.1. Rookie entries are limited to operators who received their first amateur license during the current year or preceding two calendar years. (See rule 4.1)

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3.1.2. The use of information from a spotting network (“spotting assistance”) is permitted. Spotting yourself on a spotting network (“self-spotting”) or asking others to spot you is not allowed. See “*HF Contesting – Good Practices, Interpretations and Suggestions*” for clarification. (See 1.2 above)

3.1.3. Rookie stations may contact Rookie or non-Rookie stations. (Also see 3.4)

3.1.4. Rookie stations are encouraged to identify themselves as a Rookie station by calling “CQ RR” on CW or RTTY and “CQ Rookie Roundup” on SSB.

### 3.2 Multioperator, Rookie

3.2.1. Any number of Rookie operators may participate as a multioperator entry from a single station. (Also see 6.6)

3.2.2. Multioperator stations may transmit only one signal at a time using a single transmitter during the contest.

3.2.4. Multioperator stations are not eligible to participate in team entries.

### 3.3 Team

3.3.1. Team entries may be submitted containing up to five (5) different single-operator entries. The single-operator entries will be listed separately in the results. A single-operator entry may be a member of only one team.

3.3.2. Team entries must be registered with the ARRL Contest Branch prior to the contest using the on-line form on the Rookie Roundup web page ([www.arrl.org/rookie-roundup](http://www.arrl.org/rookie-roundup)). See the Rookie Roundup web page for registration deadlines.

### 3.4 Non-Rookie

There is no Non-Rookie entry category but experienced operators are encouraged to participate and report their contact totals using the online score reporting form on the Rookie Roundup web page ([www.arrl.org/rookie-roundup](http://www.arrl.org/rookie-roundup)). Non-Rookies may call CQ but may only work Rookie stations in the contest. Non-Rookie stations should call “CQ Rookie” on SSB and “CQ R” on RTTY or CW.

- 4. Exchange:** Call sign of station worked, your call sign, your first name, two-digit number of the year first licensed (“check”) and state, Canadian province, Mexican call area, or “DX”.

Examples:

NØAX from KB1QAW, Carol, 08, Connecticut  
KX9X DE VE7XYZ DAVE 07 BC

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KD2ABC DE XE1KK RAMON 96 XE1  
KG6PQR from JH4NMT Toshi 75 DX

4.1. Rookies must have a check from the current year or any of the preceding two calendar years. For example, in the 2012 Rookie Roundup events, Rookies must have a check of 12, 11, or 10.

**5. Scoring:**

5.1. Points: 2 points for completed QSO between Rookie stations, 1 point for a completed QSO between a Rookie and a Non-Rookie station. Contacts between Non-Rookie stations are not valid contacts in this event.

5.2. Multipliers:

5.2.1. Each US state and the District of Columbia (51 total) – use US postal codes as abbreviations. Be careful – many states have similar spellings and abbreviations! i.e. Missouri is MO, Minnesota is MN, Michigan is MI, Mississippi is MS, Maine is ME, Massachusetts is MA, etc. See the complete list of abbreviations at the end of these rules.

5.2.2. Canadian Provinces (13 total) : See the complete list of abbreviations at the end of these rules. 5.2.3. Mexican call areas (5 total): XE1, XE2, XE3, XF1, and XF4

5.2.4. One generic DX multiplier, which includes contacts with US possessions (such as Puerto Rico KP4 and Guam KH2) and all other entities not listed in 5.2.1, 5.2.2 or 5.2.3.

5.2.5. The total number of possible multipliers is 70.

**6. Miscellaneous:**

6.1 Stations may be worked once per band. Multiplier credit is only given once, regardless of band.

6.2. Cross-band and cross-mode QSOs are not permitted. i.e. – Both stations must be on the same band and using the same mode.

6.3 During any single contest, entrants must make all QSOs from the same state, province, call area, or DX entity. i.e. - Your exchange must contain the same location information for all contacts.

6.4. QSOs made through repeaters or digipeaters are not permitted.

6.5. QSOs with aeronautical mobile stations do not count.

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6.6. Non-rookie operators are encouraged to assist Rookie operators in person with operating technique and instruction, including acting as the control operator to allow Technician class licensees to transmit with General or Extra class privileges. Non-rookie operators may not, however, make any transmissions from the station or log any contacts.

**7. Awards:** Electronic certificates will be available for download by the top five scoring stations in each US call area, Canadian province, Mexican call area and DX stations. No national winners will be recognized. A commemorative participation certificate will be available for download to every Rookie operator submitting a score.

**8. Submission: Error! Hyperlink reference not valid.** All scores must be submitted via the Rookie Roundup online score report form within 72 hours of the contest's conclusion. The score report form and score submission deadline will be posted on the Rookie Roundup web site ([www.arrl.org/rookie-roundup](http://www.arrl.org/rookie-roundup)).

**9. Other information.**

9.1. See “General Rules for All ARRL Contests” and “General Rules for ARRL Contests on Bands Below 30 MHz (HF)” available at [www.arrl.org/contests](http://www.arrl.org/contests) or from the ARRL Contest Branch.

9.2. All contest queries should be directed to [contests@arrl.org](mailto:contests@arrl.org) or by telephone to 860-594-0232. All contest rules and entry forms may be downloaded from the Contest Branch Web Page at: [www.arrl.org/contests](http://www.arrl.org/contests).

APPENDIX

US State Postal Abbreviations (source: [www.usps.com/ncsc/lookups/abbr\\_state.txt](http://www.usps.com/ncsc/lookups/abbr_state.txt))

State	Abbreviation
ALABAMA	AL
ALASKA	AK
ARIZONA	AZ
ARKANSAS	AR
CALIFORNIA	CA
COLORADO	CO
CONNECTICUT	CT
DELAWARE	DE
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA	DC
FLORIDA	FL
GEORGIA	GA
HAWAII	HI
IDAHO	ID
ILLINOIS	IL
INDIANA	IN

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IOWA	IA
KANSAS	KS
KENTUCKY	KY
LOUISIANA	LA
MAINE	ME
MARYLAND	MD
MASSACHUSETTS	MA
MICHIGAN	MI
MINNESOTA	MN
MISSISSIPPI	MS
MISSOURI	MO
MONTANA	MT
NEBRASKA	NE
NEVADA	NV
NEW HAMPSHIRE	NH
NEW JERSEY	NJ
NEW MEXICO	NM
NEW YORK	NY
NORTH CAROLINA	NC
NORTH DAKOTA	ND
OHIO	OH
OKLAHOMA	OK
OREGON	OR
PENNSYLVANIA	PA
RHODE ISLAND	RI
SOUTH CAROLINA	SC
SOUTH DAKOTA	SD
TENNESSEE	TN
TEXAS	TX
UTAH	UT
VERMONT	VT
VIRGINIA	VA
WASHINGTON	WA
WEST VIRGINIA	WV
WISCONSIN	WI
WYOMING	WY

Canadian Provinces

<b>Province</b>	<b>Prefix</b>	<b>Abbreviation</b>
New Brunswick	VE1, 9	NB
Nova Scotia	VE1	NS
Quebec	VE2	QC or PQ
Ontario	VE3	ON
Manitoba	VE4	MB

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Saskatchewan	VE5	SK
Alberta	VE6	AB
British Columbia	VE7	BC
Northwest Territories	VE8	NT
Newfoundland and Labrador	VO1/VO2	NL
Yukon Territory	VY1	YT
Prince Edward Island	VY2	PE or PEI
Nunavut	VYØ	NU