



ARRL November Phone Sweepstakes 2017 Preliminary Results

By Bruce Draper, AA5B and Scott Davis, K5TA

We all hoped that it wouldn't happen, but conditions were even worse than in 2016...and 2018 might continue the trend. The 10 and 15 meter bands produced very few QSOs, 20 meters mostly closed up shop before sunset, and 40 meter propagation was spotty throughout the night. A total of 401,242 contacts were reported, roughly equal to last year. Band-by-band QSO numbers as a percentage of the total show a fairly typical distribution for a sunspot-starved year:

Band	Percent QSOs
160 meters	<0.01% (33 QSOs)
80 meters	25.4%
40 meters	33.8%
20 meters	32.5%
15 meters	8.3%
10 meters	<0.01% (32 QSOs)

With Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands still reeling from a devastating hurricane season, Clean Sweeps were at a premium, and many Top Ten finishers in the Unlimited categories failed to find one or more mults. Only 78 stations worked them all, compared to 162 last year and 296 in 2015.

Category Winners

<i>Single-Op, High Power (SOHP)</i>		
	W7WA	330,838
<i>Single-Op, Low Power (SOLP)</i>		
	VA7RR	191,224
<i>Single-Op, QRP (SOQRP)</i>		
	NDØC	56,210
<i>Multi-Op, High Power (MSHP)</i>		
	W6YI (K6AM, N6AN, N6KI, N6WIN, W2PWS, W6YI ops)	306,602
<i>Multi-Op, Low Power (MSLP)</i>		
	WW4LL (K4NV, NN9DD, WW4LL ops)	211,982
<i>Single-Op Unlimited, High Power (SOUHP)</i>		
	KH7XS	348,268
<i>Single-Op Unlimited, Low Power (SOULP)</i>		
	N4TP (W4LT, op)	206,874
<i>School Club Station (S)</i>		
	KØHC (WØBH, op)	211,152

Affiliated Club Competition (CW + Phone)

Category	Club	Total Score
Unlimited	Potomac Valley Radio Club	16,533,785
Medium	Mother Lode DX/Contest Club	3,824,930
Local	New Mexico Big River Contesters	1,456,806

The Winners

Congratulations to VA7RR (SOLP), W6YI (MSHP), and KØHC (S), who all successfully defended their 2016 titles. W7WA (SOHP) returns to the winner's circle after a year away, as does W4LT (SOULP). NDØC moved up from 2nd place in 2016 to win the SOQRP category this time around, while the WW4LL gang juggled their operator list and moved from 2nd to 1st place in the MSLP category. KH7XS finished his latest round of station building in time to win the SOUHP category.

Logs Submitted

There were 1688 logs submitted, up 3.8% from 2016's 1626. Category breakdowns were as follows:

SOLP	689
SOHP	325
SOUHP	284
SOULP	174
SOQRP	69
MSLP	68
MSHP	60
SCHOOL	19

Many thanks to N6TR, N5KO, NØAX, and W9JJ for their work in pulling together the data so quickly – which might be one of the very few records set this year!

All scores presented in this preliminary report are provisional, pending final review. Watch for the full contest results coming soon to this website, and be sure to read the write-up in the June issue of QST.