



2018 2 Meter FM Simplex Challenge Official Rules

The Maine 2 Meter FM Simplex Challenge is sponsored by the Wireless Society of Southern Maine. The purpose of this contest is to encourage amateurs to learn the basics of contesting, simplex operations, and expand the scope of their VHF operating techniques beyond that needed for repeater operation. It is open to any licensed radio amateur, the object being to make as many two-way QSO's with as many different hams, in as many different cities as possible, within a 4 hour time period.

Remember, this is a FUN contest. All participants are encouraged to send in their logs, even if they only make a few contacts. It is not necessary to have a big "contest station" to participate. This contest is easily worked with only a 2 meter handheld.

1. Date and Contest Period - This event is 4 hours long: (from 12PM - 4PM, EST, which is 1700Z - 2100Z) on Sunday, April 15, 2018. Contacts are limited to FM simplex on the 2 meter band. Repeater contacts for points are not allowed. All stations (Fixed or Mobile) can only transmit on one radio at the same time. (Multiple operators in a team, using the same call sign, cannot use more than one radio at a time, or transmit from different locations, using the same call sign). For example, if several operators want to use a club call sign, they must designate a single power level and location, just like any single operator. All stations are either Fixed (which includes portable), or Mobile. Even if you start the contest as a Fixed station, as soon as you operate from another location, you will be considered a Mobile. For all contacts, at least one station must be located within the state of Maine. Operators must use the same power level for the duration of the contest.

2. Contest Frequencies - Frequencies essentially follow the ARRL VHF Contest Rules and VHF band plan. Please be sure to stay within the area allocated for 2 meter FM simplex operation. No stations may operate outside the traditional simplex portion of the band.

2.1. Suggested frequencies: 146.475, 146.490, 146.505, 146.550, 146.565, 146.580, 147.420, 147.435, 147.450, 147.465, 147.480, 147.495, 147.510, 147.525, 147.540, 147.555, 147.570. Frequencies that have a potential conflict with repeater inputs (low end of 146 Simplex) and the National Calling Frequency has been omitted.

2.2. **Do not contest on 146.520** - the National Simplex Calling frequency!

2.3. Share the frequencies - remember this is a Fun Contest, so if someone jumps in after you've made a contact, let it go. Have a good time.

2.4. Solicitations for simplex contacts on a repeater is permitted. Get more people to switch over to simplex and make contacts. However, contest contacts on repeaters are not permitted. You

must make all of your contacts on **2 meter FM Simplex only**.

3. Exchange - There are 3 exchange items - Give your call sign, the name of the city, village, town, or township you are operating from, and your power level. Rovers and mobiles must be within the city limits of whatever city they claim to be operating from.

3.1. City or Town - This is simply the name of the city or town you are operating from. If you do not live within the city limits, use the name of the town or municipality to which mail or a package would be addressed. For mobile entries, use the name of the city or town you are in, or the closest city or town.

3.2. Power levels are defined as follows:

- QRP - 5 watts or less.
- Medium power - greater than 5 watts, but less than 100
- High Power - 100 watts or more

4. Entry Categories - There are two entry categories: Fixed and Mobile. You may enter only one category for the contest. If a station gives out more than one multiplier during the contest, that station will automatically be entered into the mobile category.

4.1. A "Fixed" station or "Fixed" location means that the participant must operate the entire duration of the contest from one specific location. This category would also include setting up a temporary, portable station at a remote location, "Field-Day" style.

4.2. A Mobile / Rover station - a participant operates from a vehicle, with the option of activating more than one multiplier during the duration of the contest.

5. Scoring - Each station you work is worth 1 point.

5.1. A station can be worked only once, (unless it is mobile). A mobile station may be worked more than once only if it moves to a different city, village, town, or township. Similarly, a mobile station may contact a fixed station more than once only if he/she has not already worked that station from the same location.

5.2. Multipliers: After you add up your score, you can get extra bonus multipliers. For every different city, village, town, or township you contact, multiply your score times that number.

6. Awards - Certificates will be awarded to the top scoring entrant in each category and power level, as well as overall

6.1. The categories are as follows:

- FIXED-QRP
- FIXED-MEDIUM
- FIXED-HIGH
- MOBILE-QRP

MOBILE-MEDIUM
MOBILE-HIGH
OVERALL

7. Reporting

7.1. Hand-written paper logs should be mailed to: WSSM 2 Meter Contest, P.O. Box 6833, Scarborough, ME 04074. Email PDF logs or electronic Cabrillo-formatted logs to: ws1sm@yahoo.com

7.2. Entries that have been hand-written must be submitted on Official Log Sheets.

7.3. Entries that have been electronically generated must submit their log file in the Cabrillo file format. Paper printouts of electronic files are not acceptable substitutes. Logs created with word processing or spreadsheet software are considered electronic logs and must be submitted in Cabrillo format.

7.4. Entries must be emailed or postmarked no later than 0359 UTC, May 14, 2018.

7.5. Rovers / Mobiles must clearly state on their logs what location they were transmitting from for each contact. There is no longer a requirement to submit separate log sheets for each location.

8. Miscellaneous

8.1. If the judge cannot read your writing, the claimed contact will be removed.

8.2. If an overwhelming amount of claimed QSO's (more than 50%) cannot be verified by cross checking logs received, the entry may be disqualified at the discretion of the contest committee.

8.3. Each duplicate contact or miscopied call that is claimed for credit will be removed from the log with no additional penalty.

8.4. A QSO with busted exchange data will be removed from the log with no additional penalty.

8.5. A QSO not appearing in the log of the claimed station will be removed from the log and one additional contact will be deleted as a penalty.

8.6. Aeronautical mobile and maritime mobile stations may be worked for QSO credit only.

8.7. Use of captive rovers (i.e., mobile operators who participate solely for the benefit of an individual), is strictly prohibited.

8.8. The use of remote transceivers or internet links is strictly prohibited.

8.9. QSOs between mobile participants within the same vehicle are not permitted.

In all cases, the decision of the contest committee will be final.

9. Club Competition

9.1. Clubs are defined as any ARRL or RAC affiliated radio organizations, ARES groups, or school clubs.

9.2. Members must specify which club they belong to on their summary sheet if their score is to count toward the club competition.

9.3. All members must be "members in good standing" according to the rules and requirements of their club.

9.4. The club competition winner will be determined by adding the total scores of all entries from that club.

Forms and log sheets can be found on the Simplex Challenge website:

<http://www.qsl.net/ws1sm/contest.html>.

The logs which are received and contest results will be announced on the WSSM website.

Questions concerning the Maine 2 Meter FM Simplex Challenge should be addressed to ws1sm@yahoo.com The Contest Committee of the Wireless Society of Southern Maine will make any decisions concerning Rules interpretation or contest submissions and the decisions of the Committee will be final.

Send your completed log and contest entry form to:

Wireless Society of Southern Maine
c/o 2 Meter FM Simplex Challenge
P.O. Box 6833
Scarborough, ME 04074