



The Winter Field Association Presents  
**Winter Field Day 2023**

January 28<sup>th</sup> - 29<sup>th</sup>

Starts 1900 UTC Saturday January 28<sup>th</sup>

Ends 18:59 UTC Sunday January 29<sup>th</sup>

Greetings,

At the Winter Field Day Association, our mission is to encourage emergency operating preparedness during the winter months when the potential for freezing temperatures, snow, ice, and other hazards may present unique operational challenges.

We sponsor the Winter Field Day Exercise in the form of a contest to encourage you to participate. Although we have a Class for Home stations, we highly encourage setting up remote and outdoor operating positions. Operating out in the field, away from the comforts of home, is the best way to increase your level of preparedness for disasters and improve your operating skills in subpar conditions.

WFD is a learning experience, and we hope at the end of this year's WFD exercise, you will feel more confident about your ability to adapt and overcome adverse weather conditions. Please read through the rules thoroughly. If you have questions, contact us on our website or social media for clarification.

At the WFDA, we use the term contest very loosely around here, so don't get too hung up on our rules. At the end of the day, your total points don't matter. What you learn during WFD and your ability to adapt and overcome sudden obstacles is what will help you during unexpected emergencies. As we continue with another year of the WFD exercise, we want to encourage participants not to chase the contacts or the points but to test their abilities and equipment. If you want to exchange signal reports, please give each other accurate information, so the other station knows how well their station is working.

Finally, have fun with the event, talk about the temperature, meet new friends and make memories as you continue to enhance your skills as an amateur radio operator.

We wish you the best of luck and look forward to hearing you on the air in 2023!

Sincerely,  
WFDA

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# WFDA Winter Field Day 2023 Rules

## Notable Rules for Winter Field Day 2023

- All stations are limited to a maximum of 100 Watts PEP.
- All logs must be in the Cabrillo format and submitted online at [www.winterfieldday.com](http://www.winterfieldday.com)
- Mexico stations should use MX as their location identifier.
- We have added a 4<sup>th</sup> category M for Mobile / Mobile stationary stations.
- We have added an additional Antenna bonus.

**Eligibility:** All licensed amateur radio operators are encouraged to participate. Radio operators in the United States and Canada will use the designated location identifiers set up by the ARRL and RAC field organizations. Operators in Mexico will use MX as their location identifier, and all other operators outside of North America will use DX as the location identifier. All participants are encouraged to submit a log of stations worked.

**Objective:** To set up an amateur radio field station and successfully make multiple contacts. Successful participants are those who can set up their equipment and correctly log the designated exchange during the operational period explained below.

**Operational Period:** Winter Field Day is always held the last full weekend in January. For 2023, it will be held on January 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup>. The 24-hour operational period starts at 1900 UTC on Saturday, the 28<sup>th</sup> and ends at 18:59 UTC on Sunday, the 29<sup>th</sup>. Stations may begin setting up no earlier than 19:00 UTC on Friday before. However cumulative set-up time shall not exceed 12 hours.

**Entry Categories:** A WFD operation, regardless of the number of stations operating under one call sign, must be in the same physical location. All station equipment, including antennas, feed lines, and accessories used, must be located within a circular area, whose diameter does not exceed 1,000 feet (300m).

You must choose which category you are going to operate in. If operating as a group under one call sign, all stations in your entry must fit the category you choose. We have added a new category this year. Many participants that would have been an Indoor or Outdoor station last year will now fall under the Mobile / Mobile stationary category.

The categories are:

H = Home: is defined as any station participating from their permanent livable residence or within 500ft of their Home regardless of operating inside or outside.

I = Indoor: is defined as any station operating away from Home but from inside an insulated, weather-protected building or structure on a permanent foundation. Indoor stations typically have plumbing, heating/cooling, and running water. Church, EOCs, a club shack, a cabin, and community centers are all examples that would be Indoor.

O = Outdoor: Outdoor stations are defined as operating from a partly or fully exposed building or shelter that does not typically have plumbing, heating/cooling, or running water available. Operating from a picnic table, park pavilion, tents, or under pop-up canopies are all places that could be considered outdoor. These are locations where you may have to provide your own heat source and/or protection from the elements.

M = Mobile / Mobile Stationary: These stations are defined as operations from a mobile or potentially mobile structure like an RV, car, van, sailboat, cargo trailer, mobile EOC, ETC. These are operating positions that may offer some sort of built-in heating/cooling.

**Entry Class:** your entry class is a number designated by the number of stations in your entry that are capable of simultaneous transmission. Don't count a station where one must be left idle to make contacts on another; do not change your category or class during the event.

**Exchange:** The designated WFD exchange is your call sign, your Class and Category, plus your location identifier. US and Canadian stations will use the ARRL / RAC Section as designated by those organizations. Mexico stations will use MX, and all other stations outside of the US will use DX. You must accurately copy and record the full exchange. Do not change your section during the contest. If your station changes sections during the event, such as a long haul trucker, your section is the first section you made a contact from.

**Bands:** All Amateur bands except 12, 17, 30, and 60 meters. To qualify as a band worked, at least 1 valid, two-way QSO must have taken place on the said band during the contest.

**Modes:** CW, Phone (*includes SSB, AM, FM, DMR, C4FM, etc. If the end result is voice, it's Phone*), and Digital (*includes PSK, RTTY, Olivia, Packet, SSTV, ATV, JS8Call and other soundcard modes. If the end result is text or a picture, it's digital*).

**QSO Points:** Phone contacts count as one point each, and all CW & Digital modes count as 2 points each. Busted exchanges will be penalized by one additional point for each missed exchange or call sign. Duplicate contacts (same call, band, and mode) will not be counted nor penalized.

**Power Output Multipliers:** The maximum permitted is 100 watts measured from the output of the final amplifier. QRP stations, as defined by transmitting less than 5 watts on CW or 10 watts on phone get a multiplier of 2. All other stations have a multiplier of 1. 100W or less = 1x, QRP = 2x

Multiple Transmitter Limitations: The use of more than one transmitter on a single band & mode is prohibited.

**Band Multipliers:** Each mode worked on each band counts as 1 multiplier. If you worked both CW and Phone on 20 & 40 meters, your total multiplier would be 4. If you operated CW and Phone on 80, 40, 15, and 10 meters, CW and PSK31 on 20m, FM on 2 meters & 440 you would have a total multiplier of 12x.

**Calculating Points:** Scores are based on the total number of QSO points x Power Output Multiplier x Band / Mode Multiplier + Bonus Points.

$$\text{Total Score} = (\# \text{ of QSOs} \times \text{PO}_M \times \text{B}_M) + \text{Total Bonus Points}$$

## Bonus points:

**Alternative Power<sup>1</sup>:** You may claim 500 points if no commercial power is used in powering your WFD station. This means any power not connected to the commercial power grid. Generators, batteries, solar power, and wind are all possible sources of alternative power. You may claim this bonus no matter what operational category you are working under.

**Outdoor:** You may claim 500 points if you are operating outdoors. Every station operating in the Outdoor category should be able to claim this bonus. Any station that is operating in the Home category but chooses to set up outdoors, may also claim this bonus.

**Away from Home:** You may claim 500 points if you are operating in a location other than home as defined above. If you are operating under the Indoor, Outdoor or Mobile categories, you should be able to claim this bonus.

**Antenna:** you may claim 500 points if you are setting up an antenna(s) just for WFD. If you or any of your operating stations are using any pre-installed antennas you may not claim this bonus. Pre-installed antennas are defined as any antenna attached to anything that could be used day to day or was set up before the WFD set-up time. This includes home antennas, installed antennas on vehicles, cargo trailers and RVs, and, any other antenna that would be considered permanently installed.

**Satellite<sup>2</sup>:** You may claim 500 points for making at least one successful satellite QSO. See the appendix below for more information on satellite contacts.

**Mobile:** You may claim 250 points if you are mobile during the event. This means you are moving / roving and using a vehicle mounted-antenna that can be operated while the vehicle is in motion.

To claim any bonus points, all stations covered in your entry must qualify.

## Miscellaneous Rules:

- All rules governing amateur radio at your location must be observed throughout the event.
- All stations for a single log entry submission must be operated under one callsign.
- Any mode used must be able to faithfully transmit the exchange intact without a conversion table. Stations can be worked once per band, per mode.
- Entrants may not count for QSO credit any contact with anyone who is or was a participant in their WFD operation or is present at their WFD location.
- All voice contacts are equivalent.
- All non-cw digital contacts are equivalent.
- QSOs may only be solicited during the contest and only via the airwaves. The use of spotting clusters, the RBN, APRS, and Winlink to solicit contacts will be allowed during the contest.
- Cross-band contacts are not permitted (satellite QSOs cross-band contacts are exempted).
- The use of more than one transmitter at the same time on a single band-mode is prohibited.
- No repeater contacts are allowed including, DMR that may be transmitted through a repeater on the receiving end.

## Log Submission Requirements

All logs must be submitted in the Cabrillo format and contain the proper exchange data. Logs must be submitted by 11:59 UTC on March 1<sup>st</sup> to be considered. Late entries cannot be accepted. If you find an error in log after submitting, just correct your log and resubmit. The corrected version will replace the original you submitted.

You must submit your logs online at [www.winterfieldday.org](http://www.winterfieldday.org)

Once you click submit a log, you will receive a confirmation email.

Results will be posted on the Winter Field Day website.

## Appendix

<sup>1</sup> To claim the Alternative Power bonus, batteries in use may only be recharged using alternate power. When not in use, batteries may be charged by any means available. WFD operations claiming the “alternate power” bonus must run all station equipment and accessories from an alternate power source, with the exception of the logging-only computer which may be connected to the power grid or any power source available.

<sup>2</sup> Groups are allowed one dedicated satellite transmitter station without increasing their entry category. Satellite QSOs do not count as a regular QSOs credit. Satellite contacts do not count as a new band / mode multiplier. You only get the 500 Bonus points. You do not receive any additional bonus points for contacting different satellites. A simple CQ (versus CQ WFD) is sufficient, and you should be prepared to give a signal report and your VHF Grid Square to the other station versus your normal WFD exchange. It's likely the other station will not be a WFD contestant, and he will likely want a confirmation of the contact afterwards, especially if your location is remote. Please be considerate and comply.

## Cabrillo Formatting Example

There **MUST** be at **LEAST** one or more spaces between fields. Each line in the log must end with a carriage return and line feed. There must be at least one or more spaces following a colon in a line. The frequency for HF must be in kilohertz rounded to the nearest kilohertz. 3753 is fine, 3753.20 is not. Frequencies above 50 mhz are specified as the band .

Examples: 50, 70, 144, 222, 432, 902, 1.2G, 2.3G, 3.4G, 5.7G, 10G, 24G, etc.

The mode should be one of the valid Cabrillo modes. CW, PH, FM, RY, DG. The code we have used in the past for the digital contacts of DI is currently supported but not needed. It is preferred that you use RY or DG. In the next couple of years, the DI code will no longer be supported. Most log programs already use the right codes for this.

If your logging software is **NOT** connected to your radio, any in-band frequency is fine.

Date and times need to be in UTC and do not need to be exactly accurate.

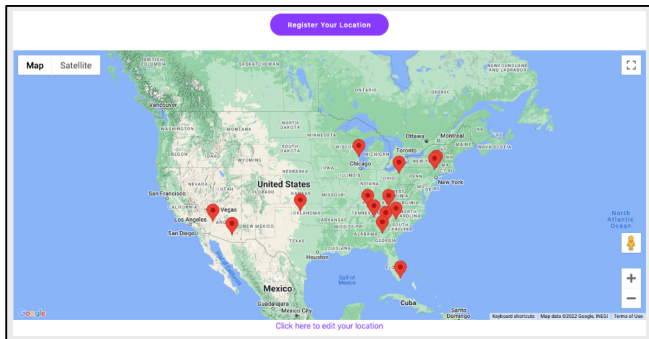
The old process of adding the information about the bonus points claimed and the modification of the claimed score is no longer needed or supported. The soapbox should be used for the purpose it was intended. It will not affect your score. But the soap box comments will be reviewed by the team after the event and used to improve the contest for next year

The callsign in the file name for the log **MUST** be the same as the callsign **USED** in the contest. If your event call is N8LOG, make sure your file name is N8LOG.log or N8LOG.txt

The main body **must** follow this format:

START-OF-LOG: 3.0  
LOCATION: **WTX** (Arrl Section) or **MX** or **DX**  
CALLSIGN: **N8LOG**  
CLUB: **K4ARC - Riverdale ARC**  
CONTEST: **WFD**  
CATEGORY-OPERATOR: **SINGLE-OP** or **MULTI-OP**  
CATEGORY-ASSISTED: **ASSISTED** or **NON-ASSITED**  
CATEGORY-BAND: **ALL**  
CATEGORY-MODE: **MIXED**  
CATEGORY-POWER: **HIGH** or **LOW**  
CATEGORY-STATION: **FIXED** or **MOBILE**  
CATEGORY-TRANSMITTER: **ONE** or **TWO** or **UNLIMITED**  
CLAIMED-SCORE: **xxxx** (your calculated total score including bonuses)  
OPERATORS: **W1CALL, W2CALL, W3CALL**, etc.  
NAME: **Mike Smith** (contact person)  
ADDRESS : **123 Main Street**  
ADDRESS-CITY: **Anytown**  
ADDRESS-STATE: **TN**  
ADDRESS-POSTALCODE: **13791**  
ADDRESS-COUNTRY: **USA**  
X-EXCHANGE: **1O**  
SOAPBOX: **set up and operated for 4 hours. It was 72 degrees in Texas.THX**  
SOAPBOX: **operated from K-1235 using a wire antenna.**  
EMAIL: **mike@gmail.com**  
QSO: **3750 PH 2017-01-07 1911 N8LOG 1O OH WB9X 2H IL**  
QSO: **14070 DI 2017-01-07 2131 N8LOG 1O OH K6XXX 14I LA**  
  
END-OF-LOG:

# Winter Field Day



## Best practices for adding your WFD location to our map system.

When you know where you will be operating from and what category you will fall under, consider adding your location to our map. If you are operating from a public site and the general public is invited to stop, this is an excellent way to publicize your location.

Follow these general guidelines to get the most out of the WFD location map.

### Get your GPS coordinates:

Know the exact location where you are going to set up! The mapping system will ask you for your GPS coordinates. To get your coordinates, go to [www.google.com/maps](http://www.google.com/maps) and zoom in on the location you will be operating from. Right-click on the map, and it will give you the Latitude and Longitude. Copy these down because you will need them when you register your location. Our form will ask you for the following information.

### Required Questions:

Our location system will ask you for the following information: Email Address, Name of Individual or Group, Callsign, Category, Latitude, Longitude & is your event open for the public or visit\*?

\*If your event is open to the public, we will email you a link to provide additional information. More about this later.

**Email Address:** Provide an email you can access. We will send you a confirmation email with a link in it. This link allows you to edit your site in the future if needed.

**Name of Individual or Group:** Consider providing your first and last name. If you are registering for a club, spell out as much as you can. Clay County Amateur Radio Club is better than CCARC.

**Call Sign:** Enter the call sign you will use on field day. If you are adding a club location, use the club call, not your personal one.

**Category:** Select your Category from the list. If you are unsure what category you are in, pick the one you think you might fall under.

**Latitude & Longitude:** Add the GPS coordinates for your location. The GPS coordinates tell the mapping system where to place the pin on the map. Try to be as accurate as possible.

**Is your site open for the public to visit?** Check the appropriate box.

Finally, click [Add Location!](#) You should see this success message:

**Location Added! [Click here to view on map](#)**

You will also receive a confirmation email. **Keep this email, as it will provide you with a way to edit your listing if any changes occur.**

If you click yes to a public location, you will receive a second email asking for information. Click the link in the email to edit your additional information.

### **Additional Information for Public Sites**

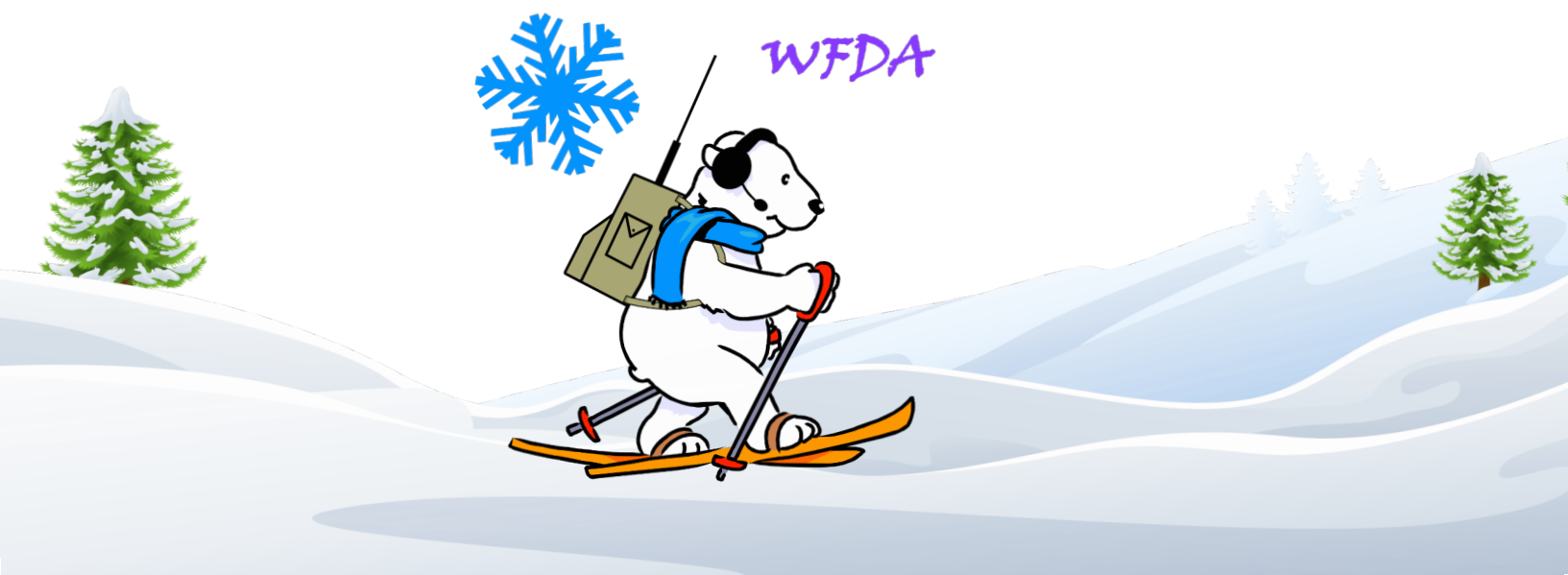
To best promote your public site, consider the following.

**Set up and operating times:** Let people know when you will arrive and leave. When is the best time for people to visit? Are you spending the night? Will you have more people available to be ambassadors during the day? Are they welcome to stay for dinner? Would you like advanced notice if someone wants to stop by?

**Directions:** Is your location hard to find? Consider adding directions or a description of the place. Do they need to know that they have to turn down the 2nd dirt road? Are you at the pavilion at the top of the hill? Do you have a campsite number or other identifying feature that will let people know they are in the right place? Be sure to add all of these details to your page.

**Contact information:** A talk in frequency is great, but what if an unlicensed person wants to visit and see what WFD is all about? Do you have an email or phone number of a person they can contact? How good is the cell phone service where you will be operating from? Do you have a website or Facebook page with additional information on how they can get a hold of you?

Two to three paragraphs of what is happening at your WFD location, not only helps the public find you, it helps them make an informed decision on when to stop by and what to do if they can't find the location. It also helps us here at the Winter Field Day Association. We look at the participation levels and use them to set future objectives. Knowing how you operate your WFD station helps us promote the event and make improvements each year. Thanks for your participation!



# WFD Club Challenge 2023

Once again, the WFDA will sponsor a Club Challenge to go along with the WFD event. The Club Challenge has been evolving for the last couple of years, and this year is no different. Please note that the Club Challenge is separate from the Winter Field Day event but coincides with it.

The class and category you operate as during WFD will not affect your club's performance during the Club Challenge. Your effort while participating in WFD, however small, can help your club rank higher in the WFD Club Challenge. So we encourage you to participate in WFD even if you can't get out and be at your club's physical location.

To help your club in the Club Challenge, you will use your call sign during your effort and enter the Clubs Call sign in the designated spot in the Cabrillo formatted log you submit at the end of the event.

We use the ARRL and FCC definitions of a club, so your club must have at least four members to compete in the Club Challenge.

To enter, we are asking that one person from your group pre-register your club's location on our WFD map. The link is: <https://www.winterfieldday.com/register-location.php>. This is optional but it helps us collect the Club Call signs prior to WFD.

As stated above, to help your club during the Club Challenge, simply submit your own log with your own information. In the Cabrillo formatted log, where it asks you for CLUB: enter your Clubs pre-registered Club Call sign, and if you wish to add your club's name enter it like this

CLUB: K4FUN --- Stones River Amateur Radio Club

Make sure to use the three --- as a separator between the Call Sign first and the name. If you don't enter the name, that is okay as well. We pull the name data from our map.

You are only allowed to participate in one effort. If you operate at your clubs, location your clubs log should include you as an operator in their Cabrillo formatted log under OPERATORS:

You should not go home, use your own call and classification, and then submit your own additional log.

One would expect that most clubs will have all of their efforts in a specific geographic area, but that is not required. A few clubs have highly distributed membership. Many clubs may have members who are not in the area at the time. As an individual, you can participate from anywhere and have your effort go to help your club out during the Club Challenge. If you belong to multiple clubs, you can only choose to help out one of those clubs during the Club Challenge.

As long as you follow the WFD rules, stations within the same club may contact other club members for points. This includes any simplex operation but remember operators may not count for QSO credit, or any contacts with anyone who participated in "their" WFD operation.

The two main logging programs used for WFD are N3FJP and N1MM+; both have a place to enter the club name. Simply enter the club call in that field, and you are good to go.

The WFDA publishes a separate ranking for Club Scores. Your individual effort does not help your club rank higher in the WFD rankings. It will help your club rank higher in the Club Challenge.

So to be clear, you and your club will have individual rankings in the WFD Event. Your club could be ranked 30th. However, with the club members' combined efforts, your club could rank in the top 10 for the Club Challenge.

If there are any problems, the email address of the person who registered the Club Call Sign on the WFD map will be the person we contact first. We have developed the map so that you may register more than one Call Sign if you are a part of a club or multiple clubs.

The Soap Box in the Cabrillo log only needs to be used for its intended purpose; add comments about your setup, what you ate, weather reports, band conditions, and things of that nature. We do enjoy reading the soapbox information and take the comments into consideration while planning the event. Let us know how we are doing, what you did, and what you would like to see in the future.

Good luck in the 2023 WFD Club Challenge

WFDA

# WFD Club Challenge FAQs

**Can my log still be used for the Club Challenge if I operate from another state?**

Yes! Many clubs do have highly distributed membership. No matter where you participate from, you can still help your club rank high in the Club Challenge.

**Can I enter the Club Challenge If I am an individual or its just me and my buddy?**

No! We feel ARRL and FCC definitions of a club apply to the Club Challenge portion of WFD. You must have a minimum number of individual members participating to join in on the club Challenge.

**If I make a QSO with my club during the event, do those contacts count toward the Club Challenge?**

The WFD rules state: Entrants may not count for QSO credit any contact with anyone who is or was a participant in "their" WFD operation or is present at their WFD location.

If you are at home and will be submitting your own log, you can contact other members of your club who may be at home, operating in a public location, or maybe in another state. If you and a friend are operating 2H, and he contacts you via simplex on his way over, that QSO does not count because you are participating in the same effort.

**If I start off working at my club's site and then go home to operate as 1H, can I submit that log and have it used for the Club Challenge?**

No. You should not even do this. Your club should list you as an operator in the log they submit. You should only participate in 1 effort.



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# In This Issue...

- A word from our President
- Meet the new WFDA Board Members
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- Hot crock pot chili
- Comments from the soapbox



## WINTER FIELD DAY 2023

January 28th - 29th

Start 1900 UTC Saturday

End 18:59 UTC Sunday

## A Message From the President



As many may have heard, Winter Field Day Association has changed hands and has taken on a new board. There are five board members, and we are all volunteers. Later, you will learn more about us, but many other ham radio operators are part of our WFDA advisory board. The advisory board helps with tasks like the website, scoring software, rule suggestions, and more. I want to thank all of them for stepping up and helping continue the mission of Winter Field Day.

The Winter Field Day website has taken on a new look, as you might have noticed. We still have some tweaks and adjustments to get it right, but it's a work in progress. These final changes are a little harder to get right, but soon the field day locator and some back-end security will be improved. We hope this site will be easier to maneuver and more interactive.

We have made some minor changes to the Winter Field Day rules this year. We hope these changes will be clear and help you get the most out of Winter Field Day. In making these changes, we were able to shorten the WFD rules packet. We even added a mobile class and some additional bonuses! We are also working on a FAQ section for rules and hope to have it up on the website by the end of December.

We have new WFD apparel created and sold by Club Gear Online and JSE-Repair. We want to thank them for their donations back to the WFDA and for supporting the WFD event. In turn, please help these businesses that are supporting us by going to the shop tab on our website and getting your Winter Field Day merchandise.

Finally, I want to also thank Icom America for joining us as a corporate sponsor of Winter Field Day. Icom demonstrates a passion for ham radio by supporting several events and organizations each year, and we are pleased that they encourage emergency preparedness through Amateur radio by supporting the WFD event. If you would like to join us as a sponsor, we have different levels of support and would like to recognize you on our website. You can request a sponsorship packet by sending us an email at [wfda@winterfieldday.com](mailto:wfda@winterfieldday.com).

In conclusion, I would like to say that the new Winter Field Day Association is enthusiastic about WFD, and the event will continue for many years. We are excited about the direction we are headed in and look forward to a very busy 2023 Winter Field Day. We wish you much success while practicing your emergency communication skills and hope you use WFD to improve your working knowledge and efficiency.

Marvin Turner  
WFDA President

## Meet The New Board Members



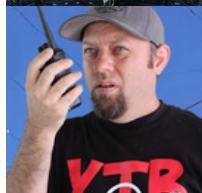
**Marvin Turner WØMET**, a 20-year law enforcement veteran and Extra-class amateur radio operator. Marvin is president of the Stones River Amateur Radio Club and creator of the Ham Radio Guy podcast.



**Mikel Turner, W4OPS** is a graphic designer, copywriter, and owner of ClubGearOnline.com. Mikel is an extra-class amateur radio operator who also sits on the POTA hamfest committee and actively promotes POTA.



**James Copeland KDØICP** is an Extra-class amateur radio operator and morning show host, and engineer at 10,000 watt KGGF-AM in Coffeyville, KS. James serves as secretary and newsletter editor and enjoys traveling and working out of his 1975 Winnebago.



**Jason Johnston KC5HWB** is a Youtuber, and creator of HamRadio2.0. Jason holds a General-class amateur radio license and is very active in promoting ham radio through social media and POTA activations.



**Melinda Birchfeld, KC4CCL** is our newest member of the WFD team. She is our treasurer and has been licensed since 2017. She can be found baking, crafting, or gardening when she is not playing on the radio. Her OM is her Elmer and helps her pursue any facets of the hobby that she finds interesting. is a Technician-class amateur operator

## Past WFD Board

**We salute the past board  
for their vision and  
continued support:**

Tom Phelps W8WFD

Bill Nangle VE3FI

Erik McCord WX4ET

Dave Tabbutt W3DET

Ken Coughlin N8KC

Software and support:  
Jerry Radcliffe N8KLX  
Ray Stevens KB9LGS  
Mike Palmer KD8ENV

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We look forward to the program's continued growth, and though changes will happen, the mission and core principles of WFD will always remain the same.

- Natural disasters are unpredictable and can strike when you least expect them.
- Your training and operating skills should not be limited to fair-weather scenarios.
- Preparedness is the key to a professional and timely response during any event.

We aim to make Winter Field Day a popular communications exercise, with more incentives to participate and clearly defined objectives. We are excited about the future and direction of Winter Field Day.

We are working hard to process all the information we have been handed. We look forward to your participation again this year and in many years to come!



For those who have already looked at the 2023 rules, you may have noticed a few changes. When I started looking at the rules, I saw a lot of repetition and explanation in the 11-page document. So I started editing and deleting and got the 2023 event packet, including an introduction letter, down to 8 pages! So what has changed? Not much, but here are a few major changes and some notable rules for 2023.

Stations from Mexico now have their own location identifier of MX. You can now long Mexican stations with MX instead of DX.

We have added a 4th category which a lot of stations and groups will fall under. M is for all Mobile/Mobile stationary stations. Now, if you are operating in anything that has the potential to be mobile, like an RV, car, van, cargo trailer, sailboat, plane, or bike, you will fall under the M category. Mobile stations that are actually moving or roving during the event and using a standard vehicle antenna will get a 250-point mobile bonus. Mobile stationary stations that put up external antennas or remain at a fixed point will not get the 250-point bonus.

We have also added an antenna bonus for those who are setting up a non-pre-existing antenna for field day. If you go through the effort of setting up an antenna for the event, you get 500 bonus points.

Finally, we have changed or clarified our stance on solicited QSOs. During the event and via the airwaves, you can request QSO's.

This means you can tell someone, "Hey, do you want to go down to 40 meters and see if we can make contact there?". This is valid. You may need to change bands to accommodate communications in an emergency situation, so feel free to practice doing that. The use of spotting clusters, APRS, Winlink, and other Amateur radio-related communication paths is allowed during the event. You cannot use social media or other technology, including cell phones, to solicit QSOs before or during the event. You cannot preplan any QSOs either.

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[Read the full rules here](#)

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As of this printing, the latest version of the rules is 12.12.22

In the future, we hope to revise things even more and give you more guidelines and fewer rules. Remember, this is a communications exercise, and in real emergencies, we have to be flexible and adaptable to provide the best service to our affiliated organizations.

Good luck during WFD 2023. I hope to work you on the air.

## Connect with us



<https://www.facebook.com/groups/winterfieldday>



<https://discord.com/invite/JzVX2PuGSv>



<https://twitter.com/winterfieldday>



<https://www.instagram.com/winterfieldday/>

## Support our Sponsors

We are excited to have Icom America as a sponsor for WFD 2023. Show your appreciation and shop ICOM for all great amateur radios.



# HOT TENTS OF WFD

By James KDØICP

There's no question that hams like to combine multiple hobbies. The popularity of programs like Parks on the Air proves there's a great interest in combining ham radio and the great outdoors. But as we know, Winter Field Day can bring some challenging cold conditions. Enter the world of Hot Tents.

While tents with stoves are nothing new, and pioneers would probably laugh at us for "rediscovering" something, hot tent camping has recently enjoyed increased popularity. It seems to be a natural fit for Winter Field Day. Take a look at the KG7SPL club's setup, for instance. A nice wood-burning stove not only keeps the operators warm, but it also keeps the coffee hot! There are plenty of racks for off-duty operators as well. WØKNG's setup is more of a family-size operation with a commercial-made Snowtrekker brand tent.

Of course, with anything, there's a learning curve too hot tent camping, but it may be something you might want to look into so you don't "freeze your keys off." An excellent intro to hot tent camping is available here.



KG7SPL, Corvallis Post 91, The American Legion - MT.  
10 x 12 on left, 14 x 16 on right



Inside the KG7SPL tent.



WØKNG's Snowtrekker tent (on right).



BRUSH UP ON THAT

**CW**

FOR WFD

Whether you're a seasoned CW pro or starting out, you may need to familiarize yourself with the Winter Field Day exchange. Either way, Kurt Zoglmann, ADØWE, has you covered with his Winter Field Day Exchange and Winter Field Day Exchanges Encore on the practice page of his Morse Code Ninja site.

Kurt's approach to learning Morse Code is unique and worth your time, even if you know the code and want to increase your speed. Thank you, Kurt, for sharing this tip and a great resource for WFD!

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Fight inflation and rising energy costs; heat your shack with tubes this winter and save!

**The Frozen  
Feedline  
Needs You!**

Got a great WFD story to share? Heating your tent with vacuum tubes this year? Let us know! We would love to share your WFD story with others. Just email us: [wfda@winterfieldday.com](mailto:wfda@winterfieldday.com)



# WFD Safety Tips



## Outdoor Safety Tips:

- Listen to the weather forecast
- Listen for a wind chill warning
- Plan ahead
- Dress warmly
- Seek shelter
- Stay dry
- Keep active
- Be aware of changing conditions
- Dress appropriately
- Let others know your plans
- Drink Water
- Bring a flashlight and extra batteries

## Know the symptoms of cold stress

- Cold stress refers to cold-related illnesses that occur when the body can no longer maintain its normal temperature. Low temperatures, wind chill, and wetness contribute to the body's loss of heat. Cold-related illnesses include trench foot, frostbite, and hypothermia, all of which have possible long-term effects. Call for immediate help if you experience any of these cold stress conditions:
- Trench foot is a severe and painful condition of the feet caused by standing in cold water or mud for long periods. Symptoms include redness, tingling, pain, swelling, leg cramps, numbness, and blisters.
- Frostbite is an injury caused by the freezing of skin and tissue. Symptoms may include pain, tingling, numbness, clumsiness due to joint or muscle stiffness, hard or waxy-looking skin, or red, white, bluish-white, or grayish-yellow skin. In severe cases, large blisters may occur after rewarming, turning into hard, black skin as the tissue dies.
- Hypothermia occurs when normal body temperature decreases to less than 95 degrees. Signs of hypothermia include shivering, exhaustion, memory loss, slurred speech, jittery hands, sleepiness, and loss of consciousness.

# Grab Your Gear

Winter Field day is almost here. Visit the shop page on our website to grab some all new WFD flags, apparel, patches, and more.

[ClubGearOnline.Com](http://ClubGearOnline.Com)

**JSE** ★★★★★  
Custom Embroidery & DTG Printing  
Hats - Jackets - Shirts  
Est. 2009



# Hot Crock Pot Chili

## Ingredients:

- 2 pounds lean ground beef
- (2) 10.75-oz cans tomato soup
- 2 ½ cups water
- 2 medium yellow onions diced
- (2) 15-oz cans chili beans drained, mild or hot
- (2) 16-oz cans pinto beans rinsed and drained
- (2) 10-oz cans Rotel with green chiles
- 3 Tablespoons Worcestershire sauce
- 2 Tablespoons garlic salt
- 6 Tablespoons chili powder
- 1 teaspoon ground cumin
- 1 teaspoon black pepper

## 1. COOK MEAT AND ONIONS:

2. In a large 12- inch skillet cook ground beef over medium-high heat until almost cooked all the way through.
3. Add onions and cook until soft, about 4-5 minutes
4. Drain off the grease and add the meat and onions to the crockpot.
5. Add all other ingredients to crockpot and stir will.
6. Cook on LOW for 4-5 hours or HIGH for 2 - 3 hours.
7. Serve immediately with your favorite toppings.

# Are you **PREPARED?**

Winter Field Day is just around the corner, so now is the time to prepare and get ready. Unload your gear and take a look at it, gather your supplies, start making checklists, and prepare your plan.

We have included several resources on our website to help you in 2023. Check out our resources to view popular logging programs, operating aids, FAQs, past newsletters, and more.

[Check out all our 2023 WFD Resources here](#)

Thank you for an excellent event. The major snowstorm that hit this area helped emphasize WINTER! I operated at POTA site in my uninsulated car without spotting. Next time I plan to operate on more bands and modes, as well as spend more time in the contest. Need to bundle up even more. Best 73 Steve KA2YRA

Difficult conditions - poor propagation and cold and snowy. I was pleased to make the one contact I did in about an hour and a half of operating. It was fun! VY1KX - Yukon Amateur Radio Association

Using shore power, the Disaster Response Trailer (DRT), owned by St Paul's Lutheran Church of Artois was employed as the coms center for WFD. Glenn Amateur Radio Society (GARS) collaborates with the congregation providing the coms element of the disaster response mission. An IC-7300 was connected to a multi-band end fed 1/2 wave antenna strung between a flagpole mast attached to the DRT and an 80' pine tree thus providing an E/W primary signal pattern. TX power was 100W - KM6ZVR, Glenn Amateur Radio Society

A great contest that was fun to do. 15m opened but I had some fading on both 20 and 15. Thanks for all that worked me and those that stayed in there to give me a contact, even when it was niosy here in the City. Thanks to all. 73 Rick VE3BK

Rig is an MFJ-9420 travel radio with outboard frequency counter and inverted v antenna at about one quarter wavelength above ground. Operating outdoors on battery power at a public park called River Place Park, Port Saint Lucie, FL. - W2LVK

