

1



# Indiana QSO Party

Prepared by

Mel Crichton, KJ9C

2



## What is a QSO Party?

- Short operating event
  - 8 hours to 2 days (IN QP is 12 hours)
- Theme
  - Geographic - state, call area
  - Club QSO Party - FISTS, QCWA, FOC
- Usually scored like a contest
  - Points for contacts (2 CW, 1 SSB in INQP)
  - Multipliers (states, DX, IN counties)
  - OK to re-Work mobiles/rovers after they change counties

3



## What state parties?

- Almost every state has one
  - in every month of the year
- Also regional parties this weekend
  - 7QP, New England QP, etc.
- Indiana QSO Party (INQP) is first Saturday in May (May 2, 2020)
  - 160-10 meters (no WARC), SSB & CW

4



## What activity is planned?

- Most QPs have a web page & reflector
  - E-Mail plans, questions, discuss and brag
  - Activity map or list
- INQP has both:
  - Info, rules & map at [www.hdxcc.org/inqp](http://www.hdxcc.org/inqp)
  - Reflector is at <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/inqp/>

5



# Planned Activity map



many mobiles, portables and rovers

6



## Why do IN QP?

- Be the target of a pileup (feels like being DX)
  - Rare county or on a county line = REALLY busy!
- Shake down your mobile/portable station
  - Test the Field Day setup
  - Test emergency equipment under 12 hour load
- Improve contest & message handling skills
- Improve CW skills or get over mic. fright
- Fill the log - can make MANY QSOs in 12 hrs
- Prizes

7



## 2019 IN QP

- 322 logs submitted
- 91 of 92 counties with at least one station
- Over 100 IN stations on the air
- Results are posted on website
  - [www.hdxcc.org/inqp](http://www.hdxcc.org/inqp)



# Changes for 2020

NONE PLANNED AT THIS TIME (February)

BUT...

CLARIFICATIONS MAY BE MADE BEFORE MAY

CHECK THE RULES AT:

<http://www.hdxcc.org/inqp/rules.html>



9



## What skills do I need?

- One or both of 2 modes:
  - INQP is 160-10, SSB and CW
- The desire to make contacts
  - Butt in chair up to 12 hours
- Ability to keep a legible log (more later)

# 10



## My Station?

- There's always HF activity in a QSO party
  - 40 meters most popular (local and DX QSOs)
- Rig, antennas, logging system
  - Fixed station - 100 watts and **low** dipole : 80,40,20
    - 10-15 will likely be less busy in 2019
  - Mobile - 20-40-80 meters and CW are advantages
  - Portable/Rover - good antennas are a plus
- Operators - Tech's can operate SSB and CW on some HF bands or guest/club operate on all bands

11



Don't think about winning

Think about:

- Making Indiana heard
- Improving your skills
- Improving your station
- Having FUN!

12



## Logging?

- Indiana accepts small handwritten logs
  - Manual re-entry is required, meaning.....
  - Entry error potential = **loss of score**
- Prefer computer-generated data files via e-mail
  - Accuracy guaranteed, easier to score
  - Cabrillo format advised, but not required in Indiana
  - Most logging programs create acceptable entry files
    - TR4W, WriteLog, NA, N3FJP, LOGic, CQ/X
    - N1MM+ is free, works for simultaneous state QP's
  - LAST RESORT - An Excel data base.....
    - Minimum data: Date-time-band-mode- station worked-his QTH

# 13



## Scoring?

- No need to score your log
  - Log checker does that anyway
  - You can calculate unofficial CLAIMED score
- How about INQP weekend with Four\* QPs going on at once?
  - Generate ONE log, let the log checker throw out the QSOs that do not apply
  - Logging program in GENERAL QSO mode or use N1MM Logger, others (tet before May 6!!!)

\* INQP, 7QP, DEQP and NEQP... also Italian ARI contest



# The EXCHANGE

**Send signal report and your county. Examples of your messages:**

**“CQ INQP KJ9C KJ9C in Indiana” (W0AG calls)**

**“W0AG 5-9 INHAM” (W0AG sends 59 TN)**

**“Thanks. KJ9C INQP”**

**Note that the county abbreviation for logging is FIVE characters that start with “IN”... so INHAM is for Hamilton county Indiana.**

**Use the county list at**

**<http://www.hdxcc.org/inqp/counties.html>**

15



## How high can I score?

- Fixed stations -
  - HP 900 QSOs - LP 500 QSOs - M/M 1800+
- Portable
  - HP 1200+ QSOs (accounts for county line x2)
  - LP 500 QSOs (one county)
- Mobile - 100 watts - 600+ QSOs
- Club total- over 350 K points- easy target!!!
- RECORDS FOR EACH COUNTY BY CLASS
  - See INQP web page

16



## PRIZES?

- Certificates for notable effort
- Plaques for top scores in INQP classes
- Worked All States, USACA awards
- Worked All Indiana Award



17



## IN QP Prizes ?

- Sponsored Plaques for top scores in:
  - HP, LP, QRP single op fixed stations Indiana
  - HP, LP, QRP out of state
  - Top multi-operator (M/S and M/M) entry from Indiana
  - Indiana mobile
  - Indiana portable
  - Indiana Rover
  - Top from Black Hole (Basically SMC outside Indiana)
  - Top W1 and W7 entries
- **CLUB AGGREGATE** plaque (sponsor HDXCC)
  - 3 or more club members participate - see rules
- Certificate for county winner - possible



# Awards

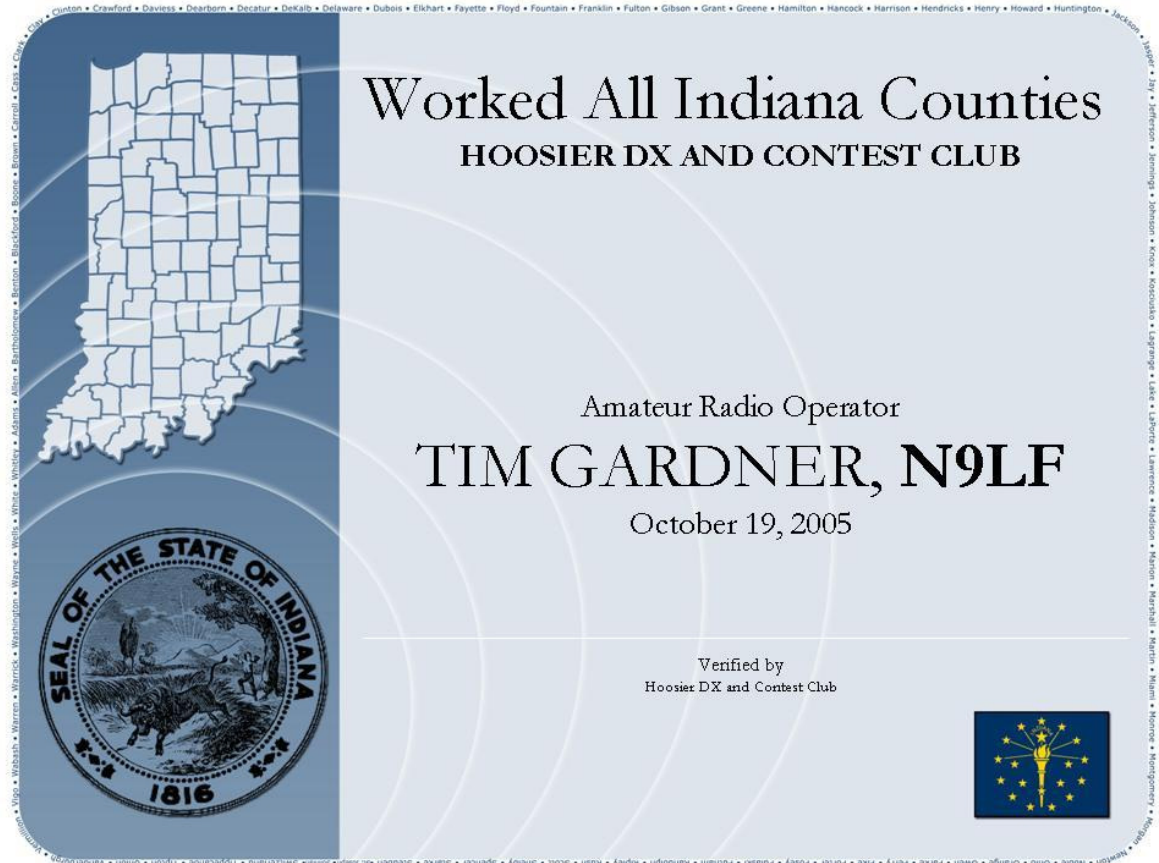


19



# Worked All Indiana

- Info at [www.hdxcc.org/wai](http://www.hdxcc.org/wai)
- QSL 60 of the 92 counties
  - Cards or INQP log confirmation



20



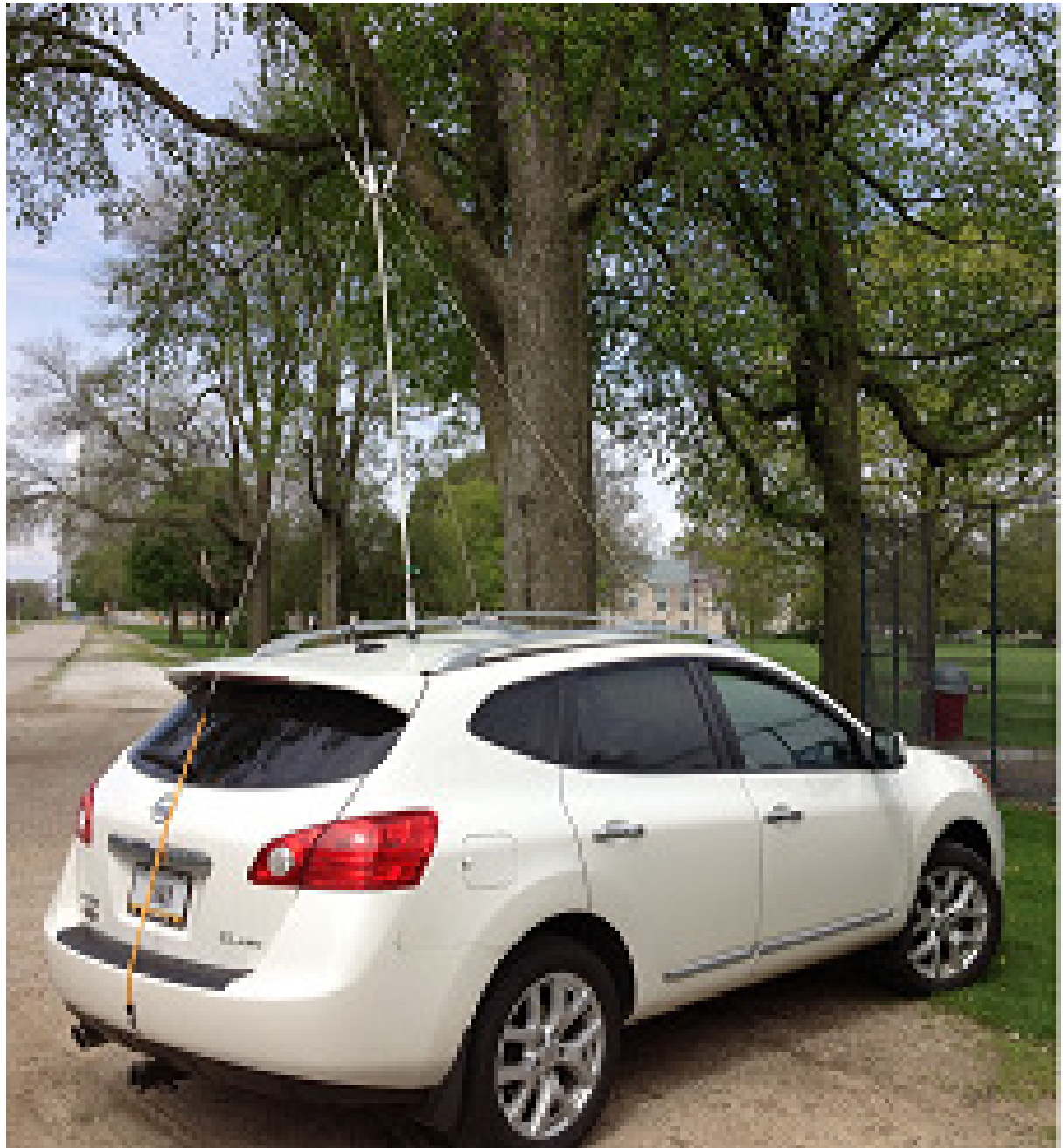
## Mobiles always welcome

- 12 volt radio and reliable battery
- \$15 Hamstick - or more \$\$\$ antenna
- Computer log on laptop interface to rig
  - easier than paper, especially on the move
- A map and a PLAN
- Options to make life easier:
  - GPS and mapping software (espec. if aero mobile)
  - Driver (or a pilot) = safety

20



**K9WX/m**





22



KJ9C/m  
solo op





23



# WN90 rover (W9IU Op)



24



# Murphy may strike

have alternate routes





25



# WAOKGU - Porcupine Mobile



26



KB9AX/aero mobile  
Dan (pilot) & Dave N9KT (opr)



27



K5KG/m  
FL QSO  
Party

(Legal for  
highway  
travel?)



28



## Portable?



- Portable = One location only, temporary setup (Field Day style)
- Can operate from a two county line

29



N9FN/p





30



N9FN/p



31



## Rover?



- Can be a mobile that stops to erect temporary antennas (antennas may be set up day before)
- Can be a "Field Day" setup that changes locations (new county, can be worked again)
- Mobile = Antennas must be usable while traveling (land, air, water) but may park 100% of the operating time
- Portable = One location only, temporary setup (Field Day style)

32



WN9O  
(rover)





33



# WN9O/portable



34



# WN90 (Station A&B)



35



# WN90 (Station C)





36



## What can I do now?

- Visit the INQP website
  - <http://www.hdxcc.org/inqp>
- Subscribe to the Yahoo INQP reflector
  - Option - Hourly, daily or weekly updates
- Look at the Operating Tips in the INQP Publicity Package on the INQP website
- Stir up activity in your club

# 37



## May 2, 2020

1500-0300 UTC (12 hours)

- Make plans to be on from home
  - (invite guest ops, be a M/S or M/M)
- Spot the mobiles and rovers!!!
  - (But be careful how you use spotting network)
- Take it on the road yourself:
  - Mobile - in 3-20 counties. Sit on a line for double points (and be a double multiplier).
  - As a portable (or Rover) (get landowner's OK)
  - Find a county where you can set a new record (INQP records are on the website)
  - Prepare for the pileups



# New Contest

## State QSO Party Challenge

- Recognize radio amateur participation in US State and Canadian Province QSO Parties.
- 47 parties in all
- Scoring:
  - Total number of contacts X Number of QSO Parties entered.
- "Entered" means at least 2 QSOs.
- Scores submitted to [3830Scores.com](http://3830Scores.com) (but please also send in your log to help the QP scorers)

Info at <http://stateqsoparty.com/>

39



QUESTIONS ???

Mel KJ9C- [kj9c@arrl.net](mailto:kj9c@arrl.net)

Mark WB9CIF -  
[markmusick@outlook.com](mailto:markmusick@outlook.com)