

WoUO

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160 Meter Contesting

Where is the DX?

Propagation

Propagation - Summary

- Study the band, get to know its characteristics
- Learn to spot changes in propagation and how to exploit them

Transmitting

Antenna Requirements

Transmitting Antennas - Summary

- Success on 160 meters depends on careful attention to your antennas, both transmitting and receiving
- There are no short cuts
- Cut ground system losses as much as possible
- Don't be misled by manufacturer's claims
- You can't get something for nothing

Receiving

Antenna Requirements

Receiving Antennas - Summary

- Your transmitting antenna will be too noisy for receiving
- Try some of the many receiving antennas until you find one that works for you
- Be careful to decouple it from your transmit antenna
- “Any receiving antenna will be better than no receiving antenna”

An easy area for improvement

Receivers

Receivers - Summary

- If you can't hear 'em, you can't work 'em
- Proper use of your receiver will produce quick results
- Use appropriate levels of attenuation
- If necessary use the RF Gain control to protect DSP circuits from overload
- Good selectivity is a must

Where's the Action

Three Major Contests

Major Contests -Summary

- ARRL 160 Meter Contest
 - Mixture of Domestic and DX Contest
- CQ 160 Meter Contests
 - Mixture of Domestic and DX Contest
- Stew Perry Top Band Distance Challenge
 - Distance based scoring emphasizing ability to hear

How to do it

Operating the Contests

Operating the Contest - Summary

- Be on the air when contacts can be made
- Keep up your rate
- Know when and where to look for multipliers
- Make sure every QSO is a good one
- Time in the chair produces results

How well did you do?

Evaluating your Results

Example from 3830.com

- See the Handout for score information

Example from the Stew Perry

- See the Handout for Score Information

Additional Resources

- Log Checking Reports
- Soapbox
- Reverse Beacon Network
- DX Summit

Resources

- Top Band Reflector
 - Accessible through Contesting.com
- Low Band Dxing by ON4UN
- W8JI Website (*w8ji.com*)
- K1FZ Beverage Notes
www.qsl.net/k1fz/beveragenotes.html