



**Contests for Non-Contesters!**

**Steve Dove W3EEE**

# Contesting for Non-Contesters

This isn't 'How to be a Contester'

This is 'How to use contests to your own ends'

How to grasp the environment

pick and choose your own goal

And a few hints and tips along the way.

# Agenda:

**.Why even bother?**

- reasons to be cheerful

**TIME is EVERYTHING**

- but no TARDIS required

**The best contests for what**

**THEY want to work YOU!**

- they're good at it

**Assimilating painlessly**

- a little patience and time

**How to make a contest QSO**

- and no, I'm not kidding

**Hints and other misdemeanours**

# Getting up to speed . . .

. . . **literally**

**Pick a CQ'er and laser in on him**

**Find a weak CQ'er and laser in on him**

**Trawl the band**

**Congratulations!**

# How to QSO - how contest QSOs work

-

# How to QSO - how contest QSOs work

Him: CQ G3FXB Golf Three Foxtrot Xray Bravo contest

Me: Whisky Three EchoEchoEcho

Him: W3EEE 5914

Me: 5905

Him: G3FXB contest

That's IT! Just the biz. Let's unpack it.

# How to QSO - how contest QSOs work

Him: CQ G3FXB Golf Three Foxtrot Xray Bravo contest

Me: Whisky Three EchoEchoEcho

Him: W3EKH 5914

Me: “Negative negative NEGATIVE!!!! Whisky Three EchoEchoEcho

Whisky Three EchoEchoEcho Whisky Three EchoEchoEcho!!!!”

# How to QSO - how contest QSOs work

Him: CQ G3FXB Golf Three Foxtrot Xray Bravo contest

Me: Whisky Three EchoEchoEcho

Him: W3EKH 5914

Me: Whisky Three EchoEchoEcho - a simple repeat

Him: W3EEE 5914

Me: thanks 5905

Him: cheers G3FXB contest

# How to QSO - how contest QSOs work

Him: CQ G3FXB Golf Three Foxtrot Xray Bravo contest

Me: Whisky Three EchoEchoEcho

Him: W3EEE 59 mumble-mumble

Me: again report? - an error flag

Him: W3EEE 5914 - a simple repeat

Me: thanks 5905

Him: cheers G3FXB contest

# How to QSO - how contest QSOs work

Him: CQ G3FXB Golf Three Foxtrot Xray Bravo contest

Me: Whisky Three EchoEchoEcho

Him: W3EEE 5914

Me: mumble-mumble

Him: again report? - an error flag

Me: 5905 - a simple repeat

Him: cheers G3FXB contest

# How to QSO - hanging offenses

.Cutesy phonetics

- NATO phonetics only

“QSL the...”

“Please copy...”

“I repeat...”

“Roger that.”

“Over”

“Good luck in the contest”

# How to QSO - when to call

Grind beans. Put kettle on. Slow filter. Luxuriate. Call

Wait and see who else is calling him. Call

“One Mississippi, two Mississippi”. Call

Take a deep breath. Call

# How to QSO - when to call

Grind beans. Put kettle on. Slow filter. Luxuriate. Call

Wait and see who else is calling him. Call

“One Mississippi, two Mississippi”. Call

Take a deep breath. Call

**CALL! IMMEDIATELY!**

# Hints, Kinks, and other misdemeanours

Sunday afternoons - the DX will be lined up begging - easy pickings

Make a dozen QSO's - your call will then be in the database

Be on the highest band that's open - best signals, least QRM

Europe opens at daybreak on the high bands

US mostly asleep say 2.a.m. to daybreak

If you've got it, flaunt it - -power, that is

Spotting sites are a two-edged sword.

# Contesting for Non-Contesters

**TIME is EVERYTHING**

**Contesters aren't necessarily any more evil, they're just faster at it**

**They CAN and WILL hear you - eventually**

**Figure out the contest and exchange,**

**come up to speed gently, and**

**Work the World!**



**Thank you!**

**Steve Dove W3EEE**