

26th Annual/Anniversary WASH Two Meter Contest Rules

This January marks the Twenty-Sixth Annual **WASH** 2 Meter Simplex Contest. We're looking forward for a chance to stretch our legs, our wheels, and our antennas once again!

Join us for a fun operating event, where you can hear some old friends, and maybe make some new ones, as well as net yourself a free Door Prize Ticket for **WASHFest 2026** just for submitting a log!

See you on the air!

Date & Times: Saturday, January 10th, 2026 from 7 to 9 PM EST.

Objectives:

- ♦ To have fun!
- ♦ To make as many contacts as possible
- ♦ To have fun!

Band, Mode & Frequencies: The contest will take place solely on 2 meter band.

FM : FM simplex only, no repeater contacts. The FM frequencies are all standard 2 Meter simplex frequencies, as per the ARRL 2 Meter Band Plan, every **15 kHz**, from **146.505 to 146.595 MHz**, and **147.450 to 147.580 MHz**.

Use of simplex frequencies in the "FM Experimental Simplex" band of 145.510 to 145.670 are not recommended. See list of recommended simplex channels at the end of the rules.

CW: 144.05 to 144.1 MHz Only. (See ARRL 2 Meter band plan)

→ **Note:** Listen for CW QSO's around 144.1 MHz 15 minutes after the hour

SSB & AM: 144.2 to 144.275 MHz Only. (See ARRL 2 Meter band plan). →

Listen for SSB & AM QSO's around 144.2 MHz 30 minutes after the hour

Digital (including RTTY): 144.51 to 144.55 MHz. (See ARRL 2 Meter band plan) Multiple digital modes may be used, and participants are free to use any generally accepted Digital mode, but only ONE Digital QSO with a given station regardless of mode

→ Listen for Digital QSO's around 144.51 MHz 45 minutes after the hour

Important: If accidental QRM occurs with QSO's already in progress, please respect their use of the frequency and move (QSY) accordingly. Any operator found deliberately causing interference will be subject to disqualification.

Power Limit: Maximum 100 watts output.

Exchange : Callsign, ZIP Code. **CONTACT # IS NO LONGER REQUIRED (THIS IS NEW THIS YEAR; this is like Field Day).**

For the purposes of the contest, the 5 Digit ZIP Code for your location is sufficient — do not use the "Zip +4" code. Mobiles and portables should use the ZIP code of their location as determined to the best of their ability. Canadian stations will use their 6 digit postal code

Example 1: "N3ZCG from W8XK, my zip is 15236."

Example 2: "K3VX from K3CR, please copy, 16802"

Example 3: "W3WH from W3OC, 15137"

Contacts : Work as many different calls and locations as possible, giving Exchange as noted above. Work each station once per mode, and **once** per ZIP Code — Mobiles can be reworked whenever they change locations. Remember hilltops work best!

Disqualification: Remember, this is a friendly "for fun" contest. Stations may be disqualified for infractions of the rules and for unacceptable operating practices. While not an inclusive list, stations may be disqualified for:

- FM signals transmitted on simplex channels below 146.505 MHz.
- Intentional interference to non-contesters, nets, & QSO's
- Intentional interference to other contest operators
- ...And the use of remotely operated equipment.

The committee reserves the right to verify QSO's. QSO's that can not be verified may be removed from the log without penalty.

For **Basic Points**, Each Contact Made:

→ A change of ZIP code resets being able to work a previous callsign.

→ If you are fixed, and work W1AW (Mobile) twice, once from one ZIP code, then again at another, that would be TWO contacts.

Phone (FM, SSB, AM):	1 point
CW:	2 points
Digital (any mode):	2 points

Power Multipliers:

If you're running 10 watts or less output:	3
If you're running over 10 up to 30 watts output:	2
If you're running over 30 watts output:	1

Scoring Calculations:

If you are a **fixed** station, accumulate your contacts based on your mode, then apply your power MULTIPLIER, then multiply that number by the number of unique zip codes.

Final Score = Total contacts x Power Multiplier x # of unique zip codes multiplier

For **Mobile Stations:** The same as above PLUS the number of unique zip codes operated FROM. Mobile operators get an additional multiplier since they do more work by driving.

Remember, the additional zip code multiplier can ONLY be used by those driving

New this year: Internet logging and scoring. No more mailed in paperwork. You may use the web based logging/scoring web page in realtime as you operate or you may transfer your data to the online form after the contest. The link to the logger is being sent out to everyone on the WASH mailing list. The logger is a HTML file that you save to your browser and works on multiple platforms. We encourage everyone to save the logger to your system as soon as it goes out, then play with it first BEFORE the contest. **RECOMMENDATION:** When testing, use a bogus callsign for yourself because the backup files will use your callsign in the filename and you don't want your practice files to get mixed in with the actual contest files. Again, play with the logger before the contest. As you go from one contact to the next, the file will save each time and you may have many files with different time stamps. This is a safety precaution. All the files will be saved on YOUR device, not online. More details to follow.

Entry Deadline: February 1st, 2026

Logs submitted online will have their ticket available at the **WASH** Club table.

Recommended FM Simplex Frequencies:

146.505 MHz	146.580 MHz	147.510 MHz	146.520 MHz (*)
147.450 MHz	147.525 MHz	146.535 MHz	147.465 MHz
147.540 MHz	146.550 MHz	147.480 MHz	147.555 MHz
146.565 MHz	147.495 MHz	147.570 MHz	

Simplex channels below 146.505 MHz are not to be used, as many of these are in use in WPA as repeater input frequencies.

(*) The National Simplex Frequency, 146.520 MHz, may be used.

However, many stations use 52 for casual conversation or as a calling frequency. If the frequency is in use or becomes used by non-participants, please permit them to use the frequency unimpeded.

To avoid interference to other contestants and other users of the bands, please do not operate on 5 or 10 kHz "offsets" from these recognized FM channels.

More information about the frequency selection can be found in the FAQ section on Page 5 of the Contest Rules, Email Glen, KE7FD at gorbortsdb@gmail.com.

