14th Annual Two Meter Contest
Rules, Entry Form, Log Sheet

N3SH
WA3SH
NP2SH

Wireless Association of South Hills

This January will mark the Fourteenth Annual ***WASH*** 2 Meter Contest. We've already had a lot of interest in it, and this year promises to be even more exciting! Everyone who participated in it the last thirteen years had a blast, & we hope to continue the tradition again this year!

Rules were been revised before last year's event, following feedback from participants, and we have a new address for mailing your logs — please make certain that you use this year's address!

Date & Times: Saturday, January 11th, 2014 from 7 to 11 PM EST. (That's January 12th 0000-0400 UTC to the purists!)

Objectives:

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

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

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

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

In the event of accidental QRM with nets and non-contest QSO's in progress, please respect their right to the frequency and QSY.

Power Limit: Maximum 100 watts output.

Exchange : Callsign, contact number, ZIP Code.

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, please copy Number 3, 15347."

Example 2: "K3VX from K3CM, please copy Number 21, 16801"

Example 3: "W3WH from W3OC, please copy Number 7, 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
- The committee reserves the right to verify QSO's. QSO's that can not be verified may be removed from the log without penalty.

Scoring: Each Contact:

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

Multipliers: Locations (Number of different ZIP Codes)

Power:

Stations running 10 watts output or less:	3
Stations running over 10 up to 30 watts output:	2
Stations running over 30 watts output:	1

Final Score: Total Points x Locations x Power

After the Contest: Fill out all the log information. In the upper left corner check whether "base" or "mobile." In the upper right corner be sure to enter your callsign and club affiliation (or "none" if not a member of any club). Please number all log sheets consecutively. Log sheets can be downloaded from the ***WASH*** web site, **www.n3sh.org**, no later than January 1st.

Submit Log Sheets:: Check your log sheets carefully for dupes. Verify that all information is entered.

Send the logs to: **** Correct Address for 2014 ****
WASH 2 Meter Simplex Contest
c/o Ron Notarius W3WN
3395 Rosewood Drive
Castle Shannon, PA 15234-2546

Enclose a #10 SASE for return of results.
Entry Deadline: February 1st, 2014

Each log submitted on or before the deadline will receive one (1) main prize ticket to *WASH*Fest 2014 on February 23rd

Logs submitted with an SASE will have their ticket mailed to them, otherwise, the tickets will be 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.

WIRELESS ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH HILLS
2 Meter Simplex Contest
Entry Form

Name _____ Call _____

Address _____ Club _____

_____ _____

City _____ State & Zip _____

E-Mail _____

Hope you had fun!
See you next year… January 10th, 2015!

Scoring Summary

Total Phone QSOs		**X 1**	
Total CW QSOs		**X 2**	
Total Digital QSOs		**X 2**	
Total QSO's		Total Points	
	Total Unique ZIP Codes	**X**	
		=	
Power Multiplier	0 to 10 W: X 3 > 10 to 30 W : X 2 > 30 W: X 1	**X**	
	FINAL SCORE	=	

Signature _____

All entries received with SASE on or before deadline will receive one Main Prize Raffle Ticket to ***WASH*Fest 2014**, February 23rd, 2013, Castle Shannon VFD Memorial Hall, Route 88 (Library Road) at Grove Road, Castle Shannon PA. Results will be printed in the March 2014 issue of the ***WASH*Rag**, available at www.n3sh.org, or send an email to wa3sh-subscribe@yahoogroups.com.

All submissions become the property of the WIRELESS ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH HILLS. The decisions of the judges will be final.

Please mail this form along with a copy of your log and an SASE to:

WASH 2 Meter Simplex Contest
c/o Ron Notarius W3WN
3395 Rosewood Drive
Castle Shannon, PA 15235-2546

Entry Deadline: February 1st, 2014

WIRELESS ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH HILLS

2 Meter Simplex Contest Log Sheet

Call:_____ Date:_____ Page # _____ of _____

NR	CALL	TIME	MODE (FM, CW, SSB, AM , DIGITAL)	NR RCVD	ZIP CODE RECEIVED	NOTES
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WIRELESS ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH HILLS

2 Meter Simplex Contest Log Sheet

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Frequently Asked Questions

Q: Why is the contest in January?

A: Why not? Seriously, we were looking for a date in the winter with few local conflicts, and the 2nd full weekend in January seemed to fit the bill.

Q: Wasn't this originally an FM Only contest?

A: We had many requests to expand beyond FM, since there are more and more multi-mode rigs available than ever. Those who've tried it seem to like it, so we've stuck with it!

Q: Why the odd choice of frequencies?

A: We deliberately kept and are keeping the FM frequencies to those 146.52 MHz & above so that those who wish to communicate, but not participate, in the contest have frequencies available to do so. The SSB & CW frequency range is based on the ARRL Band Plan for 2 Meters and should avoid interference with weak signal and other types of operating modes.

Q: Isn't that a lot of trouble for a 4 hour contest on a Saturday?

A: You might think so, but there is quite a lot of activity going on that you may not be aware of. We had some complaints from people trying to work friends simplex, and even a few simplex nets that we weren't aware of, upset that the contest had interrupted their routines. So again, if you hear an existing net operating, or someone coming on your frequency asking you to clear for a net or a schedule, please be courteous enough to relinquish the frequency. You may not be required to do so under FCC §97 Rules, but we are asking you to do so as part of being a contest participant.

Q: Who can I work?

A: Anyone who wants to work you. Distance is not an issue; we've had FM simplex contacts covering over 100 miles in the past, and stations from OH, WV, and MD joining in. If you can hear them, you can work them!

Q: Can I work someone more than once?

A: You can work each station **once per mode**. And mobile stations can be worked **once per mode from each ZIP code they operate from.**

Q: Why ZIP codes?

A: We wanted to tie the multiplier to geography in some way. Counties were too big. The first year, we tried municipal names… and that turned out to be unwieldy. So unless we want to come up with an arbitrary grid (like the **Breezeshooters** did for the Groundwave contest), the ZIP code seemed to be the best compromise.

Q: Are you really sending a ***WASH*Fest** main prize ticket to anyone who sends in an entry by the deadline?

A: Yes! All we ask is that you include an SASE for us to mail it back to you. No SASE? Your ticket will be waiting for you at the ***WASH*** club table

Q: Anything else I need to know?

A: Above all else, this contest is designed to be fun. Go out and have some fun with it!

Remember

The *WASH* 2 Meter Contest is supposed to be a Fun Contest.

Go out and have some fun working people for four hours on a cold and quiet January Saturday evening!

About the Recommended FM Simplex Frequencies:

After the first year of the contest, we found that the limited number of frequencies suggested in the rules were insufficient for the activity level. In subsequent years, we permitted use of any recognized simplex frequency, as per the ARRL recommended guidelines published in the annual ARRL Repeater Directory and other sources, above 146.520 MHz.

You will note that many of these frequencies are listed as potential dual use, with a "local option" for them to be used for repeater inputs and outputs.

After discussions with Frank Bobro N3FB, Repeater Coordinator for the Western Pennsylvania Repeater Council (WPRC), we have determined that the following simplex frequencies are recommended for use. Use of those that are "dual use" are not expected to cause issues for any known repeaters.

Remember that good amateur practice indicates that should a contest participant be notified that they are inadvertently causing interference to a coordinated repeater that is using a recognized simplex channel, they should immediately cease use of that frequency in favor of, and out of respect for, the existing repeater.

The following list of recommended frequencies are recognized as standard simplex channels and should not suffer from co-channel problems with any existing repeaters:

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.

Bottom line: Enjoy the contest, but do so responsibly.

Suggested Operating Techniques

1. **If you hear someone calling "CQ Contest" (aka "running a frequency") and you haven't already worked them, call them.**
2. **If you hear someone "running a frequency" and no one answers them, do not jump on the frequency to call "CQ Contest" yourself. You may be covering up someone they hear that you don't, it's their frequency until it's relinquished, and it's rude. If they quit and change frequency, then and only then, feel free to call "CQ Contest" yourself.**
3. **Someone running a frequency will be called by stations you haven't worked yet. Jumping on that frequency to call those stations is poor operating procedure, and is quite rude. The frequency "belongs" the station running it until they relinquish it — first come, first served.**
4. **Yes, rude behavior can be grounds for disqualification. Please be a considerate operator and remember, everyone is trying to have fun, not just you!**
5. **If you come across a QSO of non-contesters, or a net about to start, feel free to ask them for a contact. If they decline, politely acknowledge and change frequency.**
6. **Do not stray out of the suggested frequencies. Please leave them free for non-contesters to operate on.**
7. **And finally:**

Have a great time and enjoy the contest!

WASHfest 2014

*The South Hills Hamfest — Now in our **NINETEENTH** big year!*

Sponsored by the WIRELESS ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH HILLS AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC.

Sunday, February 23rd, 2014
8:00 AM until 3:00 PM Rain or Shine (or Snow!)
Castle Shannon VFD Memorial Hall
3600 Library Road (State Route 88), Castle Shannon, PA
Talk-In on 146.955(-) and 443.650(+) 131.8 PL

HRIA Ham Radio Insurance Associates
HOTEL . ROMEO . INDIA . ALPHA

(800) 545-8881

DXCC Card Checking Available!
Thanks Art Lund NQ3A

Breakfast & Lunch provided by *JACK'S CATERING* of Peters Township

FREE Coffee for the entire Hamfest courtesy of HAM RADIO INSURANCE ASSOCIATES of Canonsburg, PA

MAIN PRIZES — *You've Got to Play to WIN!*

1st Prize: Yaesu FTDX-1200 HF+6M
2nd Prize: Comet CMX 2300 HF/VHF SWR/Power Meter
3rd Prize: Clear Speech Speaker

Additional Hourly Door Prizes! Special Black Box Prize (Separate Drawing)!
Main Prize tickets are $2.00 each, 3 for $5.00, 7 for $10, 15 for $20
All Prizes Subject to last-minute changes

For Table Reservations, or More Information, Please Contact:
Carol Danko KB3GMN at (412) 884-1466 **n3sbf@comcast.net**
E-mail us directly at **washarc@yahoo.com** Check out our website too! **www.n3sh.org**

Please Note: Early Table Reservations must be paid in full on or before January 31st, 2014.

Reservations received after February 1st, 2014 must include payment in full.

Reserve now... we have sold out in advance four years running!

Hamfest Table Reservation Form—Please PRINT LEGIBLY ALL INFORMATION

Name:_____ Email: _____

Address: _____ Phone: ( ) _____ - _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Call Sign: _____

Tables WITH Electricity: _____ X $15.00 = _____

Tables WITHOUT Electricity: _____ X $10.00 = _____

Please make all checks payable to:
WIRELESS ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH HILLS
PLEASE MAIL RESERVATION TO:
*WASH*FEST 2014
C/O CAROL DANKO KB3GMN
4246 Seton Drive
Pittsburgh, PA 15227-1244

We reserve the right to resell any tables not occupied by 8 AM, unless prior arrangements have been made!