



2020 Field Day Joint Operations



2020 Field Day Planning and Operations for
Lake Area Amateur Radio Klub, LAARK
&

Denton County Amateur Radio Association, DCARA Club Members

Field Day in a Social Distancing Environment

As most of you know this year's LAARK/DCARA Joint Field Day operation will not be the same as usual Class A multi-station setup as K5LRK due to COVID-19 pandemic. LAARK and DCARA are taking social distancing precautions similar to many other clubs around the country. Instead of the usual operation, we are encouraging all club members to operate as individual or small group stations (within guidelines of social distancing and safe practices for all). Please mark your calendars now for **Saturday, June 27 & Sunday, June 28th** for FD. Operating begins at 2:00 PM and ends 24 hours late

Anthony, K8ZT has put together an extensive slideshow, which he also presented at our May Zoom club meeting. You can read through the 130+ slides at tiny.cc/fdsd. Included in the presentation are other important links including the official [ARRL Field Day](#) page with all the rules and details. Please go there and download the [2020 Field Day Packet](#) for more information. In addition to official rules pages and FAQ, Anthony has created a shortened summary of rules and FAQ available at this [link](#).

Staying Informed

1. For the next two weeks LAARK will continue hosting a Wednesday FD Q&A session on Zoom at 7:00 PM. If you would like to join in on the conversation and be part of the event send an email to Laird, KC5LL. Laird's email address is laird@lairdlind.com and he will send you an invitation with Zoom room and password.
2. There will be a FD planning Zoom online meeting Sunday, June 21st at 7:00 PM to answer questions, provide support, etc. If you would like to join in on this planning meeting and be part of the event, again, send an email to Laird, KC5LL as in step 1 above.
3. Also LAARK is holding an informal on-air FD setup net on the 147.38 Repeater starting at 7:00 PM Friday, June 26 and continuing as long as participants are interested, possibly through start-up time on Saturday afternoon. Please feel free to join in to ask or answer questions.

4. All license class operators should monitor the 2M FM 146.480 MHz simplex frequency during FD. There will be someone listening to this frequency every hour on the hour in case anyone need additional information or to make a 2M simplex contact.

A Few Temporary Rule Waivers from ARRL for FD 2020

1. For Field Day 2020 only, Class D stations may work all other Field Day stations, including other Class D stations, for points.
Field Day rule 4.6 defines Class D stations as “Home stations,” including stations operating from permanent or licensed station locations using commercial power. Class D stations ordinarily may only count contacts made with Class A, B, C, E, and F Field Day stations, but the temporary rule waiver for 2020 allows Class D stations to count contacts with other Class D stations for QSO credit.
2. In addition, for 2020 only, an aggregate club score will be published, which will be the sum of all individual entries indicating a specific club (similar to the aggregate score totals used in ARRL affiliated club competitions).

Ordinarily, club names are only published in the results for Class A and Class F entries, but the temporary rule waiver for 2020 allows participants from any Class to optionally include a single club name with their submitted results following Field Day.

For example, if Podunk Hollow Radio Club members Becky, W1BXY, and Hiram, W1AW, both participate in 2020 Field Day — Hiram from his Class D home station, and Becky from her Class C mobile station — both can include the radio club’s name when reporting their individual results. The published results listing will include individual scores for Hiram and Becky, plus a combined score for all entries identified as Podunk Hollow Radio Club.

Prepare Your Station Ahead of Time

1. If you will be doing an away from home operation, create a checklist of things to pack. A good way to do this is with a practice run to a portable operation before FD such as ARRL VHF contest, Park on Air operation, SOTA, etc.
2. Install and configure any necessary software. Remember to do all software updates leading up to FD:
 - a. Logging
 - b. Digital
 - i. WSJT-X
 - ii. Fldigi
 - iii. RTTY
 - iv. PSK
 - v. Winlink Messaging
 - c. Time Synchronization
3. Check all radio equipment for proper operation and spend some quality time reviewing operating manuals

4. Antennas (tiny.cc/portant)

- i. Build and/or acquire any needed antennas
- ii. Do routine antenna and feedline maintenance

Operate in Bands Available to your license class and authorized for FD use. All contacts must be made on simplex no repeater contacts allowed (except Satellite). Make sure you stay within the frequency limits of your license class and mode of operation.

Technician (and legacy Novice) Class Licensees

10 Meters

SSB - 28.300 to 28.499

Digital - FT8/FT4 or PSK 28.05 to 28.10

6 Meters

SSB - 50.125 to 50.299

Digital - FT8/FT4 (need radio capable of SSB)

2 Meters

FM Simplex Frequencies- **2M FM simplex channels**

Digital - FT8/FT4 (need radio capable of SSB)

HF CW (see the presentation "Having Fun with Morse" tiny.cc/fwm)

80 meters 3.525 - 3.600

40 meters 7.025 – 7.125

15 meters 21.025– 21.200

General, Advanced or Extra Class

All of frequencies and modes of Technician (above) plus:

160, 80, 40, 20, 15 & 10 Meters (no operations on 60, 30, 17 or 12)

CW

Digital (FT8/FT4, PSK & RTTY)

SSB

Please spend some time monitoring and calling CQ on Technician privilege frequencies and modes (this includes 2M FM simplex) to encourage more activity.

Club Member Incentives

LAARK has also decided to add some additional incentives and activities for local amateurs that want to operate their own FD stations:

1. We will be offering a \$50 gift Certificate in a random drawing for **ALL amateurs** that operate during FD, make 10 or more contacts, and submit their log entry to the ARRL designating "**LAKE AREA AMATEUR RADIO KLUB**" as their affiliated club.
2. Email you're Cabrillo log file to LAARK's QSL manager at QSLMGR@K5LRK.COM. There is also a link on K5LRK.com that you can use to send your Cabrillo file.
3. We will be producing suitable-for-framing certificates of accomplishment based on members' activities in FD. Here are some possible awards:

- a. Most contacts made during Field Day.
- b. The most modes (Digital (FT-8, PSK31, RTTY, CW, SSB, AM, FM) used during Field Day (at least one contact must be made using each mode).
- c. Most bands operated during Field Day (at least one contact must be made using each band).
- d. The most points (excluding bonus points) earned during Field Day.
- e. Most other LAARK and DCARA members worked during Field Day (**contacts must not be prearranged in advance**).
- f. Most contacts made on 6 meters and above with a non-Technician class licensee.
- g. Most contacts made on 6 meters and above with a Technician class licensee.

Submit your entry to ARRL & LAARK.

Submit your entry to ARRL. Use the online submission form- [link](#).

If you used an electronic logging program- at the end of FD you need to create a "Cabrillo" (*.log) formatted file of your results to submit (Cabrillo creation [instructions for N1MM+](#) / [instructions for N3FJP](#))

If you have used paper logging and made less than 200 contacts you do not need a dupe sheet

If you have qualified for any of the FD Bonus Points you may need to submit the proof in the form of pictures and/or documentation

If you need assistance with submitting your log please contact Ken, KD2KW at KD2KW@arrl.net or myself Ken, AC5EZ at ac5ez@arrl.net.

And don't forget to submit your entry to QSLMGR@K5LRK.COM to be eligible for \$50 gift certificate.