



The Marathon Challenge

Kickoff

75th MARC Anniversary

Get On The Air



Background:

The Marathon Challenge, a follow on yearly contest that MARC started via Dan Murphy. The challenge was last held around 2012 or 2013 and was and is intended to get the MARC membership on the air, participate in club events and generally to get members more active with Amateur Radio and MARC.

Duration:

The Challenge begins January 1, 2022 and will conclude October 31, 2022, so consider this a contesting event during the 75th Anniversary year of the Meriden Amateur Radio Club. The 75th Anniversary gifts are generally represented by Gold or Diamonds, hence the diamonds and gold bars on these pages.

Scoring and challenges of fairness to all participants:

All bands are game (HF, 6m, 2m & 70cm) with this contest however some MARC members only have Technician Amateur Radio licenses. To make the contest fairer the Tech licensed folks get a 1.5X handicap; any scoring achieved for a given month is multiplied by **1.25**. In addition, since Tech folks are limited to UHF, VHF, 6m and 10m (for the most part), those bands get a 5X kicker for everyone. [QSOs made on those bands are worth 5X points **for any MARC member**]. The intent is to get more folks on 6m and 10m and to promote UHF/VHF simplex contacts. Some modes aren't allowed. Modes like DMR and Echolink aren't part of this contest **and** QSOs via a repeater also are not counted. In the spirit of this event a repeater QSO will not be counted except for Net Check-ins (more on that in the Club Participation section).

Club Participation

MARC is 110 members strong, so a fairly large group of Amateur Radio operators. Civil preparedness, Fox hunting, Contesting, POTA, Weather Nets, informal 2m, 6m and 10m Nets are all events held by MARC. You will get points for participating in these events. Again, Technician licensed folks get that **1.25X** kicker too.

Logging

It is recommended you keep a log just in case questions arise. A single excel spreadsheet is required to be submitted by 10AM the morning of each MARC business meeting from February through November 2022, the first sheet is due February 10th and the last will be due November 10th. If you don't have access to excel then simply input the information into the blank sheet and logging officials will enter data on your behalf. The excel sheet is protected so only some areas can be modified by you and score calculation is automatic via excel. All monthly sheets should be sent to KC1SA (sallen48@gmail.com) for tabulation

Summary and awards

At MARC business meetings tallies will be read highlighting number of participants, QSOs made and by band. At the 2022 Holiday party accolades will be awarded to; Highest score, Highest club participation, Most band – QSOs worked, Most members worked (could be a tie), Most DX contacts



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- **Three experience levels**
 - Rookies – licensed less than 3 years (**licensed after 2018**) = **2X multiplier**.
 - Seasoned – licensed 3 or more years but less than 6 years (**licensed between 2016 and 2018**) = **1.25X multiplier**.
 - Experienced – licensed 6 or more years (**licensed before 2016**) = **1X multiplier**.
- **License class handicap**
 - Extra & General class license holders get a 1X handicap
 - Technician class license holders get a **1.25X** handicap
- **Excluded from contest**
 - Net check-ins except for the 2m, 6m and 10m MARC Nets and WX Net
 - Repeater contacts
 - Echolink
 - DMR
- **Included in contest**
 - MARC member to member QSO on UHF, VHF, HF excluding use of repeaters
 - **MARC member to non-MARC member**.
 - RTTY, PSK, CW, SSTV, SSB, JT/ FT, **CW, SSB, AM QSOs**
- **Band scoring**
 - UHF, VHF, 6m and 10m with no repeater use are worth 5 points each
 - 12m through 160m are worth 1 point each
- **Club participation events**
 - Fox hunting (fox or hunter) are worth 5 points for each attended event
 - POTA (**Activators not hunters**) are worth 5 points for each attended event
 - 6m, 10m, 2m weekly MARC net check-in and WX Net Thursday check-in are worth 5 points for each.
 - Field Day, Castle Craig QSO party, other MARC contesting participation is worth **25** points.
 - Club Call Sign QSO with W1NRG, W1FD, W1WRG is worth **10 points for each contact for a maximum monthly point total of 30 points. This is on VHF only!**
- **Miscellaneous**
 - All MARC member to member QSOs have 5X multiplier **on any band!**
 - Summary score sheet to be submitted to KC1SA by the morning of the monthly business meeting (10AM). Tally will be presented at business meeting from February through November 2022
 - Contest will begin January 1, 2022 and end October 31, 2022



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- Contesting QSOs can be used for this event.

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	
1												This year	2022	
2	Call sign	KC1SA	Score 135									Years	9	
3	Year Licensed	2013											Expire	1
4	Licence class	EXTRA											Max QSO	1
5	Month	JANUARY											Multi	1
6			Band											
7	Contacts		VHF	UHF	6m	10m	12m	15m	17m	20m	40m	80m	160m	
8	MARC member contacts		3	0	2									
9	DX Contacts (non-MARC)									15	10	5		
10	FT4, FT8, JT modes (MARC or non-MARC)													
11	Special W1NRG QSO		2											
12	Special W1FD QSO		2											
13	Special W1WRG QSO													
14	Club Participation	Participation												
15	Fox hunts	1												
16	POTA	0												
17	MARC 2m Net	2												
18	MARC 6m Net	3												
19	MARC 10m Net	2												
20	NH/MSX WX Net	2												
21	Club contesting / volunteering	0												
22	Summary													
23	Member scoring	25												
24	VHF, UHF, 6m, 10m scoring	0												
25	DX 12m - 160m scoring	30												
26	FT4, FT8, JT modes (MARC or non-MARC)	0												
27	POTA, Fox Hunt, WARG, CERT, Contesting participation	5												
28	MARC Bonus contacts	30												
29	Nets	45												

The above is an example sheet. I filled in my personal information for the report of January. Most cells in the spreadsheet are locked, the GREEN data areas are unlocked and that's where you put your data.

I QSO'd with 5 members and 30 DX's with non-members. I contacted two of the MARC stations twice in January, participated in a fox hunt, checked in twice on the 2m, 10m and WX net and three times on the 6m net. If a 10-10 QSO party or Field Day event happened and I participated it would be logged under Club Contesting.



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Finalized notes on the kick-off of this event are below.

Call sign	kc1sa	Score 0	This year <u>QCC</u>										
Year Licensed	2014		Years Lic: 8	Expert Op: 1									
Licence class	gen		Handicap Multi: 1										
Month	jan												

	Band										
	VHF	UHF	6m	10m	12m	15m	17m	20m	40m	80m	160m
Contacts											
MARC member contacts											
DX Contacts (non-MARC)											
FT4, FT8, JT modes (MARC or non-MARC)											
Special W1NRG QSO											
Special W1FD QSO											
Special W1WRG QSO											
Club Participation	Kc1sa										
Participation											
Fox hunts											
POTA											
MARC 2m Net											
MARC 6m Net											
MARC 10m Net											
NH/MSX WX Net											
Club contesting / volunteering											

Summary	
Member scoring	0
VHF, UHF, 6m, 10m scoring	0
DX 12m - 160m scoring	0
FT4, FT8, JT modes (MARC or non-MARC)	0
POTA, Fox Hunt, WARG, CERT, Contesting participation	0
MARC Bonus contacts	0
Nets	0

January 2, 2022

Diamond & Gold Summary

MARC member to member on ANY band = 5 points/per

non-Marc member QSOs on UHF, VHF, 6m, 10m = 3 points/per

non-Marc member QSOs on 12M → 160M = 1 point/per

FT8 (Digital Modes) on 6M → 160M = 0.5 points/per

Foxhunts & POTA (Activators Only!) = 5 points/per

Club events (contesting@OEM), CERT/WARG = 2.5 points/per

2M, 6M & 10M Net checkin = 5 points/per

Special W1NRG, W1FD, W1WRG QSO = 10 points/per

however; MAX points is 30 points. Only on VHF!

Handicap = Technician Score multiplied by 1.25

Everyone else's score at 1x