



# THE BULL SHEET

## OFFICIAL NEWS BULLETIN OF THE TEXAS DX SOCIETY



TEXAS DX  
SOCIETY

Al Vacek KNSA (F)  
14127 Barryknoll  
Houston, Tx 77079

VOLUME VI, No. 10

OCTOBER, 1981

**SWEEPSTAKES**

**Sweepstakes**

MEETING NOTICE: The October meeting will be Friday, the 9th at 7:30PM at the Chimney Rock Medical Plaza located at 6550 Mapleridge. That's over yonder near Bellaire General Hospital. This will be Super Sweepstakes Friday so come on down and put it on the folks who are on one of those other brand X intra-club teams. Generally, this is the last opportunity to sneer, laugh at and otherwise intimidate the Bad Guys' before the battles come to a head in November, **MAY THE STRONG SURVIVE!**

Assuming no filthy rich doc (PFJ clone) wants our meeting room, we will see ya'll there.

COM-VENTION '81: This Bull Sheet is being written a few days before COM-VENTION '81 so your Hon.Ed. is up to his ears with registration considerations so I can greet all your shiny faces properly this week-end. As in the past, the TDXS is heavily involved with the convention lending their talents to make this event an annual success with something enjoyable for everyone. K5RC, K5MA, K04M and W5DKG sit on the Board of Directors while others like W5JQ, N5WW, K5GN, K5VWW, W5SQ, WD5CHY, Jan-3ZU's wife, N5DC, N5EA, W5HNS & Winnie plus others helped with specific convention details. The lists above do not even touch the surface of the number of fellas who helped with the TDXS activities at the convention site; K5IX pushing tickets with K5BZU putting them in his hands; CHY pushing drinks and N5COO wanting to push junk "radio equipment that is slightly used"; K5BA and W5DOZ with Hospitality Suite wallpaper, etc., etc.

COM-VENTION has become an annual TDXS focal point bordering on the attention level we give Field Day each year. Its an excellant opportunity for us to show the rest of the world what and who we are. As COM-VENTION grows, so too does the peer recognition of the TDXS as a well organized and talented group of amateur radio operators who, as a whole, are a cut above the masses. If you do not believe it, just ask any member of the club still standing after 2AM in the suite.....

K5WA SS SUMMARY: Remember that Rich is putting together a helpful booklet summarizing last years club SS effort in a format that is designed to put you on the right band at the right time. If you haven't already completed the SS SUMMARY form sent with last month's Bull Sheet, please toss this issue aside and complete that form now. Rich needs those forms ASAP! Bring 'em to the convention suite or mail to him at 15324 Park Manor, 77054.

~~CHANGES OF ADDRESS:~~ Speaking of addresses.....the address for Radio Booth is RR1, Box 697B, Richmond, Texas, 77469. (The place doesn't even have a gas pump let alone a post office so Richmond covers this end of rare Ft. Bend County) The telephone number out here is 343-1060. Hopefully, I will now receive vast quantities of input from the brethren out there in the darkness. Got a complaint? Got a suggestion? God forbid, even something nice to say..... Send it on out here and it'll be put in front of the membership in the form of one-finger-generated typewriter print.

THE SS "FINESS": Last year, a couple articles were published in the NCJ that were authored by an individual who has subsequently disappeared from the face of the earth - KA5CHW. Seems this fellow's suggestions for operating contests, with SS specifically in mind, stirred up a rumble that carried all the way to the halls of our sacred League. Many readers were enlightened. Others were outraged while some just blushed with guilt. Anyway, for the enjoyment of all with an eye towards helping us reach 6megapoints this year in SS, you will find a copy of these two articles in this month's Bull Sheet.

OFFICER NOMINATIONS: As stated in your club constitution, nominations are currently being accepted for 1982 TDXS elected officers. The nomination period will end with the close of the October meeting. Nominations will be accepted from the floor at the October meeting.

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DX REPORTING ON THE REPEATER: It has been suggested that a general request be aired by the Bull Sheet regarding the announcement of DX operations via the repeater. Remember---that's why we put the thing on the air. Lots of folks monitor the repeater while working about the house so when one puts out some good hot information, please repeat the frequency and station call enough times to allow your listeners to get to the shack and make use of the info. Seems all too often we hear fellows run to the shack to ask, "Who was that" or "What frequency?". The time you take to give us your hot scoop is greatly appreciated so please help all of make good use of it.

DUPESHEETS - BY THE HUNDREDS: BE SURE AND DROP BY AT THE CUSHCRAFT BOOTH AND GET SOME OF THEIR NEAT DUPESHEETS. (I must be dreaming to think anyone will get this before the convention)

YASME: Lloyd and Iris are about to hit the high seas again. Nothing too super on the charts but they will offer us 5BandDXCC types an excellent shot at a few. Look for them at 8P6, 9Y4, FY6, PZ, 8R1 and PJ2. QSL to YASME FOUNDATION, P.O. Box 2025, Castro Valley, Ca., 94546.

N5DKG ARRL SWEEPSTAKES PARTICIPATION AWARDS: The results of the 1980 ARRL SS Contests are official as published in the May 1981 QST. It gives me great pride to announce the following award winners of my ARRL Sweepstakes Participation Awards. The number adjacent to each winner indicates the total number of QSO's that individual contributed to the TDXS aggregate score, thereby putting us just that much closer to our intended goal - The Medium Club Gavel.

CHAMPION MEMBER

KA5CHW

operating K5IY both modes - 2473

<u>Distinguished Member</u>	<u>Outstanding Member</u>	<u>Supporting Member</u>
N5JJ - 2433	K5ZD - 1629	K5TU - 756
K5GN - 2191	KN5A - 1470	W5HNS - 734
N5DU - 2157	K5VWV - 1406	K5DX - 731
K5MA - 2155	W5SG - 1378	K5B2U - 686
K5L20 - 2072	N5WV - 1361	W5JQ - 591
KN5H - 2002	K5GB - 1296	N5EA - 539
K5WA - 1914	N5CDO - 1284	K5JS - 530
	K5GA - 1036	
	W5WHR - 996	

Due to the structure of the awards program, most all of the above will receive both a medal and a certificate. The medals should be ready for presentation at the October meeting. I'll also hand myself the Plaque.....you all better try harder this year! Certificates via mail.

CW MULTIPLE-OPERATOR AWARD - N5AF and W5LVL

The Neal family pulled in the top West Gulf Division CW multi-op certificate from the League and now they get mine, too. They bring honor to the TDXS with a bit of material assistance from KB5FU, another FB member from the northern stretches of the club.

NEWCOMER AWARD - W5WHR

Eric jumped right in the middle of the pile and showed us big things can be expected from him in the future. We find Eric to be an outstanding addition to the club contest contingent.

EXCEPTIONAL EFFORT AWARD - N5DU

Bob proved that big antennas are not required to have fun and to turn in a superb score in the Sweepstakes. Of special note was his 45th placement in W/VE standings on Phone, where most everyone thinks a big voice, big amp, long booms and tall towers are required to make a mark. Using Bob's (W5CHY) station location with a single tribander at 37' and dipoles even lower than that, Mr. Evans really kept the pressure on the S.Tex section winners on both modes. Bob's efforts are the epitome of the axiom that operating ability is more important than station layout in contesting.

MOST IMPROVED AWARD - K5MA

Jan wins this one for his improved attitude towards Sweepstakes. He has made it quite clear in the past that DX is his game, not contesting, particularly domestic contests. Setting aside personal problems and his feelings about SS, Jan used his operating abilities to give the TDXS two very respectable scores for the aggregate effort. The fact that he even showed up for the Phone weekend, let alone making 1155 QSO's, shocked many who didn't even know Jan could talk on wavelengths longer than two meters.

NON-MEMBER AWARDS - VYLAC & VY1BM

Special certificates will be sent to these two fellows in recognition of their efforts to work TDXS members thereby providing many of us with our one and only VE3/VY1 multiplier.

Participation Awards Comments: The results proved out my theory that, with rare exceptions, QSO counts can be used to establish contest winner placement in SS instead of using much more cumbersome multi-digit point scores. QSO totals will continue to be used in the future to determine Participation Awards winners.

1931 SS PARTICIPATION AWARDS: This years magic number to qualify for the OUT-STANDING MEMBER awards is going to be announced at the October meeting.

# Sweepstakes!

SWEEPSTAKES--The contests of the fall. If you're not ready now, then you had better get in gear. To help you with your planning and preparations, several items have been included in this edition of the Bullsheat. The table of teams shows you who's who in the intraclub competition. Each team member has been assigned a score quota by his captain. The quota is based on expected available time, signal, and experience. To help you determine what it takes to make your quota, a table of score vs. QSOs and multipliers was drawn up.

How to make that score? An overview of planning is the subject of the enclosed article by W2GD (ex-WA2U00) on contesting. John wrote this with a bias for the East Coast. Therefore his timetable, band change, and off-time scheme are not very good for the South Texas operator. From here, you don't want to go to 80 so early--go later in spurts of ten to twenty minutes duration to let people move back to 40, which is our prime nighttime band. 20m will be best in late afternoon and during the evening and early morning hours. Randy's article in last month's issue of the BS is very informative on these points.

Specific points of strategy are covered in reprints of articles which Dennis wrote for last year's efforts. Be careful in applying the more domineering methods of frequency control. You really don't want to aggravate your competition, just depress and exasperate him. If he is really ticked by your actions, the result may be a weekend filled with intentional QRM.

On a similar note, remember that your summary sheet contains a disclaimer signed by you which states that you have followed the rules of the test and the rules and regs of your country's government concerning amateur radio. Remember that when you are sneaking past the band edge for a mult or loading the amp past a gallon to crack a pileup or increase the rate. The object is to do well and do it right.

The October meeting will be devoted to SS. There will be a forum with the captains as leaders to discuss operating problems and solutions. A supply of logs and various dupesheets will be available.

See you at the convention!

--K5CN

FROM THE BANDS: TDXS Sprint team compiled best score ever. Send in your completed logs, Guys, and thanks for doing so well....K5DX erecting a monstrous tower all his lonesome....KN5A has been in and out of the hospital. We're all hoping he'll get outta there for good, soon....K5ZD switched phone companies. He's now in Dallas working for First Phone, a small long-distance service co.---

With the convention drawing near, many members are becoming busier & busier. K5RC also with a new employer. They'll be moving right across the freeway from "the farm"....N5DKG planting his first tower this weekend....A N5JJ vs W5RRR multi-single battle has come up in the CAM-AM CW. Sounds like good practice for SS....Don't miss the Oct. meeting: the topic is SS and the experts will be talking. Speak up with any questions you might have as we are all in this together. The section standings are probably secondary to our medium club standing for most of the guys.

CONTEST TIPS - John Crovelli, W2GD;

This article hopefully contains some useful hints on how to improve your contest scores, particularly SS. The objective in most contests is to contact as many stations in different sections as possible during the allotted operating period. Even though you may not operate a full contest period a respectable score can be achieved by increasing the efficiency of certain aspects of your station and operating.

Take a critical look at your station. Are there ways to make operating more convenient and comfortable? Does the rig work properly on all bands and are the antennas as high as possible? Do you have a comfortable chair to sit in and is the shack generally cluttered?

First thing to do is put your rig in proper operating condition and have a spare set of finals on-hand. If your budget allows put a muffin fan on your finals to keep things cool. Build an antenna feedline switching system to facilitate quick band changes. If you are spending over 30 seconds to change bands this WILL cost you at least 1/2 hour of operating time during Sweepstakes.

Put your antennas up as high and clear from obstructions as possible. Make sure you get maximum radiated signal by proper feedline matching. Double check all connections and tape those exposed to the weather. Antenna work should be completed a week before a contest to allow time for testing and to avoid fatigue on the weekend of the contest.

Finally make the operating position comfortable. Obtain a chair you can sit on for six hours without back strain or "fannie fatigue". BEFORE THE CONTEST clean the operating table of everything except your rig, logs, dupe sheets, and pencils. You cannot expect to operate efficiently when the place is cluttered with junk. **GET ORGANIZED!**

You are now ready to formulate a "contest strategy" to guide your operating effort. The particular plan you follow will depend on available operating time. Factors to consider are: 1. QSO's vs Multipliers; 2. Band Selection & Changes; 3. Operating Technique.

It seems to be a general rule of contesting that the higher your QSO rate the greater the probability of working more multipliers. I therefore suggest MAXIMIZE THE QSO RATE PER HOUR through proper band selection and operating technique. Don't waste time searching for multiplier unless you have very limited operating time or such action would have a significant impact upon your score. SS is a unique contest since a station can be contacted only once. The multiplier game is therefore very dependent on Band Selection and conditions.

Since higher QSO rates yield higher scores SET A GOAL FOR YOURSELF of XX QSOs per hour which will be difficult but not impossible to achieve. Try to obtain your goal during EVERY HOUR of operating. KEEP TRACK OF YOUR RATE CONSTANTLY! A decrease in rate can be caused by improper band selection and will cost you precious points.

Always operate on the highest frequency band which will yield the QSO rate that satisfies your goal relative to your signal and band conditions. This is possible by knowing generally how well your signal is heard by others and by quickly scanning the band in question to determine if the level of activity warrants your time and effort.

(Johns time plan is cut out at the point in his article)

During SS don't forget about the Novice bands when things get slow, especially 40 and 15 meters.

In Sweepstakes there are 6 hours of "off time" available. I suggest one or two breaks the first evening, sleep 3 1/2 to 4 hours, and use the remainder of your off time during the slower hours on Sunday afternoon.

Operating Technique encompasses the decision of whether to call CQ or to call other stations. Calling CQ in stations usually requires an average to above average signal to be consistent. I recommend and use a combination technique where slightly more time is spend CQing. Calling stations give you the opportunity to search for those missing multipliers while still maintaining your QSO rate per hour. Start at one end of the contest activity on the band and tune continuously to the other end. Then repeat the process again in the opposite direction.

When calling the other station keep the call SHORT as possible. WA2SRQ DE WA2UOO K. DO NOT MAKE REPEATS UNNECESSARILY. It is a big time waster. Give your exchange only once and make repeats only upon request. To confirm receipt of an exchange use R or TU, avoid the use QSL since it is time consuming again. Look for ways to reduce chatter which is unnecessary and using up precious minutes during a contest.

To summarize, put your station in excellent working order, prepare a "contest strategy" for use during the contest, keep constant track of your contest rate, make proper use of each band, and use the proper operating technique with a minimum of wasted time.

Best of luck in this years Sweepstakes. Lets make W.I.N. a winner in 1974.

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Partial reprint of article by John during his years as WA2UOO

ARRL SWEEPSTAKES SCORE MATRIX  
QSOs VS MULTIPLIER

ECN.	15K	25K	50K	75K	100K	125K	150K	175K	200K	225K
74	102	169	338	507	676	845	1014	1183	1352	1521
73	103	172	343	514	685	857	1028	1199	1370	1542
72	105	174	348	521	695	869	1042	1216	1389	1563
71	106	177	353	529	705	881	1057	1233	1409	1585
70	108	179	358	536	715	893	1072	1250	1429	1608
69	109	182	363	544	725	906	1087	1269	1450	1631
68	111	184	368	552	736	920	1103	1287	1471	1654
67	112	187	374	560	747	933	1120	1306	1493	1680
66	114	190	379	569	758	947	1137	1326	1516	1705
65	116	193	385	577	770	962	1154	1347	1539	1731
64	118	196	391	586	782	977	1172	1368	1563	1758
63	120	199	397	596	794	993	1191	1389	1588	1786
62	121	202	404	605	807	1009	1210	1412	1613	1815
61	123	205	410	615	820	1025	1230	1435	1640	1845
60	125	209	417	625	834	1042	1250	1459	1667	1875

SS INTRA-CLUB COMPETITION TEAMS AND  
INDIVIDUAL POINT GOALS - G L !  
CALL - CW KILOPOINTS - PHONE KILOPOINTS EACH TEAM MEMBER

GJO GUYS

JJ 150 225  
WA 114 225  
GB 100 110  
FU 100 150  
GA 150 -  
BZU 30 110  
RF 75 -  
F 50 50  
CNY - 50  
AAD - 100  
T - 100  
GJO - 150  
YQZ - -

H GUYS

DKG 150 225  
CDO 125 200  
MA 150 200  
JQ 125 150  
EA 100 150  
ASP 50 125  
HNS - 100  
GXI 100 100  
M 75 125  
CHY - -  
DC - -  
PTJ - -  
H 150 200  
IGX - -

VW GUYS

VWV 100 110  
SJS 25 50  
TU 125 175  
MYO 25 25  
DU 150 200  
IY 50 50  
JWM 25 50  
WHR 100 110  
UHT 30 50  
JS 50 50  
A 50 100  
WW 100 110  
PFE 25 25  
RPX 25 25

GN GUYS

GN 155 215  
LZO 125 185  
KG 120 180  
SG 100 150  
U 100 110  
DX - 120  
AF - 100  
Y - 185  
RC 50 -  
URN - 20  
DOZ - 20  
PBA - -  
FP 50 -  
USV - -

GOOD LUCK TO ALL OF YA. BE PROUD OF YOUR MEMBERSHIP

*Yams*

ARRL SWEEPSTAKES SCORE MATRIX  
QSOs VS MULTIPLIER

15K	25K	50K	75K	100K	125K	150K	175K	200K	225K	S
102	169	338	507	676	845	1014	1183	1352	1521	7
03	172	343	514	685	857	1028	1199	1370	1542	7
105	174	348	521	695	869	1042	1216	1389	1563	7
106	177	353	529	705	881	1057	1233	1409	1585	7
108	179	358	536	715	893	1072	1250	1429	1608	7
109	182	363	544	725	906	1087	1269	1450	1631	6
111	184	368	552	736	920	1103	1287	1471	1654	6
112	187	374	560	747	933	1120	1306	1493	1680	6
114	190	379	569	758	947	1137	1326	1516	1705	6
116	193	385	577	770	962	1154	1347	1539	1731	6
118	196	391	586	782	977	1172	1368	1563	1758	6
120	199	397	596	794	993	1191	1389	1588	1786	6
121	202	404	605	807	1009	1210	1412	1613	1815	6
123	205	410	615	820	1025	1230	1435	1640	1845	6
125	209	417	625	834	1042	1250	1459	1667	1875	6

SS INTRA-CLUB COMPETITION TEAMS AND  
INDIVIDUAL POINT GOALS - G.I. !  
CALL - CW KILOPOINTS - PHONE KILOPOINTS EACH TEAM MEMBER

10 GUYS	H GUYS	WN GUYS	GN GUYS
150 225	DKG 150 225	VWV 100 110	GN 155 215
114 225	CDO 125 200	SJS 25 50	LZO 125 185
100 140	MA 150 200	TU 125 175	KG 120 180
100 150	JQ 125 150	MYO 25 25	SG 100 150
150 -	EA 100 150	DU 150 200	U 100 140
30 110	ASP 50 125	IY 50 50	DX - 120
75 -	HNS - 100	JWM 25 50	AF - 100
50 50	GXI 100 100	WHR 100 140	Y - 85
- 50	M 75 125	UHT 30 50	RC 50 -
- 100	CHY - -	JS 50 50	URN - 20
- 100	DC - -	A 50 100	DOZ - 20
- 150	PTJ - -	WW 100 140	PBA - -
- -	H 150 200	PFE 25 25	FP 50 -
	IGX - -	RXX 25 25	USV - -

GOOD LUCK TO ALL OF YA. BE PROUD OF YOUR MEMBERSHIP  
73 N5DKG *Yuno*