

Big Island Grid Madness - A VHF/UHF Simplex Contest

Sunday, September 21st from 1300 to 1700 HST

Sponsored by Kona Amateur Radio Society

- **Four hour contest** designed for **FUN**. Test your equipment, coverage and operating skills using simplex on 2 meters, 70 cm and 33 cm (900 MHz).
 - For all hams on the **Big Island** of Hawaii.
 - Enter in **HT**, **Mobile**, or **Base** class.
 - Contact as many stations as you can in as many **Grid Squares*** as you can during the contest, using **SIMPLEX ONLY**.
 - **Exchange** call sign and Grid Square.
 - **Score** one point for each contact, two points if you serve as a relay station. To get your score, multiply total points by number of Grid Squares.
 - **Awards** for highest score in each class, and for highest overall score.
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- Mark your calendar! **Sunday, September 21st from 1300 to 1700 HST**.
 - Look over the **Rules** (page 2) and the **Sample Logs** (page 6).
 - Join in the fun on Sunday afternoon and **Log** your contacts (pages 3 and 4).
 - Fill in your **Entry Form** (page 5) and send it in. What could be easier?

Questions? AH6KO@arrl.net

***Grid Squares**: Find your 6-character Maidenhead Grid Square on the map at www.qrz.com/gridmapper. The "squares" are actually more like rectangles, roughly 2 miles by 4 miles. You will see that grid BK29lr contains Coconut Island. BL20ec contains Waipio Valley. BK29jk has downtown Volcano. BK19xp covers the Old Kona Airport. Mauna Kea summit is in BK29gt.

Big Island Grid Madness - Rules

1. **Contest hours:** Sunday, September 21st 2014, from 1300 to 1700 HST.

Contacts may be made on any band at any time during the contest. For those working more than one band, here is a suggested time split:

1300 - 1500 HST: 2 meter band

1500 - 1700 HST: 70 cm band and 33 cm (900 MHz) band

2. **Eligible operators:** All licensed amateur radio operators

3. **Classes:** Select one class to use for the entire contest. No restrictions on antennas.

HT = handy talkie 5 Watts or less, not connected to an external power source

MOBILE = installed in a vehicle with external power source

BASE = all others

4. **Locations:** Anywhere on the Big Island of Hawaii. (Contacts from coastal waters not allowed.)

5. **Contacts with non-contest stations:** Allowed. You may need to help the non-contest station to give you a correct Grid Square.

6. Suggested simplex FM **frequencies:**

2 meter band: **146.400, 146.430, 146.460, 146.490, 146.550 MHz.** Do not use National Calling Frequency 146.520 or guard channels +/- 15 KHz.

70 cm band: **445.900, 445.950, 446.050, 446.100 MHz.** Do not use Calling Frequency 446.000 or guard channels +/- 25 KHz.

33cm band (900 MHz): **927 – 928 MHz** (any locally-used simplex channel).

7. **Exchange:** Call sign, Grid Square (suggestion -- use ITU phonetics to get it right!)

8. **Repeaters** and PL tones: not allowed. Exception: Solicitation using repeaters is allowed, but positive contact must be completed using simplex. If you take advantage of this rule, be sure to specify the frequency you are moving to, and confirm that it is not in use.

Be courteous to non-contest operators using the repeaters.

9. **Relays:** If a station cannot be heard, a relay via another simplex station is allowed. If you claim a relay contact with a station, you may not claim a regular (non-relay) contact with that station on the same band and grid. The two stations “on the ends” of a relay must enter the call sign of the Relay Station on the log sheet. The Relay Station “in the middle” of the relay uses the special Relay Station Log Sheet, and gets TWO POINTS for the relay. (To claim a regular contact and grid multiplier(s), the Relay Station must also complete a regular contact with each station.)

10. **Multiple contacts:** Each station may be contacted once per band and per grid. (For example, HT or Mobile stations may contact any station up to three times from each grid - once on 2 meters. once on 70 cm, and again on 33 cm.)

11. **Logging required:** Your grid, frequency, time (HST) and exchange information from the station you contacted. (See log sheet.) If you served as a Relay Station for two other stations, use the Relay Station Log Sheet.

12. **Scoring:** ONE point for each contact, and TWO points for each relay. To compute your score, multiply total points by number of new grids for each band.

13. **Awards:** Top overall score and top score in each class, awards limited to one per operator (highest attained). Other awards at discretion of awards committee. Decisions are final.

14. **Entries:** Email log pages and entry form by September 28th, 2014 to:

AH6KO@arrl.net

Or, US Mail to:

Stan Froseth AH6KO
75-6009 Alii Dr Apt B22
Kailua Kona HI 96740

Big Island Grid Madness September 21, 2014 - **Entry Form**

(Submit with copies of all log pages.)

Call Sign _____ Class (check one) ___HT ___MOBILE ___BASE

Xmit Power _____ Lat* _____ Lon* _____ Antenna _____

(* optional: use www.qrz.com/gridmapper)

Name _____

Address _____

Email _____

Score

Total Points	X	Total Grids	=	My Score
	X		=	

Comments and suggestions:

This is a true and accurate Entry Form. I HAVE READ, UNDERSTAND AND HAVE FOLLOWED THE PUBLISHED RULES FOR THIS CONTEST. I HAVE OPERATED WITHIN THE LEGAL LIMITS OF MY AMATEUR RADIO LICENSE.

Signed _____ Date _____

Thank you for participating in Grid Madness! Please email log pages and entry form by **September 28th, 2014** to:

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