

Indianapolis Radio Club

Hilltop Operating Event Rules

September 27, 2014

1. Objective: For amateur radio operators, primarily located in Central Indiana, to contact as many stations as possible while operating from hilltop locations using temporary stations.
2. Date and Contest Period: September 27, 2014. Contest starts at 1300 UTC and ends at 1700 UTC (9:00 am to 1:00 pm EDT). All stations may operate the full 4-hour period.
3. Entry Categories:
 - Unlimited Hilltop—Registered temporary stations operating on any number of band/mode combinations recognized by these rules from a hilltop location with an unlimited number of operating positions, antennas, operators, and non-operating assistants or helpers.
 - Limited Hilltop—Registered temporary stations operating on no more than three band/mode combinations recognized by these rules from a hilltop location with no more than two operators. Limited Hilltop stations may use any number of non-operating assistants or helpers during station and antenna assembly and disassembly.
 - Single-operator Hilltop—Registered temporary stations operating on no more than three band/mode combinations recognized by these rules from a hilltop location with only one operator. Single-operator Hilltop stations may use no more than one non-operating assistant or helper during station and antenna assembly and disassembly.
 - Non-Hilltop—Permanent or temporary stations operating on any number of band/mode combinations recognized by these rules from a home or non-hilltop location.
4. Definitions:
 - Registered station—All entries in a Hilltop category must be pre-registered with the event manager. Pre-registrations will be accepted until 11:59 pm EDT on the Thursday before the event by sending an email to w9bu@arrl.net. Pre-registration email to include the hilltop name, the approximate latitude and longitude of the hilltop, the elevation of the hilltop, the callsign the entrant plans to use for the event, and the band/mode combinations the entrant plans to operate.
 - Hilltop—A rise of at least 20 feet above average terrain visible to the eye or verifiable using topographic maps. Hilltops may be natural or man-made. Structures (houses, buildings, bridges, overpasses, towers, parking garages, etc.) do not qualify as hilltops.
 - Temporary station—Stations which are erected, including antennas and antenna supports (except natural supports such as trees), no earlier than 6:00 pm EDT the day before the event.
5. Bands, Modes, and Suggested Frequencies:
 - 10m SSB — 28.400 MHz +/- 25 kHz
 - 6m SSB — 50.200 MHz +/- 25 kHz
 - 6m FM — Primary: 52.550 MHz, Secondary: 52.525, 52.575 MHz.
 - 2m SSB — 144.250 MHz +/- 25 kHz
 - 2m FM — Primary: 146.460 MHz. Secondary: 146.430, 146.490 MHz.
6. Power output: Maximum power output for all bands except 2m is 100 watts PEP for SSB or 100 watts continuous for FM. Maximum power output for 2m is 50 watts PEP for SSB or 50 watts continuous for FM.
7. Contest Exchange:
 - Hilltop stations send hilltop name, hilltop elevation, and signal report.
 - All others send signal report and four-character Maidenhead Grid designator.

8. Log Submissions:

- Computer-generated logs may be submitted as a Microsoft Excel spreadsheet or as an ASCII text file. Logs may be sent via e-mail to w9bu@arrl.net.
- Hand-written paper logs may be submitted by postal mail to IRC Hilltop Event, c/o Bob Burns, 806 King Fisher Dr, Brownsburg IN 46112.
- All entries (including paper logs) must include the following information:
 - Callsign used for the event
 - Hilltop name
 - Hilltop elevation
 - Entry Category
 - Names and callsigns of all operators and non-operating assistants
 - A QSO by QSO log of each contact claimed for scoring including:
 1. Time of the contact
 2. Callsign of the station contacted
 3. Band
 4. Mode
 5. Name of the hilltop contacted
 6. Elevation of the hilltop contacted
 7. Received signal report
 8. Four-character Maidenhead Grid designator of non-Hilltop stations
- Logs must be received no later than October 31, 2014 at 11:59 pm EDT.
- Non-Hilltop stations who contact Hilltop stations are encouraged to submit their logs for cross-checking.

9. Scoring:

- Hilltop stations count five points for each complete two-way QSO with another Hilltop station.
- Hilltop stations count one point for each complete two-way QSO with non-Hilltop stations.
- Non-Hilltop stations count one point for each complete two-way QSO.
- Stations may be worked once per each band/mode combination.
- Repeater, cross-band and cross-mode contacts are not allowed.

10. Awards:

- Awards will be presented at the November Indianapolis Radio Club meeting.
- The top scoring Unlimited Hilltop, Limited Hilltop, and Single-Operator Hilltop stations will receive plaques. One plaque per station.
- All operators, including Non-Hilltop stations, will receive certificates. One certificate per operator.

11. Web Site: Please visit www.indyradioclub.org/hilltop for additional information including:

- These rules
- A list of registered hilltop stations
- Final results

12. Maidenhead Grid resources:

- www.arrl.org/grid-squares
- www.levinecentral.com/ham/grid_square.php