

# FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

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## Worked All Rochester Award

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**Q: If I make a contact when at home, can I make another contact with the same operator when I am out driving around?**

A: Yes and No. A 2m voice contact from home cannot be repeated with the same operator when mobile. But you can make a 2m voice contact at home and a 70cm voice contact on the road with the same operator.

**Q: If I make a contact with a station on 2m SSB voice, can I make another contact with the same station on 2m FM Voice?**

A: No. Both are considered voice modes and you can only make one voice contact per band with the same operator.

**Q: If I live inside the 50 mile radius, but travel outside of the 50 miles radius can I still participate?**

A: Yes. You can contact others inside the 50 mile radius for award credit. However you will not count for credit for others. Use of 6 digit grid square or town is encouraged to help clarify your location. Smartphone applications like HamSquare or QTH can be useful.

**Q: How do I know if someone is inside the 50 mile radius when I talk to them?**

A: When exchanging 6-digit grid squares, it is much easier to look up a location on a website such as [http://www.levinecentral.com/ham/grid\\_square.php](http://www.levinecentral.com/ham/grid_square.php) to ensure its within the 50 mile radius. When you are talking to a rover in a contest or someone mobile you may need to ask.

**Q: How do I know if someone lives inside the 50 mile radius?**

A: You can use the FCC registered address that can be found in the Universal Licensing System or websites such as QRZ.com based on this information.

**Q: Do different modes count as separate contacts on the microwave bands?**

A: Yes. Voice, CW, and Non-Voice Digital modes all counts as separate contacts on each band.

**Q: What digital modes count for award credit?**

A: Non-Voice digital modes include, but are not limited to PSK31, RTTY, APRS, MFSK16, and D-Star Digital Data. Text messaging (using APRS or other embedded protocols) is also considered digital. The digital data in these modes is encoded and decoded by some form of computer/microprocessor and cannot be reliably decoded by ear.

**Q: I see that APRS counts as a digital mode, but repeating and retransmitting signals is not allowed. Is it really possible to use APRS for award credit?**

A: Yes. You simply need to ensure that you send and receive the signal directly (vs. APRS Internet Server or a Digipeater). You can disable digipeating paths or simply change frequency to another approved FM simplex frequency.

**Q: Can I mention the award on the local repeater, email, or online chat room in an attempt to encourage activity.**

A: Yes. While some contests have historically restricted this kind of activity, this is not a contest. However you should avoid this during events where its restricted.

**Q: We have three hams in our family. If we all share our equipment and a friend stops over, can he also use the equipment for award contacts?**

A: Yes. One additional licensed operator not living at the same address may operate the same equipment, but may not make contacts (for award credit) with the other individuals who the equipment is being share with.

**Q: If I let a friend borrow spare equipment I am not using, can I contact him for award credit?**

A: Yes. The restriction on shared equipment only applies when you are both using (sharing) the same equipment.

**Q: What exchange do I use for Field Day or the NY QSO Party?**

A: See [www.ARRL.org/Field-Day](http://www.ARRL.org/Field-Day) and [www.rdxa.com](http://www.rdxa.com) for more information on those events.

**Q: Can I submit additional information with my log such as pictures, or “soapbox” comments?**

A: Yes. Please do. Any information submitted to [awards@rvhfg.org](mailto:awards@rvhfg.org) may be published on [rvhfg.org](http://rvhfg.org) or in the Rochester VHF Group Journal.

**Q: What about ... What if ...**

A: The Worked All Rochester award is intended to be a fun way of experiencing the VHF/UHF/Microwave bands with hams in our region. It is not a contest and the rules are not intended to be overly complicated. You may apply your own judgment to determine if you meet the intent and spirit of the award. In the end, only you will know if you really earned the award. However you can email [awards@rvhfg.org](mailto:awards@rvhfg.org) at any time with questions. It may take up to one week to receive a response.