



Welcome to this edition of *BrassPounder*, which covers FISTS CW Club Europe's [on-air activities](#).

Greetings Dear FISTS

Many thanks again for all your support in the activities my addled brain dreams up...it is very much appreciated by me and all the FISTS team. I also very much appreciate the input you give me in terms of new ideas for activities! Thank you. I must say the highlight of the month for me was the Chirp n Drift event. I had some fears that it would just flop but as it turned out it was fantastic – many thanks to all who managed to get their radios on the air. I was rather taken aback by the level of excitement brought about by using and working these old bits of kit .

Conditions were really good at the start but tailed off towards the late night and the QSB became awful. One very interesting feature of the night was that I haven't heard of a single G station who worked a German. I managed a few PA stations myself and I think an F, but no Germans at all. Odd because I know they were there!

Ivan, G0BON, 18877, has been QRT for ten years he tells me, but rejoined FISTS and managed to get onto the CnD night. I think, according to his email, we have confirmed in him the value and fun of FISTS membership!! Welcome Ivan. Steve, G3ZPS sent me this wonderful sentence "I was using a 3 valve Paraset xtal on 3562 only 4/5w..although I was so excited I couldn't even spell it"...and there was me thinking I was alone in getting excited!!

I have had several comments about possible activities – certainly a CnD event twice a year but also another one for 'Forgotten Gems'. This latter was asked for by the operators of such kit as Heathkit radios, which don't Chirp or Drift (usually) but do have a good following.

One amusing point is that I recently worked a station clearly using a chirpy drifty bit of kit...but when I asked he said no, it was a TS590. Well, this is odd I thought, as did he, so he reduced to 50 watts and guess what... Yep, the high power was pulling the PSU down and hence the wobble!

I managed a few days away last week with Dave, G0AYD, F15892 but conditions were rather poor and the wind kept beating our wire aerials. Has anyone any good sure-fire solutions for good portable aerials for /A ops?

Finally, Paul, M0GSX, F17642, keeps promoting the Zello network radio system. I know it's not 'real' radio but it can be either Morse or voice and is rather like a repeater in its effect. It is very clear contact every time and has some benefits. I have managed to keep in touch with Keith, G0HKC, F16205, which I would not really have found possible otherwise. Keith's aerial doesn't permit inter G QSO so he can keep in touch with all FISTS members via Zello. Please do consider having a go...it's free! All you need is your normal smart phone, that's all. From the App store download 'Zello', then do a channel search for 'Unofficial FISTS Morse channel'. After that it's either easy or you'll need your grandchildren's help!

The ladder is excellent again this time round with a new entry from G3XVL...welcome Chris. Chris sent this soapbox comment: "Good to be taking part in the ladder after our recent move to a new QTH.". Glad to have you here Chris.

Winter Sports 2018

VISIONAL...PROVISIONAL...PROVISIONAL...PROVISIONAL...PROVISIONAL...PROVISIONAL...PR

Winter sports activity. Because Winter Sports has some pretty complex rules and events I am printing the event here. THESE RULES ARE PROVISIONAL...by which we mean that IF we can get the logging to work, these are the rules...if not, then...

But, the events will be as stated here. As you can see, some will require team efforts and some just good planning.

The sports can be attempted at any time between 0001Z January 1st 2019 and 2359Z March 31st 2019.

Bands: 1.8, 3.5, 7, 14, 21 and 28MHz only

There are two sections:

QRP (5 Watts or less)

Open (any power)

Entrants may use QRP (5 Watts or less) or Open (any power). The event can be done twice by any entrant, once QRP and once OPEN. No QSO can be used in both QRP and OPEN events.

Ski jump.

Participants must work any fists station on several bands, same day, highest to lowest. Points awarded for furthest dx on lowest band. Stations worked need not all be same fists station and a minimum of three bands must be used, hi to lo *prior* to the jump. MUST be FISTS UP TO BUT NOT INCLUDING THE JUMP Eg QSO on 20m, 30m, 40m, (all FISTS). 1 further QSO on 40m. (may or may not be FISTS. THIS distance is your score). Objective is to work *at least* three bands in one day. Log must show QSO times, stations worked, bands worked and locator or QTH of 'jump' station for distance calculation and also code SKI. Winner will be furthest jump. Minimum three bands required to validate the jump.

Alpine skiing.

Participants must work, on one day, at least one station (FISTS or non-FISTS) in Austria, followed by one in each bordering country (Czech Republic, Germany, Hungary, Italy, Liechtenstein, Slovakia, Slovenia, and Switzerland). Points awarded 1 per country (max 9). Log to include date and time of event and code ALP. Objective is to work Austria and all bordering states.

Cross country skiing.

Participants must work contiguous countries, on one day. Points for number of contiguous countries worked. CAN INCLUDE NON FISTS. Countries from approved list only. NO water skiing. Objective is to use a map and selectively call / answer on air. Log must include callsign and code CSS. Approved map is shown below. We have restricted it to Euro stations for two reasons; 1, we don't think condx will really permit the whole of South America! 2, the logging software is a nightmare.

Bobsleigh.

Participants must work with one (or more) stations on at least three bands on one day. i.e. the same team have a net QSO on several bands in one 24hr period. Points are number in team x number of bands. Obviously this activity promotes sked making. Must be FISTS. Log to include callsigns and bands and code BOB. Objective is to net with a group consistently.

Speedskating.

Participants to work one stated non FISTS member or any FISTS members on as many bands as possible as fast as possible on one day. i.e. if the person you work is not a FIST then you must work the same station on several bands, if the station you work is / are all FISTS members then ANY FISTS members count. Points for number of bands and time between starting and finishing. For time, points awarded 1/ elapsed time in minutes (i.e. the faster the better!). Log to include start and end time of the event, callsigns worked and bands, also code SPD

Cross country approved list

UK	Belgium, Denmark, France, Germany, Netherlands, Norway, Eire
Eire	Northern Ireland, UK
Belgium	France, Germany, Luxembourg, Netherlands
Denmark	Faroe, Greenland, Canada, Iceland, Norway, Poland, Sweden, UK.
Germany	Denmark, Poland, Czech Republic, Switzerland, France, Belgium, Luxembourg, Netherlands
Netherlands	Germany, Belgium, France, UK
Norway	Sweden, Finland, Russia
France	Belgium, German, Italy, Netherlands, Spain
Northern Ireland	Ireland, UK

Spain	France, Portugal
Austria	Czech Republic, Germany, Hungary, Italy, Liechtenstein, Slovakia, Slovenia, and Switzerland.
Czech Republic	Slovakia, Poland, Austria, Hungary
Hungary	Slovakia, Ukraine, Romania, Serbia, Croatia, Slovenia, Austria
Italy	France, Switzerland, Austria, Slovenia, San Marino, Vatican City
Lichtenstein	Austria, Switzerland
Slovakia	Germany, Czech Republic, Slovakia, Ukraine, Belarus, Lithuania, Poland
Slovenia	Austria, Croatia, Hungary, Italy.
Russia	Norway, Finland, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Belarus, Ukraine, Georgia, Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Mongolia, North Korea, China
Latvia	Russia, Belarus, Estonia, Lithuania
Lithuania	Belarus, Latvia, Poland, Russia
Poland	Germany, Czech Republic, Slovakia, Ukraine, Belarus, Lithuania, Russia
Estonia	Latvia, Russia
Belarus	Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Russia, Ukraine

Please note the above rules are provisional, but they won't change too much.

Straight Key Week 2018

This will run in December again, Sunday 2nd to Saturday 8th. Same rules as last year.

Day Hopper 2018

Day Hopper is running now, so watch the clock if you are interested in that! Monday October 1st, Tuesday 9th, Wednesday 17th, Thursday 25th, Friday 26th, Wednesday 31st. Thursday November 8th, Friday 16th, Monday 19th, Tuesday 27th. Monday December 3rd, Tuesday 11th, Wednesday 19th, Thursday 27th, Friday 28th.

Three periods per day 08-0900, 13-1400, 18-1900 Zulu.

<https://fists.co.uk/activitiescalendar.html#fistshopper2018>

That's it for for now. Enjoy the bands!!

73

David G4YVM 15868 activities@fists.co.uk

Results for October 2018 Ladder

Callsign	Posn	Prev	Move	Total	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct
G4LRG	1	1	-	661	58	68	71	68	61	78	69	63	64	61
G0ILN	2	2	-	555	45	46	49	66	45	55	57	59	69	64
I5ECW	3	4	↑	516	47	41	52	47	54	67	38	41	59	70
G4LHI	4	3	↓	508	44	42	42	43	48	58	73	52	51	55
M5ABN	5	5	-	454	48	55	34	54	37	43	37	48	50	48
DL3HR	6	6	-	301		43	33	28	28	37	35	26	29	42
OH7QR	7	7	-	297	40	44	26	13	16	47	24	25	19	43
I5EFO	8	8	-	279	27	33	33	33	15	33	30	15	30	30
2E0DPH	9	9	-	263	45	45	24	19	21	21	12	34	24	18
M0DRK	10	10	-	169	26	18	15	12	24		19	18	21	16
G3ZRJ	11	11	-	145	15	27	15	30		43		15		
DK3DUA	12	12	-	104	21	25		12			21		25	
MW0BGL	13	13	-	88	18	18		13	24		15			
G0OEY	14	14	-	73				6	3	19	19	7	15	4
M0UZE	15	15	-	70	12				9	31	15			3
OH2BN	16	19	↑	67	3		6	6	9	9	9	6	3	16
MI0WWB	17	22	↑	65						16	12	4	12	21
M0PBZ	18	16	↓	63				27	36					
G0XAH	=19	17	↓	60			15	18	27					
M0GSX	=19	21	↑	60						21			24	15
SV2BBK	21	18	↓	56		14	15	12	11		1			3
G0JHK	22	26	↑	55									23	32
G4KLE	23	20	↓	47						47				
G4TGJ	24	24	-	42		3		9	10	7			10	3
GM0EPO	25	23	↓	40	9	12		19						
EA7KB	26	25	↓	29	29									
G4DNP	27	27	-	27		3							18	6
IZ2FME	28	28	-	17		17								
OZ8AGB	=29	=29	-	15	3	6		6						
SP7OGP	=29	=29	-	15		15								
G7WHI	31	31	-	13								13		
G3XVL	32	-	↑	12										12
IW2JJS	33	32	↓	10						10				
DL4FDM	34	33	↓	7			7							
M0DHP	35	34	↓	6									6	
OK1PSI	36	35	↓	4	4									
M0SHM	=37	=36	↓	3								3		
SA5ACN	=37	=36	↓	3	3									
SP2SWI	=37	=36	↓	3		3								

Comments for October 2018 Ladder

Entrant	Comments
Nils DL3HR	The last Session was very hard to work, deep qsb, hvy qrn. Hpe cuagn in November.
Richard G0ILN	Good fun as always and a few new faces. Richard G0ILN
Andrew G0OEY	Very poor conditions here with a lot of local noise on 80m. Only managed a couple this month.
Chris G3XVL	Good to be taking part in the ladder after our recent move to a new QTH.
Robin G4DNP	Hard work with QRP Best 73s
Peter G4LHI	G4LHI.Ladder claim for October. Vy much better condx during second session, But very deep QSB at times. Enjoyed it as usual & mni tnx fer all members participating. & the organizers 73 Peter G4LHI
John G4LRG	Good turnout despite the poor conditions. Thanks to all for the points.
Richard G4TGJ	Only one QSO in the ladder this month.
Emil I5EFO	HPE CUAGN 73 de Emil, I5EFO (17028)
Paul M0GSX	Hi To David and all who run the wonderful FISTS club for us!! Thank You All Very Much. Please find attached my log for one session during October, Bands were a little hit and miss for me on the Afternoon, but could hear loads of members but struggled trying to work them - I think condx were a little worse than in previous Month's sessions, but just great to get a few members in the log. See You all Next Month. Thanks and regards to all Vy Best 73. Paul M0GSX #17642.
Mark M0UZE	Many thanks
Pete M5ABN	Better conditions this month, hope it's a sign of things to come. 73 Pete M5ABN #6423
William MI0WWB	The October Ladder has been another quiet month for me.
Jarmo OH2BN	73 - Jarmo OH2BN
Erkki OH7QR	Here comes my log for October. Condx were a bit better than in September. Thanks and 73 de Erkki OH7QR nr 8318

Upcoming Events

November 2018

First day	Last day	Event	Times
Fri 16 Nov		FISTS Eu Day Hopper	0800, 1300, 1800 UTC for 1 hour
Mon 19 Nov		FISTS Eu Day Hopper	0800, 1300, 1800 UTC for 1 hour
Sun 25 Nov		FISTS Eu Ladder	1400-1600 UTC, 1800-2000 UTC
Tue 27 Nov		FISTS Eu Day Hopper	0800, 1300, 1800 UTC for 1 hour

December 2018

First day	Last day	Event	Times
Sun 02 Dec	Sat 08 Dec	FISTS Eu Straight Key Week	0001-2359 UTC
Mon 03 Dec		FISTS Eu Day Hopper	0800, 1300, 1800 UTC for 1 hour
Sun 09 Dec		FISTS Eu Ladder	1400-1600 UTC, 1800-2000 UTC
Tue 11 Dec		FISTS Eu Day Hopper	0800, 1300, 1800 UTC for 1 hour
Wed 19 Dec		FISTS Eu Day Hopper	0800, 1300, 1800 UTC for 1 hour
Sun 23 Dec		FISTS Eu Ladder	1400-1600 UTC, 1800-2000 UTC
Thu 27 Dec		FISTS Eu Day Hopper	0800, 1300, 1800 UTC for 1 hour
Fri 28 Dec		FISTS Eu Day Hopper	0800, 1300, 1800 UTC for 1 hour