



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

Greetings Dear FISTS

Welcome to this belated BP for December last year (sounds odd doesn't it??). Graham, G3ZOD, extends his apologies for the late production of the basic tables and I apologise for the late handling thereof – I was in Vietnam and we were all 'in' Christmas. I struggle to imagine any of you pacing the streets on Christmas night thinking 'where oh where is my BrassPounder?'

Ivan, G0BON, makes his first entry in the Ladder this time round, well done Ivan!

As I want to get this out ASAP and since I am still somewhat jaded after my 30 hours of travelling, I shall say very little except that I hope 2019 is good for you and please do have a look at the Winter Sports activity. Good luck!!

[Winter Sports 2018](#)

The time is here...[Winter Sports](#) is ready to go! I really think we have some challenges for you to get stuck into – we have Speed Skating, Cross Country Skiing, Alpine Skiing, Bobsleigh and an exciting Ski Jump! All events can be done as QRP or not, as you wish.

This exciting event is scheduled to start at 0001Z Saturday 19th January and run until 2359Z Sunday 31st March 2019. The events are quite involved so do please [check the rules](#) before starting them (see the website) ...some of the events, need to be completed on one day (you can try as many times as you like of course, the logger will sort the best for you) and one event is intended to be done as fast as possible.

I hope that the Winter Sports is something you like.

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

73

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Results for November 2018 Ladder

Callsign	Posn	Prev	Move	Total	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov
G4LRG	1	1	-	727	58	68	71	68	61	78	69	63	64	61	66
G0ILN	2	2	-	588	45	46	49	66	45	55	57	59	69	64	33
G4LHI	3	4	↑	563	44	42	42	43	48	58	73	52	51	55	55
I5ECW	4	3	↓	557	47	41	52	47	54	67	38	41	59	70	41
M5ABN	5	5	-	502	48	55	34	54	37	43	37	48	50	48	48
DL3HR	6	6	-	337		43	33	28	28	37	35	26	29	42	36
OH7QR	7	7	-	324	40	44	26	13	16	47	24	25	19	43	27
I5EFO	8	8	-	304	27	33	33	33	15	33	30	15	30	30	25
2E0DPH	9	9	-	263	45	45	24	19	21	21	12	34	24	18	
M0DRK	10	10	-	185	26	18	15	12	24		19	18	21	16	16
G3ZRJ	11	11	-	145	15	27	15	30		43		15			
DK3DUA	12	12	-	104	21	25		12			21		25		
M0GSX	13	=19	↑	96						21			24	15	36
MW0BGL	14	13	↓	88	18	18		13	24		15				
M0UZE	15	15	-	76	12				9	31	15			3	6
G0OEY	16	14	↓	75				6	3	19	19	7	15	4	2
MI0WWB	=17	17	-	73						16	12	4	12	21	8
OH2BN	=17	16	↓	73	3		6	6	9	9	9	6	3	16	6
SV2BBK	19	21	↑	66		14	15	12	11		1			3	10
M0PBZ	20	18	↓	63				27	36						
G0XAH	21	=19	↓	60			15	18	27						
G0JHK	22	22	-	55									23	32	
G4KLE	23	23	-	47						47					
G4TGJ	24	24	-	42		3		9	10	7			10	3	
GM0EPO	25	25	-	40	9	12		19							
G0BON	26	-	↑	37											37
G4DNP	27	27	-	36		3							18	6	9
EA7KB	28	26	↓	29	29										
IZ2FME	29	28	↓	17		17									
OZ8AGB	=30	=29	↓	15	3	6		6							
SP7OGP	=30	=29	↓	15		15									
G7WHI	32	31	↓	13								13			
G3XVL	=33	32	↓	12										12	
SP2SWI	=33	=37	↑	12		3									9
IW2JJS	35	33	↓	10						10					
DL4FDM	36	34	↓	7			7								
M0DHP	37	35	↓	6									6		
OK1PSI	38	36	↓	4	4										
M0SHM	=39	=37	↓	3								3			
SA5ACN	=39	=37	↓	3	3										

Comments for November 2018 Ladder

Entrant	Comments
Nils DL3HR	25.11.2018 vy hvy contest-qrn. Tnx es hpe cuagn in December. 73!
Ivan G0BON	First session some of the call I made QRP but was quite hard going so resorted to my IC735 with 40W for the rest of the ladder. Last session was hopeless because of CW WW. Thoroughly enjoyed my first ladder entry
Richard G0ILN	The 11th of November evening session was for me a disaster! The 25th was marginally better, but totally different propagation condx. All part of life's rich tapestry! Now looking forward to SKW. Richard G0ILN. Where's that key.
Andrew G0OEY	No chance on the second weekend with CQWW contest all over the bands here. Hoping for a better entry next month.
Robin G4DNP	best 73s Robin
Peter G4LHI	G4LHI.Ladder claim for November. 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	Thanks to all for the points and for struggling with the other contest activity on the last Sunday!
Emil I5EFO	HPE CUAGN 73 de Emil, I5EFO (17028)
Paul M0GSX	Hi David and to all at FISTS, Please find attached my log for my 2 sessions for November, a little hard going again but just had to wait for the "Big Guns" to finish and then "jump in" with my little signal, first session wasn't too bad, but the second session, I had to put up with QRM from the Contest, but I think everyone had the same Condx - so a little hard going.. Thanks Again David, please pass my Regards on to all At FISTS.. 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 challenge continues!
Jarmo OH2BN	73 - Jarmo OH2BN
Erkki OH7QR	Please find attached my log for November. Thanks, Seasons Greetings and 73 de Erkki OH7QR nr 8318

Upcoming Events

January 2019

First day	Last day	Event	Times
Sun 13 Jan		FISTS Eu Ladder	1400-1600 UTC, 1800-2000 UTC
Sat 19 Jan	Sun 31 Mar	FISTS Eu Winter Sports	0001-2359 UTC
Sun 27 Jan		FISTS Eu Ladder	1400-1600 UTC, 1800-2000 UTC

February 2019

First day	Last day	Event	Times
Sun 10 Feb		FISTS Eu Ladder	1400-1600 UTC, 1800-2000 UTC
Sun 24 Feb		FISTS Eu Ladder	1400-1600 UTC, 1800-2000 UTC

WINTER SPORTS 2019

DESCRIPTION	<p>Winter Sports is a set of five events (Ski Jump, Alpine Skiing, Cross Country Skiing, Bobsleigh, & Speed Skating) that take place between 0001Z January 19th 2019 and 2359Z March 31st 2019.</p> <p>There are two sections in each event:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• QRP (5 Watts or less).• Open (any power). <p>Each event can be entered up to two times; once in the QRP section and once in the Open section. An individual QSO can be used in more than one event; however it must be used either only in QRP sections or only in Open sections.</p> <p>Only the highest scoring day for each event section will count in the final results. However, you can try on as many days as you like to improve on your scores.</p> <p>Bands: 1.8, 3.5, 7, 14, 21 and 28 MHz only.</p> <p>Add WQRP to each QSO you are claiming as QRP in your logbook's Comment or Notes field. If you are claiming a QRP QSO, you must also log your transmit output power.</p>
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Ski Jump

Participants must, on one UTC day, make four contacts spread over three or four bands. Points are awarded for furthest DX on the fourth contact.

- First 3 QSOs: Must be with one or more FISTS members. Each QSO must be on a different band in descending frequency order (e.g. 10m, 40m, 80m). FISTS member numbers must be exchanged and logged.
- Fourth ("jump") QSO: Can be with a FISTS member or non-member. This QSO must be on the same band as the third QSO -or- a band that is lower in frequency (continuing the example above, it could be either on 80m or 160m). You must log your 6-character locator and the contacted station's 6-character locator.

Your score is the [distance in kilometres](#) from you to the station in the fourth QSO.

Add **WJUMP** to each QSO you are claiming in your logbook's Comment or Notes field.

Alpine Skiing

Participants must contact, on one UTC day, one station (FISTS or non-FISTS) in Austria, followed by up to eight more with one in each bordering country (in any order):

Czech Republic, Germany, Hungary, Italy, Liechtenstein, Slovakia, Slovenia, & Switzerland

Points awarded are 1 per country (maximum of 9). The objective is to work Austria and all bordering countries.

Each QSO log entry must include a value for **DXCC** ([ARRL DXCC Entity Code](#)). All good logbook programs will include DXCC automatically based on the station's prefix; however, if logging using (for example) a spreadsheet, you must enter the DXCC code yourself..

Add **WALPINE** to each QSO you are claiming in your logbook's Comment or Notes field.

Cross Country Skiing

Participants must contact, on one UTC day, FISTS members or non-members in contiguous countries as listed in the table below. Points are for the number of contiguous countries worked. The objective is to use a map and selectively call / answer on air. Note: not all countries worldwide are included - only the ones in the table are allowed.

Each QSO log entry must include a value for **DXCC** ([ARRL DXCC Entity Code](#)). All good logbook programs will include DXCC automatically based on the station's prefix; however, if logging using (for example) a spreadsheet, you must enter the DXCC code yourself..

Add **WCROSS** to each QSO you are claiming in your logbook's Comment or Notes field.

Table of valid movements between countries

From	Allowed Destinations
UK(*)	Belgium, Denmark, France, Germany, Netherlands, Norway, Ireland
Ireland	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, Switzerland
Czech Republic	Slovakia, Poland, Austria, Hungary
Hungary	Slovakia, Ukraine, Romania, Serbia, Croatia, Slovenia, Austria
Italy	France, Switzerland, Austria, Slovenia, San Marino, Vatican City
Liechtenstein	Austria, Switzerland
Slovakia	Germany, Czech Republic, 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

	<p>Belarus Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Russia, Ukraine</p> <p>(*) For the purposes of this event, 'UK' comprises England, Guernsey, Isle of Man, Jersey, Scotland, & Wales but NOT Northern Ireland.</p> <hr/> <p>Bobsleigh</p> <p>Participants must work, on one UTC day, with one or more FISTS stations on at least three bands, i.e. the same team have a net QSO on three or more bands. The same team members must be included in the net on each band. Points are number in team multiplied by the number of bands. Obviously this activity promotes sked making. The objective is to net with a group consistently.</p> <p>A net on a band must be logged as a separate QSO with each team member. To count as part of the net, each QSO on a band must have a start time that is within 5 minutes of the start time of the first QSO.</p> <p>FISTS member numbers must be logged but don't need to be exchanged on-air.</p> <p>Add WBOB to each QSO you are claiming in your logbook's Comment or Notes field.</p> <hr/> <p>Speed Skating</p> <p>Participants must work, on one UTC day, stations on as many bands as possible (minimum 2 and maximum 6) and as fast as possible. You have a choice on a day whether to work FISTS members or not:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If you contact a non-FISTS member on the first QSO of the day, all the following QSOs must be with the same non-member. • If you contact a FISTS member on the first QSO of the day, all the following QSOs must be with one or more FISTS members. <p>Points are for the number of bands and least time between the first and last QSO. This is calculated as follows (you don't need to do this - it will be done after you send in your log!): $(10,000,000 \times \text{number of bands}) / \text{time between last and first QSO in minutes}$</p> <p>If contacting FISTS members, their member numbers must be exchanged on-air and logged.</p> <p>Add WSPEED to each QSO you are claiming in your logbook's Comment or Notes field.</p>
LOGS	<p>Entries must be received no later than the 7th of April 2019 and include your callsign, name, and email address (if you have one).</p> <p>Log formats:</p>

- The free FISTS Log Converter program <http://fists.co.uk/flc> for Windows is recommended for creating and submitting logs quickly and easily.
- Excel, Calc, CSV (comma-separated values), or TSV (tab-separated values) files. The first row/record in the file **must** include these exact column names although they don't need to be in this order:

QSO_Date, Call, Freq, Time_On, FISTS, Mode, TX_Pwr, My_Gridsquare, Gridsquare, DXCC, Comment

Example:

2019/02/28, G3ZOD, 1.825, 17:30, 8385, CW, 5, IO83WJ, IO93WJ, 223, WQRP WJUMP

- 'QSO_Date' and 'Time_On' are UTC.
- 'Freq' is in MHz and must be a decimal number only, e.g. 7.027
- 'FISTS' must either be blank or contain a FISTS member number only, e.g. 8385
- 'Mode' must be CW
- 'My_Gridsquare' can contain your 6-character locator or be left blank, e.g. IO83WJ
- 'Gridsquare' can contain the contacted station's 6-character locator or be left blank, e.g. IO83WJ
- 'DXCC' for Alpine Skiing and Cross Country Skiing must contain an [ARRL DXCC Entity Code](#). Otherwise it can be left blank. E.g. for England it is 223
- 'Comment' must contain one or more of the following: WJUMP WALPINE WCROSS WBOB WSPEED. Optionally it can also contain WQRP.
- ADIF files. These can be ADI (text) files or ADX (XML) files and must include the fields named above.
- Other file formats may be acceptable - please ask.
- If you don't have access to email, you can use official FISTS Activity paper log sheets; please ask and we will post you a set.

The email address for questions and entries is wsp@fists.co.uk.