



Volunteer State Worked All Counties Award (VSWAC)

The purpose of this award is to encourage amateur radio operators to get on the air and make contacts with other Tennessee stations. This is not a contest - but rather an “operating event” that will offer recognition of amateur radio operators who make contact with all Tennessee counties.

This event period is from August 1, 2026 until August 1, 2027.

1. The object of this event is to make contact with all counties in the state of Tennessee. If you live outside of the state of Tennessee, you must operate within your home county.
2. Whenever possible, make the contact outside of your home (base) station.
3. Only use phone or CW modes; digital or automatic contacts will be rejected. This is in place simply to encourage operators to get to know other amateurs by have a meaningful QSO.
4. To encourage the use of all normally accessible bands by offering more points for contacts in certain bands.
5. The point system is designed to encourage Technicians class licensees and newly licensed amateurs to explore all frequency bands and modes available for their use.
6. This event promotes learning about the state of Tennessee by getting to know the counties that lie within it's borders.
7. All contacts must be logged (electronically or on paper) and include the station worked, name of operator, county name, date, time, frequency, and mode. Paper QSL cards are acceptable.

Scoring Philosophy

Unlike traditional contests where every county is worth the same amount, the VSWAC recognizes that some Tennessee counties are significantly harder to work because of geography, population density, amateur radio activity, and propagation challenges.

Each county is assigned a **County Difficulty Value (CDV)**. The final score for a contact is determined by multiplying the county value by the band/mode multiplier.

Basic Scoring Formula

County Difficulty Value × Band/Mode Multiplier = Contact Score

Example:

- Clay County (100 points) worked on 2m CW (×20)
 - Score = 100×20
 - **2,000 points**
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Tennessee County Difficulty Values

100-Point Counties (Rare Counties)

- Clay
- Hancock
- Houston
- Lake
- Moore
- Perry
- Pickett
- Van Buren

75-Point Counties

- Benton
- Bledsoe
- Cannon
- Carter
- Chester
- Crockett
- Decatur
- Dekalb
- Grundy

- Haywood
- Humphreys
- Jackson
- Johnson
- Lewis
- Meigs
- Polk
- Sequatchie
- Stewart
- Trousdale
- Unicoi
- Wayne

50-Point Counties

- Campbell
- Carroll
- Cheatham
- Claiborne
- Cocke
- Dyer
- Fayette
- Fentress
- Franklin
- Giles
- Grainger
- Hardeman
- Hardin
- Henderson
- Henry
- Hickman
- Lauderdale
- Lawrence
- Lincoln
- Macon
- Marion
- Marshall
- McNairy
- Monroe
- Morgan
- Obion
- Overton
- Rhea
- Scott
- Smith
- Union

- Warren
- Weakley
- White

40-Point Counties

- Anderson
- Bedford
- Coffee
- Cumberland
- Dickson
- Gibson
- Greene
- Hamblen
- Hawkins
- Jefferson
- Loudon
- McMinn
- Putnam
- Roane
- Robertson
- Tipton

30-Point Counties

- Blount
- Bradley
- Madison
- Maury
- Montgomery
- Sevier
- Sullivan
- Sumner
- Washington
- Wilson

20-Point Counties

- Hamilton
- Rutherford
- Williamson

10-Point Counties

- Davidson
- Knox
- Shelby

Band & Mode Multipliers

Band	Voice	CW
160m	×3	×4
80m	×2	×3
40m	×2	×3
20m	×3	×4
17m	×4	×5
15m	×4	×5
12m	×5	×6
10m	×5	×6
6m	×7	×15
2m Simplex	×10	×20
220 Simplex	×15	×25
440 Simplex	×20	×25

Sample Scores

Davidson County on 40m SSB

$10 \times 2 = 20$ points

Hancock County on 40m CW

$100 \times 4 = 400$ points

Van Buren County on 6m CW

$100 \times 15 = 1,500$ points

Clay County on 222 MHz FM Simplex

$100 \times 15 = 1,500$ points

Pickett County on 70cm CW Simplex

$100 \times 25 = 2,500$ points

Grand Division Certificates

These awards are given out for participants “on their way” to the Worked All Counties award. Grand Division Certificates are sent as a printable PDF file via e-mail.

East Tennessee

Complete all 33 East Tennessee counties.

Middle Tennessee

Complete all 41 Middle Tennessee counties.

West Tennessee

Complete all 21 West Tennessee counties.

Portable & Power Multipliers

Applied to the final score.

Category	Multiplier
Fixed Station	×1.0
Outdoor Portable	×1.25
Battery/Solar Only	×1.25
Outdoor Portable + Battery/Solar	×1.5
QRP ($\leq 5\text{W}$ CW / $\leq 10\text{W}$ Voice)	Additional ×1.25

The "Volunteer State Grand Slam"

The contest's highest achievement:

- Operate entirely from one home county.
- Complete contacts with all 95 Tennessee counties.
- At least 25% of contacts made outdoors.
- At least two contacts on VHF or higher (50 MC and above)
- At least one contact on CW and one on Phone

AWARDS

Anyone making contact with all 95 Tennessee counties will earn the VSWAC certificate. ARRL members will receive a printed certificate via US Mail; non ARRL members will receive an award certificate via e-mail as a printable PDF file. All licensed amateur radio operators are eligible to participate.

Amateur radio clubs within the Tennessee Section may participate operating under their club call sign.

At the conclusion of the contest period, awards will be given to the top 5 operators with the highest point score.

Grand Division Certificates will be issued as earned via e-mail as a printable PDF file.

All operators earning an award will be listed in the ARRL Tennessee Section Newsletter and on the TNARRL.ORG website.

Special Exception:

If a county has no registered amateur radio operator living there, a rover or portable operator who operates from that county with the sole purpose of activating the county will automatically be credited for “a contact” to that county.