

***There are two ways of making a Field Day contact.***

***The first is calling “CQ” on an unused frequency, this is called “RUNNING”. CQ means “I seek you” and “I will listen for anyone to return my call”. In general, picking a frequency and calling CQ is the best way to make contacts quickly.***

***The other technique involves tuning around the band looking for other stations that are calling CQ. This is called “SEARCH & POUNCE”. Time spent looking around is wasted unless the no one responds after many tries.***

***The GOTA plan is to use the first technique with call sign W1SYE.***

***Say the following after pressing the Push-to-Talk button on the microphone:***

***CQ Field Day CQ Whiskey One Sierra Yankee Echo W1SYE Field Day***

***Then release the transmit switch.***

***A “normal” contact will work like this -- Another radio station will answer your CQ call. By simply giving their call sign.***

***For example, station W1AW will say: Whiskey One Alpha Whiskey***

***When you hear the other person say this, write down their callsign as W1AW. This can take some practice and you may not hear it perfectly.***

***You then press the transmit switch again and say:***

***W1AW Two Alpha Rhode Island Over***

***The other station will confirm receipt of your information by saying***

***W1SYE QSL. Four Echo Connecticut Over***

***“QSL” means they copied the report. After logging the contact, say:***

***W1AW QSL Whiskey One Sierra Yankee Echo Field Day***

***And start listening for other stations again. Wait a few seconds, and if nothing is heard, start at CQ again.***

**Radio operation is not perfect and when something goes wrong like:**

**You can't make out the other person's call sign but you can hear a few letters.**

**Reply by saying something like:**

**Station beginning with Whiskey Bravo again**

**or Station ending in November again**

**or Station with the letter Sierra again**

**If they ask you to repeat your report. Say something like:**

**< Other station Call Sign> Two Alpha Rhode Island QSL**

**You don't hear their report. Say the following:**

**< Other station Call Sign> Repeat**

**Once the information has been captured, end the contact with:**

**< Other station Call Sign> QSL Whiskey One Sierra Yankee Echo Field Day**

**GOTA Log:**

**The contact data, Call Sign and Report, must be written down on GOTA log sheet and recorded in the logging computer by the coach or other logger.**

**The person operating the radio [you], must sign the log sheet and date it. Also please indicate if you are 18 years old or younger.**

**The person who is coaching you will sign their name and enter their callsign on the log sheet along with the BAND (80m, 40m, 20m, 15 m etc.) and the mode (mostly SSB[Phone], but other modes like FT4[digital] and CW[Morse code]) are used as determined by the GOTA coach.**

**We encourage you to work 20 stations which might take about a half-hour. Good luck!**

***If you are not licensed, the transmitter is under control of the coach. Please know that the coach is the responsible individual for proper station operation.***