



Youth Contesting Program

Mentoring Youth Contesters
(CQWW WPX SSB Contest)

Being a host station

How did we find out about YCP?

- HamTalkLive #155 YARC – YCP program. (March 7th)
- YCP Ideal host station:
 - Station should be a “Big Gun” station (Towers, Yagis, Arrays, Etc...)
 - Food and lodging
- Youth Operator:
 - Should have taken part in contesting before
- CQ WW WPX Contest. (March 30th-31st)

Would you sign up?

- Not sure we are a good fit
 - We take part in contest but don't consider ourselves a contesting station
- Only 3 weeks to get ready
 - Scheduling conflicts
- No prior experience

Our Station

WC8VOA, it's also a museum



Setting Expectations

- Not a “Big Gun” station, but better than home
 - 3 radios with amplifiers (500w – 1300w)
 - Beams 10m-15m-20m, dipoles for 40m-80m
- Limited Hours:
 - Can’t stay overnight (No lodging)
 - Not operating the full contest
 - Weekends (crowded, noisy)
- Accessibility:
 - Drive time, worth it?

Pairing

- Patrick (KE8KLC)
 - Technician License, now General
 - 8th grade (14 yrs)
 - 30 minutes away
 - Contest history
 - Field Day (2018)
 - ARRL DX Phone (2018)



Patrick KE8KLC & Neil Rapp WB9VPG

Good Team = Good Experience

- Building the team
 - Contesters
 - Mentors/Elmers
 - Good with kids/youth (Encouragement)
 - Neil (WB9VPG)
 - Mike (KB8ZYE)
 - Jocelyn (KD8VRX)
 - Chris(KD8YVJ)
- It's not about us, it's about them

Planning for WPX

- Get familiar with radios/software
- Operating hours/schedule
- Category
- Propagation
- Strategy
- FOOD!
- Contesting 101
 - Manage time effectively
 - No bad habits

Let's get started



Chris KD8YVJ & Patrick KE8KLC

Working the contest

- Friday night
 - 80m dipole not working!
- Saturday & Sunday
 - Logging issue
 - Museum open
 - Visitors
 - Guest operators

Results

- QSO: 1,590
- Multiplier: 570
- Score: 1,452,930
- Operated 32 hours of 48 hours
- 60% of QSO's made by Youth Operators
 - Chris (KD8YVJ) & Patrick (KE8KLC)
- CQ WW WPX SSB Raw Score. Could get 1st in 8th call district, top 10 in the USA

Mentoring Youth

- This was a great experience
- It's not all about the station, skills matter
 - Attend Contest University
- Share your knowledge
- Share your station
- Consider being a mentor/elmer to youth contesters www.yarc.world/ycp