

W7DXX Contest Team

Have some fun - learn something new - join the W7DXX Contest Team

The CQ International WPX SSB Contest is the weekend of March 27th-28th - right around the corner! It's a simple exchange - RS (59) followed by a consecutive serial number beginning at one (001). Simple enough :)

For the CW only folks, your turn is coming at the end of May. You might want to follow along since the set-up will be the same as for SSB - hey, you might even find a microphone somewhere ;)

One of the "problems" associated with multi-op contesting is having a "common" log - so different station operators don't keep working (or trying to work) the same station (duping) - and - then being able to submit a Contest Log that accurately reflects all the contacts.

That's easy when you just drop in to your friends shack, sit down in front of their radio and work a few stations and the next op takes over the "chair" and does the same. **Not so easy when the ops are not physically sitting in front of the same radio** - which - will be our case!

Fortunately, there is a solution - **but** - it **requires a little work on the part of each operator** - happily, it's not rocket science!

Here's the current plan for using the W7DXX Remote:

- use N1MM Logger Contest software with everyone on the "same" network
- use Hamachi VPN (virtual private network) to put everyone on the same network

Using a VPN keeps it simple, no port forwarding through folks various routers, no keeping track of each person's computer name, no keeping track of each persons external IP address, etc. Several years ago Tom (N1MM) and his terrific team made this pretty simple - **as long as all stations are on the "same" network.**

What this means to you:

You're going to have to download, install, and make work the software - no worries, I (and perhaps others) can help you via text, phone or Zoom.

GETTING READY FOR THE WPX CONTEST

Steps To Be Taken In Preparation

1. Download and install the latest version of N1MM Logger. Test and make sure that you can control the W7DXX remote using N1MM

See: N1MM and RCForb V03072021.doc in the Software Link Pull Down Menu.

2. Download and install Hamachi VPN: See:

<https://n1mmwp.hamdocs.com/mmfiles/distributed-multi-op-contesting-using-n1mm-with-a-hamachi-vpn-pdf/>

This document will tell you lots more than you probably want to know – the most important part involves registering and downloading the Hamachi VPN Client beginning on page 6.

The Hamachi VPN Network ID and Password will be provided to you later.

You “might” have to allow the VPN through your windows firewall and that is covered in the document on page 5. This part really should have come after you downloaded and installed the Hamachi VPN so you didn't have to back up !

3. ALWAYS start the Hamachi VPN network Client to run as Administrator and BEFORE you start N1MM. Also start N1MM to run as Administrator.

4. Join other team members in testing by taking turns entering dummy contacts and seeing that they show in each team member's log window.

VERY IMPORTANT ***** VERY IMPORTANT

At the conclusion of this test each team member will enter WIPELOG in the N1MM entry window and press the Enter Key – this will clear the log for the actual contest.

Need more information about N1MM Logger? See the following link:

<https://n1mmwp.hamdocs.com/n1mm-logger-documentation/manual-at-a-glance/>

JOIN THE TEAM

If you are interested in being on the team, **PLEASE** drop me a note - be sure to include your Name, Call, and phone number if you are willing to share it.

Thanks – '73 es gud dxing – Don N4HH