

About the CQ QRS Net

Here's the details.

The team will be on again for our usual Tuesday arvo / evening Practice QSO Net. CQ QRS will start at 0900z until about 1100-1400z+. This translates to 1700 - 2000-2230+ WA time, 1930 - 2330+ SA Summer time and 2000 - 2400+ Eastern Summer time. (I think!).

So tune around and call anyone you hear, or find yourself a quiet spot in the 3540kHz to 3570kHz segment and start calling CQ QRS at about 75% of the speed you're comfortable receiving at; hopefully responders will match (or send slower to their comfort level).

When you hear someone new, please match their sending speed - or slower. The person you're replying to may not be as deft on the decoding as you - it may be their first ever CW QSO - remember your first? Lather of sweat, key that refuses to send that you tell it, brain that refuses to decode those complex letters that were right there half an hour ago, etc! So keep it slow and keep it simple for a start - just aim to exchange callsigns, RSTs and perhaps names if conditions are good. And if someone is sending too fast to comfortably copy - "PSE RPT PSE QRS" or "AGN? PSE QRS" will make life easier for everyone.... and might just encourage other listeners to have a go themselves. The other thing to remember - most operators are writing down what they hear... so when you put it back to them, expect a delay while they read your words of wisdom, before replying.

The aim is to give everyone a go at contacting others - no-one owns their calling frequency on this net... even Monsieur trois cinq cinq cinq :) So unlike working DX, if you hear someone signing of - jump in and call - doesn't matter who was first on the frequency - we're all good mates on this net.... and besides, at the speed we're sending, after a QSO most of us will have forgotten who was first! If you really want to move off frequency (eg because of a spurious switch mode power supply signal that's just drifted into the conversation), you could try sending an abridged callsign of the person you're after, followed by "UP 5" or "DN 5" then K; then call that person on the designated frequency and keep your fingers crossed, they may have understood you and followed... or not.

As always, for newbies, operating suggestions are available from the operating hints link here:

https://www.parg.org.au/files/ugd/ebe236_3ca5ca08bb38429db4eee524bda2f97a.pdf.

There's usually people around until after 1330z - so keep calling until you catch someone. I should be on as usual from home in NSW and via the Remote at Bedfordale WA, and I'll also be watching the proceedings using the VK6QS and Tecsun SDRs in WA and NSW respectively.