# 2024 MS QSO PARTY RULES

**Starts:** 1400z / 6 April 2024
**Ends:** 0200z / 7 April 2024
**Duration:** 12 Hours

**Objectives:**
- Maximize the activation of MS amateur radio stations in as many counties possible.
- Encourage amateurs around the world to contact as many MS stations as possible.
- Incorporate FT4/8 digital modes into the event.

**Bands:** 160m, 80m, 40m, 20m, 15m, 10m, 6m, 2m

**Modes:** CW, SSB, RTTY, FT4/8

**Contacts:** Same station can be worked on each separate band/mode.
Example, W5XX can work W1AW on 20m CW, 20m SSB, 20m RTTY, 20m FT4/8.

**Exchange:**
- <u>W/VE stations</u> send signal report and State or Province.
- <u>DX stations</u> send signal report and Country.
- <u>MS stations</u> send signal report and County.
- <u>ALL FT4/8 stations</u> send signal report and Grid Square.

**QSO Points:** SSB = 1; CW = 2; RTTY = 2; FT4/8 = 2

**Multipliers:** (Earned ONCE regardless of band/mode worked.)
- <u>W/VE stations</u> earn 1 for each MS County worked (82 possible) + 1 for each MS Grid Square worked (9 possible...EM41-44 and EM50-54).
- <u>DX stations</u> earn 1 for each MS County worked (82 possible) + 1 for each MS Grid Square worked (9 possible…EM41-44 and EM50-54).
- <u>MS stations</u> earn 1 for each MS County worked (82 possible), 1 for each of the remaining States worked (49 possible), 1 for each Canadian Province worked (14 possible), 1 for each remaining DX Country/Entity worked (336 possible), and taking the total number of unique Grid Squares worked and dividing by 4.  Example:  100 unique Grid Squares worked, divided by 4, equals 25 multipliers.  (Round off to nearest whole number.)

**Scoring:**
- Fixed:  Final score equals the sum of QSO points multiplied by the total multipliers.
- Portable/Mobile:  Final score will be the sum of the scores from each County operated.
- Vicksburg ARC Contest Committee decisions are final.

**Entry Categories:** (No separate mode or power categories)
- Single Operator Fixed
- Single Operator Portable
- Single Operator Mobile With Driver
- Single Operator Mobile Without Driver
- Unlimited Operators/Transceivers Fixed
- Unlimited Operators/Transceivers Portable
- Unlimited Operators/Transceivers Mobile

**Miscellaneous:**
- All operators must observe the limits of their operator licenses.
- An operator may use only one callsign during the QSO Party.
- Households with multiple amateurs may share the same station.
- QSO-finding assistance (e.g., monitoring DX clusters) is allowed.
- Self-spotting or asking to be spotted is not allowed.
- MS County abbreviations for CW operators can be found on www.arrlmiss.org

**Software/Log Submission:**
- Use commercial software when possible (i.e., N1MM+, N3FJP, WSJT-X, JTDX, etc). Each of these produces a Cabrillo log listing QSO data.
- Hand-written legible logs will be accepted.
- Each submission should include a separate scoring summary showing the number of QSOs/Points/Multipliers/Final Score claimed. A scoring summary sheet can be found on www.arrrlmiss.org.
- Deadline submission to Vicksburg ARC is 30 April 2024.
- E-mail entries to W5XX at ARRL.NET; Snail-mail entries to W5XX callbook address.

**Awards:**
Certificates will be awarded to the highest scoring:
- Each MS County (minimum 50 QSOs).
- Each State/Province/Country (minimum 10 QSOs).
- Any station making 100+ QSOs.
Plaques will be awarded to the highest scoring:
- MS Single Operator Fixed
- MS Single Operator Portable
- MS Single Operator Mobile With Driver
- MS Single Operator Mobile Without Driver
- MS Unlimited Operators/Transceivers Fixed
- MS Unlimited Operators/Transceivers Portable
- MS Unlimited Operators/Transceivers Mobile
- MS Station Digital Only (RTTY/FT4-8)
- MS Station Working Most MS Counties
- W/VE Station
- DX Station

- MS Club

**Questions:**
Contact w5xx@arrl.net or w5ue@arrl.net,