



*The Days before Social Distancing*

## ***The Aero Aerial***

The Newsletter of the Aero Amateur Radio Club  
Middle River, MD  
Volume 16, Issue 6, Extra  
June 2020

**EXTRA!! EXTRA!! EXTRA!! Read all about it!**

### **Temporary Rule Waivers Announced for 2020 ARRL Field Day**

With one month to go before 2020 [ARRL Field Day](#), June 27 - 28, the ARRL Programs and Services Committee (PSC) has adopted two temporary rule waivers for the event:

- 1) For Field Day 2020 only, Class D stations may work all other Field Day stations, including other Class D stations, for points.**

[Field Day rule 4.6](#) defines Class D stations as "Home stations," including stations operating from permanent or licensed station locations using commercial power. Class D stations ordinarily may only count contacts made with Class A, B, C, E, and F Field Day stations, but the temporary rule waiver for 2020 allows Class D stations to count contacts with other Class D stations for QSO credit.

- 2) In addition, for 2020 only, an aggregate club score will be published, which will be the sum of all individual entries indicating a specific club (similar to the aggregate score totals used in ARRL affiliated club competitions).**

Ordinarily, club names are only published in the results for Class A and Class F entries, but the temporary rule waiver for 2020 allows participants from [any Class](#) to optionally include a single club name with their submitted results following Field Day.



For example, if Podunk Hollow Radio Club members Becky, W1BXY, and Hiram, W1AW, both participate in 2020 Field Day -- Hiram from his Class D home station, and Becky from her Class C mobile station -- both can include the radio club's name when reporting their individual results. The published results listing will include individual scores for Hiram and Becky, plus a combined score for all entries identified as Podunk Hollow Radio Club. The temporary rule waivers were adopted by the PSC on May 27, 2020.

ARRL Field Day is one of the biggest events on the amateur radio calendar, with over 36,000 participants in 2019, including entries from 3,113 radio clubs and emergency operations centers. In most years, Field Day is also the largest annual demonstration of ham radio, because many radio clubs organize their participation in public places such as parks and schools.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, many radio clubs have made decisions to cancel their group participation in ARRL Field Day this year due to public health recommendations and/or requirements, or to significantly modify their participation for safe social distancing practices. The temporary rule waivers allow greater flexibility in recognizing the value of individual and club participation regardless of entry class.

ARRL is contacting logging program developers about the temporary rule waivers so developers can release updated versions of their software prior to Field Day weekend.

Participants are reminded that the preferred method of submitting entries after Field Day is via the [web applet](#). The ARRL Field Day rules include instructions for [submitting entries](#) after the event. Entries must be submitted or postmarked by Tuesday, July 28, 2020.

The ARRL Field Day [web page](#) includes a series of articles with ideas and advice for adapting participation this year.

*Source: The ARRL Letter for May 28, 2020*