



SOTA:

Summits on the Air

Virtual SOTA Gathering – May 20, 2021

Organized by Ken-KI7VEM

Set your name to “First + Callsign”

Mute your mic

Pass questions via Chat

We'll hear from:

Darryl-WW7D on Care and Feeding of Chasers

Roland-K7FOP on Gear that MG use

Etienne-K7ATN on VHF Contesting

AND then YOU – New to SOTA? Ask questions!

QRP VHF FM 2m/70cm



BASIC 2m/70cm FM VHF Contest Set-up

- 2m/70cm HT with 146MHz and 446.00MHz
- Roll-up J-pole and a pole
- Extra feedline to get antenna higher
- Logbook and UTC clock
- Necessary adapters/bungee or strap

SEMI-OPTIONAL Items

- Perhaps low loss feedline
- Clipboard with log sheet plus favorite pen
- Extra HT battery or 12V battery
- Snacks, water, chair, sunshade, extra clothing (ten essentials are not actually extra!)

HT with External 12V Battery



Good 2m Contest Practices

- Read the Rules – especially if submitting a log
- Short CQ on 146.52 asking folks to QSY
- Keep QSOs short – especially on .52
- Keep QSOs focused on the VHF Contest
 - SOTA Summit Refs only for S2S folks
- Help others with their Grid Square - QRZ
- Ask for 446.00 to make another QSO
- Help others w/ Yaesu HT that do shift on 70cm
- Follow others that QSY to 446.00
- Most analog activity is in the first few hours
- Benefits for all are good operating practices
- Getting familiar with equipment and propagation

QRP VHF SSB/CW 6m/2m/70cm



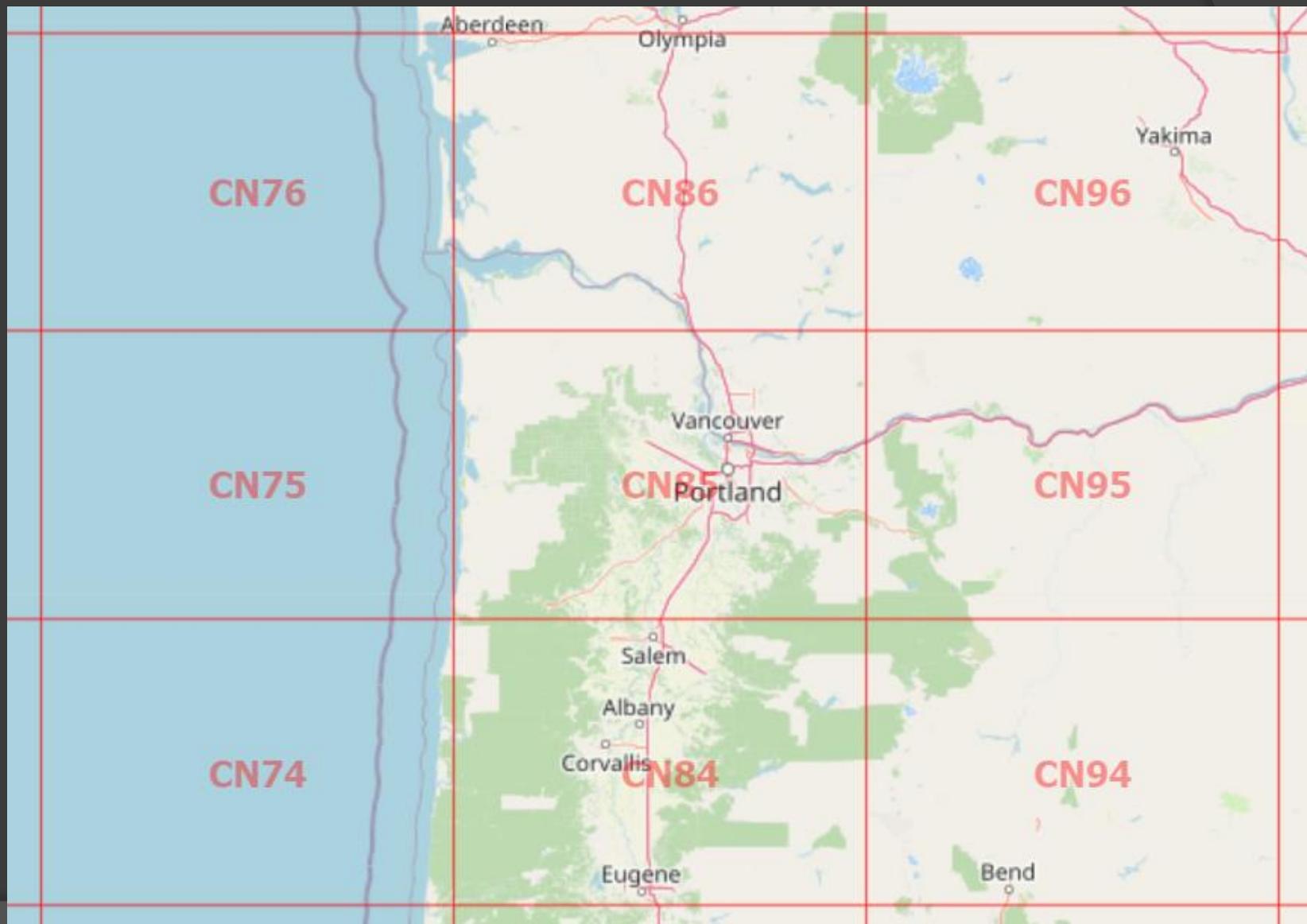
SSB VHF Contest Set-up

- Portable SSB radio with 6m/2m + maybe 70cm
- Mic and Paddle – QRP CW can go far!
- Battery for hours of operating
- Horizontal dipole for 6m and small Yagi for 2m
 - (You could rely on FM HT for 70cm contacts)
- A tripod or guyed paint pole for antennas
- Good feedline
- The Basic Set-up described above for FM

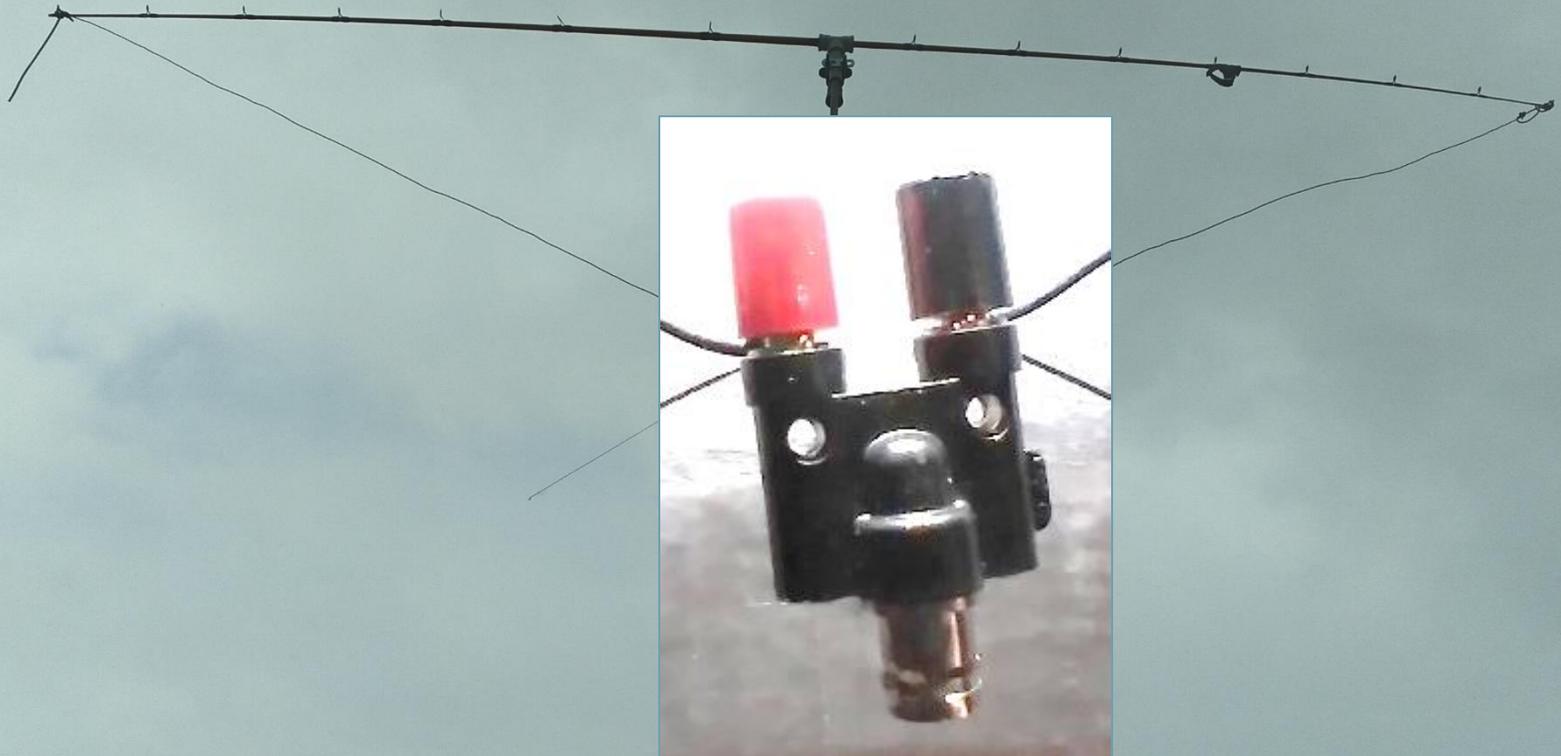
Good 2m Contest Practices - SSB

- Read the Rules – especially if submitting a log
- Most activity on 50.125+ and 144.200+
- Keep QSOs short – especially on calling freq
- Ask for “Other Bands?” to make another QSO
- Remember to do a full exchange, even if you already know Grid and callsign
- Most analog activity is in the first few hours
- Louderize signals if using a yagi

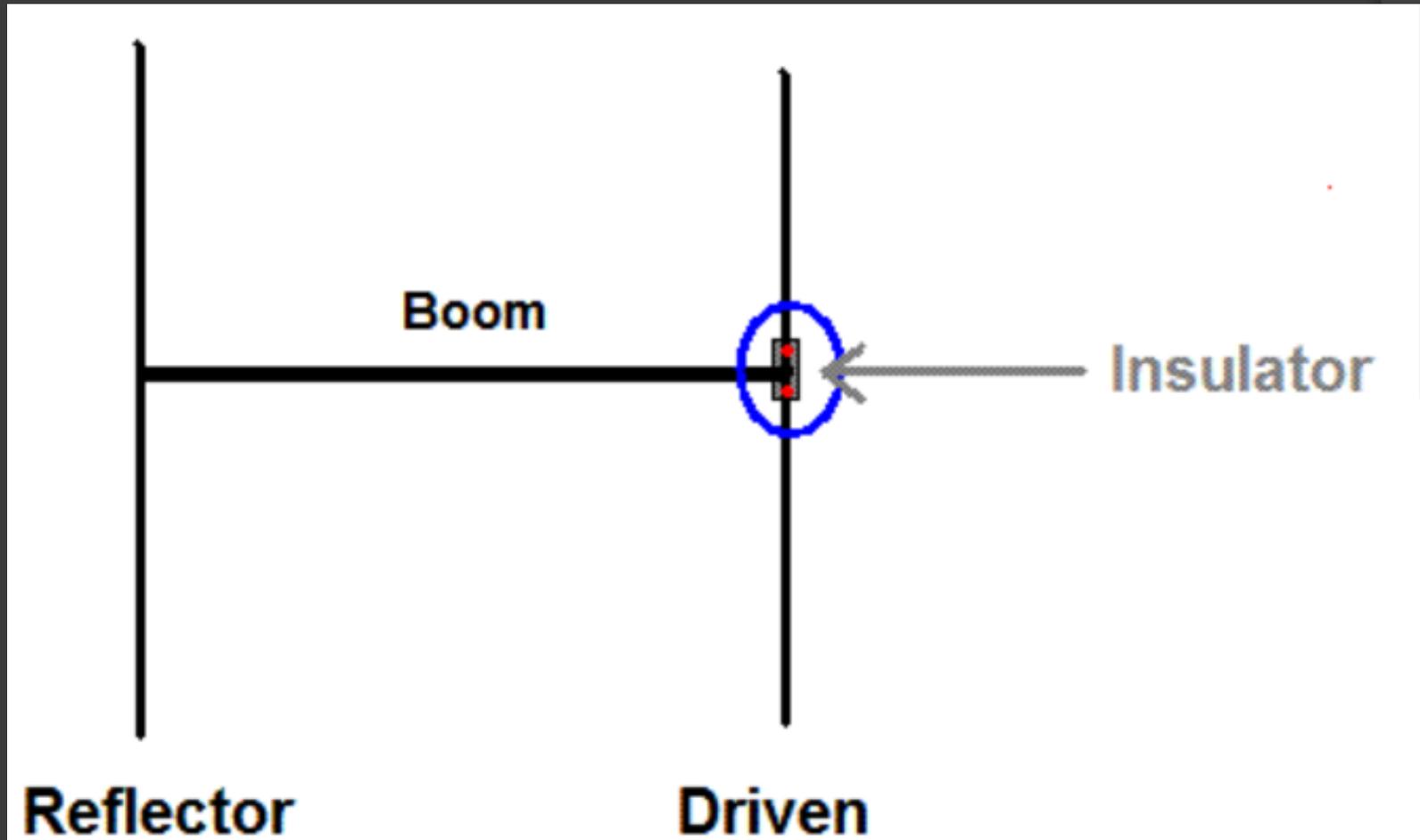
<https://dxcluster.ha8tk.s.hu/hamgeocoding>



6m / 2m Dipole – Horizontal for SSB



<https://www.hamuniverse.com/wb2vuo2elyagi.html>



50.4 MHz

116.90"

111.33"

46.96" - 58.69"

<https://www.qsl.net/k7yo/6m2yagi.htm>



Arrow "Satellite" 2m/70cm Yagi



6m Moxon - <https://blog.radioartisan.com/homebrew-lightweight-6-meter-moxon/>



Possible W7W Summits

W7W Peak Name	SOTA Ref.	Access	Note	Near
Bells Mountain	W7W/LC-136	Short Hike	Quiet	Battle Ground
Big Huckleberry Mountain	W7W/LC-069	Long Hike	Quiet	Carson
Davis Peak	W7W/LC-118	Near DU	RF/Quiet	Woodland
Dog Mountain	W7W/LC-119	Long Hike	Busy	Battle Ground
Greenleaf Peak	W7W/LC-104	Long Hike	Quiet	Carson
Larch Mountain	W7W/LC-103	Short Hike	RF/Busy	Battle Ground
Lookout Mountain	W7W/LC-066	Drive Up	RF/Quiet	Battle Ground
Prune Hill	W7W/LC-164	Drive Up	Busy	Camas
Red Mountain	W7W/LC-036	Long Hike	RF/Busy	Carson
Silver Star Mountain	W7W/LC-058	Long Hike	Busy	Battle Ground
Siouxon Peak	W7W/LC-073	Nice Hike	Busy?	Battle Ground
Three Corner Rock	W7W/LC-101	Long Hike	Busy	Carson

Possible W70 Summits

W70 Peak Name	SOTA Ref.	Access	Note	Near
Bald Peak	W7O/NC-051	Drive Up	Busy	Hillsboro
Cooper Mountain	W7O/WV-099	Near Drive Up	Busy	Beaverton
Frog Lake Buttes	W7O/CN-024	Road Hike	Quiet	Mt. Hood
Larch Mountain	W7O/WV-062	Near Drive Up	Busy	Corbett
Rogers Peak	W7O/NC-001	Nice Hike	Quiet	Timber
Round Top	W7O/NC-015	Short Hike	RF Site	Timber
Sheridan Peak	W7O/NC-009	Short Hike	Quiet	Carlton
Mount Sylvania	W7O/WV-096	Drive Up	Busy	Portland
4620-Blue Box Summit	W7O/CN-090	Near Drive Up	Quiet	Mt. Hood
Clear Lake Butte	W7O/CN-059	Nice Hike	Busy	Mt. Hood
Mount Hebo	W7O/NC-006	Near Drive Up	Quiet	Hebo
Nicolai Mountain	W7O/NC-013	Drive Up	RF Site	Astoria

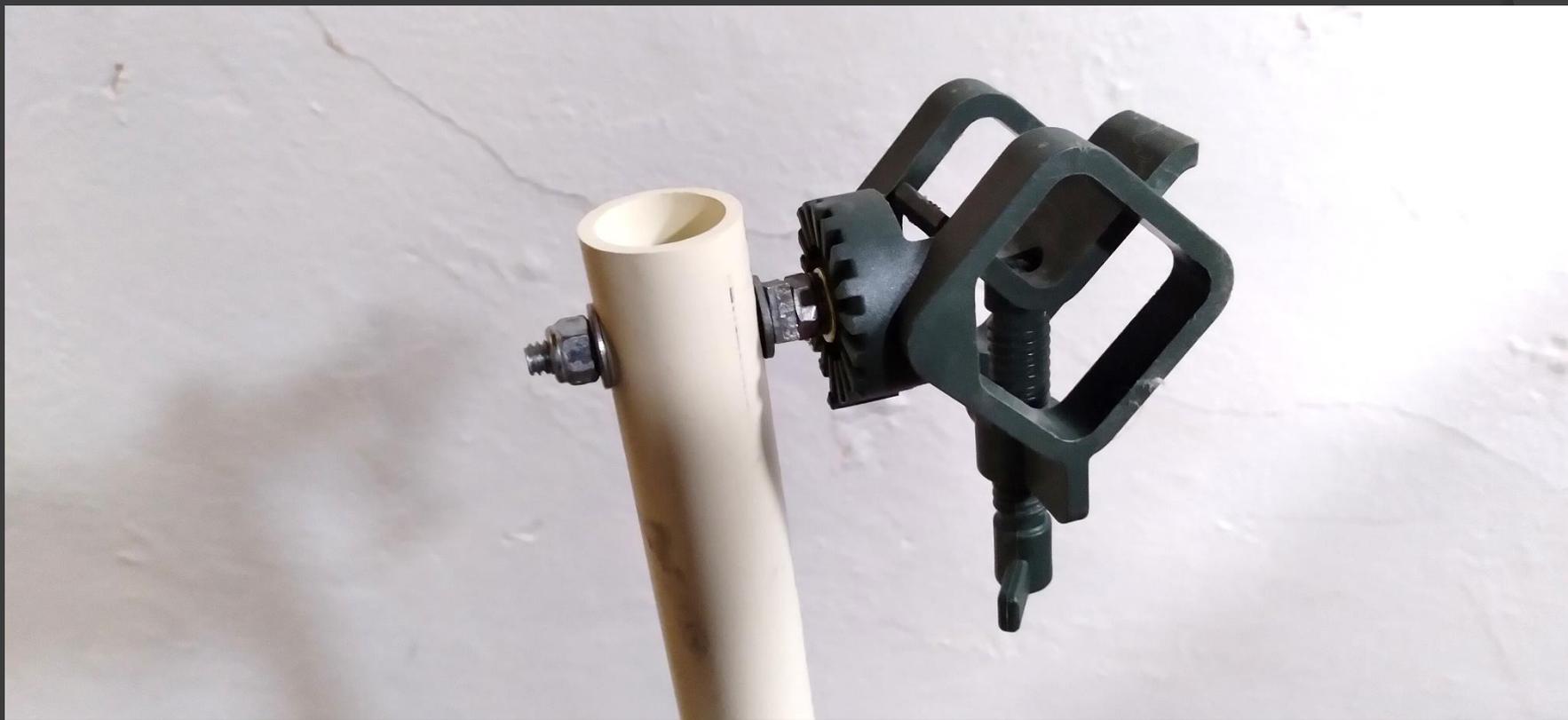
Wooster "Lock Jaw" Paint Tool



Wooster “Lock Jaw” Paint Tool x Two



Wooster “Lock Jaw” Paint Tool



Feedline Losses

10 foot length of RG-174 at 10W

	10MHz	146MHz	446MHz
Power loss:	0.5W	2.2W	3.7W

BEING HEARD is one thing...

LOSING OUT ON SIGNALS TO HEAR is another.

NOT just power loss - it's received signal loss too.