

# The New FT Challenge Contest

Contest Transparency

# FT Challenge History

**First weekend of December**  
**Sponsored by AA5AU & W0YK**

- **10-Meter RTTY Contest (2011)**
  - ARRL RTTY Roundup rules, LP and 10m only
- **FT8 Roundup (2018)**
  - 5 bands
- **FT Roundup (2019)**
  - FT4 added
- ***FT Challenge (2024)***

# FT Challenge

## 1. Daily default FT4/8 exchange

- Transparent to both contesters and non-contesters
- Sub-bands:
  - Recommended contest sub-bands, and
  - Daily FT4/FT8 sub-bands
- *Anyone works anyone*

## 2. Distance-based scoring

- More equitable across worldwide geography
- Accommodates Tx2 shortcut
  - QSO counts without distance points

# FT Challenge Strategy

- Alternate between Odd and Even cycles
- Alternate between FT4 and FT8
- Alternate between 5 bands
- S&P in daily sub-bands to get distance points
  - i.e., avoid Tx2 replies to your CQs
- If SO2R:
  - Either FT4 or FT8 on **BOTH** radios
  - use **OPPOSITE** cycles on each radio