

Canadian Operating Event - 2021 VE9SKCC Station Operator's Guide

INTRODUCTION

TIME-SLOT SCHEDULING

Canadian amateurs in SKCC who wish to operate as VE9SKCC call sign stations should contact their Provincial Coordinators in order to schedule operating time slots. Only one operator per each Province can use the special event call sign at a time.

Provincial Coordinators are assigned to each Province and are responsible for scheduling your operating times and processing operator log files. Please contact the Coordinator in the region where you will be operating. The Coordinator email address for each region is shown below:

Coe-manger@skccgroup.com (VE9DCD)..VO1, VO2, VE1, VY2, VE9, VY9 (if any)

Coe-manger@skccgroup.com (VE3RDE)..... VE3, VE2, VE8, VE0 (if any)

Coe-manger@skccgroup.com (VE4DL)... VE4, VE5, VE6, VE7, VY1 and VY0 (if any)

The operator schedule is maintained on the SKCC calendar at:

www.skccgroup.com/cgi-bin/calendar.pl?year=2021&month=9

All times and dates are in UTC/GMT. (*For example, Friday 01:00 UTC would be Thursday evening local time in the Canada.*)

The schedule displays time slots that have already been assigned. Pick unassigned times in your call area and notify your area Coordinator that you'd like to fill them. The earlier you make a request the better your chances of getting it. If you find that you cannot keep a previously scheduled time please notify your Coordinator as soon as possible so that it can be freed for others. To facilitate scheduling of your requested operating times please be sure to include the following information so that your Coordinator will not have to look it up: *Callsign, Name, Province, SKCC Nr.*

If you upgrade your C/T/S status during the course of the event please be sure to inform your Coordinator. After you have requested an operating slot you should receive a confirmation email from your Coordinator. You must be listed on the Event Calendar in order to operate at the assigned time; *if you are not on the schedule you are not permitted to operate with the VE9SKCC callsign!*

SHORT-NOTICE SCHEDULING

It is better to schedule well in advance whenever possible. However, you may be able to grab unassigned time slots within 1 hour of the start time by following the short-notice instructions below:

- Include the following six items in your request:

UTC Start & End Callsign Name Province SKCC# to any coe-manager@skccgroup.com

- Email to any of the COE Managers at coe-manager@skccgroup.com

- Do not operate unless you receive confirmation;

LOGGING

VE9SKCC operators must provide a log of all their contacts.

Logs should be in ADIF format and should contain at least the following fields:

Date; Time; Callsign; Band; Mode; Name; RST Sent; RST Rcvd (*The ADIF tags for these fields are QSO_DATE; TIME_ON; CALL; BAND; MODE; NAME; RST_SENT; RST_RCVD*).

There are a number of free logging programs available that are suitable for this purpose. Several programs written by SKCC members are available here:

http://www.skccgroup.com/member_services/files_and_downloads/

You should send your log file to your area Coordinator as soon as possible, preferably within 24 hours of operating. This will get your contacts into the master log with minimum delay and will reduce the number of inquiries that must be handled by Coordinators from members who are anxious to confirm their "stats".

All dates and times must be logged in UTC or GMT.

If you work another VE9SKCC operator you should make sure to obtain and log their personal callsign. This will ensure that they receive personal credit in the VE9SKCC Log and Stats for their contact with you. They should log you similarly. If you find you have made a mistake or omission in any of your submitted log entries please advise your area Coordinator.

Please name your log files in the following example format: VE1-VE1AHX-NS-01.adf

- "VE1" your operating location area

- "VE1AHX" your callsign;

- "NS" the province where you are operating from;

- "01" sequential number (*01, 02, etc.*), different for each of your log files.

Make sure to keep backup copies of your log files.

ON THE AIR

VE9SKCC operators must use only straight key, bug and cootie keys during their assigned time slots. The only exception is for those who were granted exemption to use an electronic key for VE9SKCC station operation during the 2021 event.

As a Canadian special event operator you will use the call sign corresponding to your geographic location: *VE1, VE2, ...etc. and VY1, VY2, VY0...etc.*

You can respond to general CQs transmitted by any station and log them among your VE9SKCC contacts.

Please include the following minimum information in your on-air exchange:

RST; QTH; NAME; CALL; SKCC#. For example: *599 PE Ted VE9AQM SKCC 1629S*

Specifically including "SKCC" in the exchange helps to "advertise" the club to non-members who may be listening in.

You can refer non-members to the SKCC and K3Y website by sending "*SEE SKCCGROUP DOT COM FOR INFO*" or "*SEE QRZ DOT COM*".

You may use the special event call sign on the WARC bands (12m, 17m, 30m) except when participating in sprints or contests.

Operation with the VE9SKCC call is NOT permitted on 60 meters.

In the interest of providing the widest possible coverage please do not run low power as a VE9SKCC operator *unless that is the limit of your station capability*. Low power stations are entirely welcomed and desired to be part of VE9SKCC. But restricting your coverage by intentionally reducing output power is counter to the goal of the event. We want to give everyone the best possible chance of hearing and contacting as many VE9SKCC operators as possible.

If possible, please log in to the SKCC Sked Page while operating as VE9SKCC:

<https://sked.skccgroup.com/>

Then click the *Go Active* button and type your VE9SKCC call into the *Status* box at the top right of the page, like this: =*VE9SKCC/VY2*. You are not obligated to respond to requests or engage

in banter on the SkedPage while operating. You can choose to disable private messaging by unchecking the *Enable PMs* box at the top.

QSL Cards & SKCC Awards

An official VE9SKCC QSL card will be available to anyone who contacts at least one VE9SKCC station. The card will list one QSO per each Province call district worked. Cards will be distributed automatically to anyone who is a member of the SKCC QSL Bureau. Those who are not bureau members may request a VE9SKCC QSL card by submitting a SASE, indicating their callsign and "VE9SKCC" on the envelope. More info on the SKCC QSL Bureau can be found at:

http://www.skccgroup.com/member_services/qs1_buro/

The contacts you make as a VE9SKCC Operator are valid for SKCC awards. Check the individual award requirements for specific requirements.

Thanks for being a VE9SKCC Canadian Operating Event station.

73, The Canadian Operating Event committee