

GERATOL NET 10 STEP QUICK START

1. Welcome to the Geratol Net. **GERATOL** is an acronym for **Greetings Extra Radio Amateurs Tired of Operating Lately**. **The only requirement to participate on the Net is that you have an Extra Class license.** Although the Net Worked All States Award requires working an Extra Class formatted call in each of the 50 states, you can have any format call and still participate. All calls are valuable on the Geratol Net. The Net meets on 3.668 at 0100Z every evening from Oct.1 thru Apr. 30. You are now a member of this group as of your first check-in. We're glad to have you with us.
2. For Net info on the web go to www.geratol.net. That's our website. I recommend reading the F.A.Q. For Net info via e-mail, send a request to ai4il@arrl.net and Bob will get you the info. The Net also has a Reflector as part of the Yahoo Groups. Software to keep track of contacts is provided by W0FP. E-mail W0FP at frostyw0fp@gmail.com
3. When check-ins are called for, give the last two characters of your call, i.e. (WR8O would give Eight Oscar) to the Net control. When called on to check in, give your call, name, state, G# and D# if any, QCWA# if any, whether your call sign is an initial call (if the last two letters of an Extra Class formatted call are your initials), if you are in your state capital and if you are QRP or mobile. Do listen carefully to the check in list and make a list of stations you wish to call.
4. When the NCS(Net Control Station) calls for a work list, get on the work list the same way you got on the check in list, i.e. give the last two of your call. Only give your last two once each time the NCS calls for it. If you did not get picked up the first time, just keep trying. **REMEMBER, only give your last two once per asking.**
5. You are allowed three attempts to complete two contacts. If your first two attempts are successful, your turn is finished. If you call for three different

states all at the same time, i.e.(AZ AR AK), that's three attempts and your turn is over. The NCS will monitor the contacts and has the final say so as to which call is or is not good. **You must repeat back to the NCS reports, numbers, etc received during contacts, so the NCS can determine if the contact is good.** Calls, numbers and other pertinent info cannot be provided or relayed by the NCS. If you did not get the required info during check ins, you will have to obtain it on your own.

6. Each station has their own style for making contacts but keeping it simple and consistent makes for a smoother flowing Net. Use standard phonetics when possible. **PLEASE remember BREVITY! BREVITY!** Give your info the way you would like to receive it. Be courteous toward those behind you on the work list. **HINT:** Use squared signal reports, i.e. 2X2, 3X3, etc. on faint contacts. "Going up for Grabs" is not encouraged on the Geratol Net.
7. To earn the basic WAS (Geratol Award) you must work all 50 states and each of the 50 contacts must be with an Extra Class formatted call, (1X2 = W0WT..K1KS..N8OR), (2X1 = WR8O..NR9Z..KL7J..AG8A) (2X2A = AA1CT..AB1CT..AC1CT). Calls from AK and HI (2X2), i.e. KL, AL,KH,WH,WL, etc. are acceptable for the basic. Calls such as 2X2K (KK6AW) and 2X2 calls beginning with other than A, i.e. (WY7LL) are **not** acceptable for the basic WAS. Calls that are 1X3 (K9LJP) and 2X3 (KA0SHC) are also **not** acceptable for the basic WAS. You must work all 50 states from location(s) within a 50 mile radius of the same location. Once you have worked all 50 states and have received a correctly filled out QSL card (**freq. must be to 4 places, i.e. 3.668**) from each, you must submit them with the proper application and \$10 to the Awards manager KJ8V. Upon receiving the WAS certificate, you will notice that it has a serial number. This is your Geratol number.
8. While you are working toward your basic WAS (Geratol number), you may also work toward earning the All Canada Award, the Board Award and any Endorsement that does not require you to have a Geratol number. Check the Net info packet for specifics on these Awards or Endorsements.

9. **New members cannot work other stations for their G#'s and may not collect G#'s (Geratol numbers) until they have earned their own** but they can work and collect D#'s (Directors numbers) toward the Board Award (Work 150 D#'s).... We already know what the Geratol number (WAS) is but lets explain what the D# (Directors number) is. Once you have earned your G# (Geratol Number), you can work and exchange your G# with other stations and collect their G#'s. You must work and collect 100 Geratol numbers to earn the D# (Directors Award). Submit your Geratol number worked log, sorted by Geratol number in ascending order, with \$10 to the Awards manager KJ8V. You will receive your Directors Award certificate and it will have a serial number. That serial number is your D# (Directors number). Contacts toward the Directors Award must have been made after 2/13/1990.

10 Try to use the work list to your best advantage. If there are no stations that you need to work at the beginning of the work list, position yourself toward the end of the work list, in case something you need checks in half way through the work list. When you have worked 47 of the 50 states, you have priority for your #48, #49 or #50. If you hear one of your last three on, just call 48, 49 or 50 as the case might be, and the NCS will put your right through. When QSLing, make sure to send an SASE to those stations that require one. **If in doubt, send the SASE.** E-QSL cards are acceptable for the WAS but the station sending you the E-QSL must be Authenticity Guaranteed on the E-QSL website. The AG sticker must either be on the E-QSL card or on the printed out sheet associated with the E-QSL. The station confirming by E-QSL must be AG but you do not have to be. Only 2 way SSB contacts in the Extra Class portion of the U.S. 75m phone band, whether on or off the Net, count toward awards and endorsements of the Geratol Net. **QSL cards required only for the basic WAS and the Worked All Canada Award**

Remember, we all went through this, so speak up if you need to. If you're having trouble getting a certain state or maybe you can't get a QSL card from a contact, let someone know so we can take action to resolve the problem. Check out the F.A.Q. on the website. Good luck and have fun. WR8O 2/7/13