SC QSO Party Digital Modes – FT8 and FT4

The following will describe how to setup WSJT-X for SC QSO Party exchanges using FT8 and FT4. Use these steps:

1. Download WSJT-X Version 2.6.0 (or later) from https://sourceforge.net/projects/wsjt/

2. Open WSJT-X. Setup SCQP Configuration:

2A. Before making any changes to your WSJT-X settings, in the menu bar, click

Configuration, highlight your default configuration and click Clone. This will make a copy of your existing settings to a new configuration labeled Default-Copy (Figure 1).

	Bins/Pixel 3	Start	: 100 Hz	Pa	lette	Adjust	
	Solit 2500 Hz	≏ N Av	a 1	🚔 Dio	lipan	Charles &	V
	WSJT-X v2.6.1	by K1J7	et al.				
File	Configurations	View	Mode	Decode	Save	Tools	Hel
	SCQSO PA	RTY >	Band	Activity			
	Default		Swi	itch To			
	FT4				-		
	FT8 FT4 TE	ST +	Clo	ne			
			Clo	ne Into	•		
			Res	set			
			Rei	name			
			Del	lete			

Figure 1

2B. Change the name of the Default-Copy configuration by clicking Configuration in the menu Bar, Highlight Default-Copy and select Rename, then enter a new name, i.e., SCQSO Party

2C. Change to the SCQSO Party configuration by clicking Configuration in the menu bar, then highlight SCQSO Party and select "Switch To." WSJT-X will now restart with the new configuration.

3. Make sure you can successfully test WSJT-X rig control by opening File, Settings, Radio and then click "Test CAT Button". A successful test will turn the Test CAT button green. Also test the "Test PTT" button. A successful test will turn the "Test PTT" button red, check radio for TX activity. Stop/cancel "Test PTT" by clicking button again. See (Figure 2) below.

neral Radio Audio Tx Macros Rep	orting Frequencies Colors Advanced				
: Icom IC-7300	✓ Poll Interval: 1 s				
CAT Control Serial Port: COM18 ~ Serial Port Parameters Baud Rate: 19200 ~	PTT Method O VOX O DTR © CAT O RTS Port: COM3				
Default Oseven Eight Stop Bits One Two	Rear/Data Front/Mic Mode None USB Data/Pkt				
Handshake O Default O XON/XOFF Hardware	Split Operation O None Rig O Fake It				
Force Control Lines DTR: V RTS: V	Test CAT Test PTT Attempt to connect to the radio with these settings. The button will turn green if the connection is successful or red if				

Figure 2

ADVANCED TAB SETTINGS

<u>ALL</u> FT8 and FT4 stations operating in the SCQSO Party will use the WSJT-X "ARRL Field Day" Special Activity Option in the Advanced Tab section.

There are different settings for "SOUTH CAROLINA" stations starting on page 3 and "OUT-OF-STATE" stations starting on page 4.

"SOUTH CAROLINA" Advanced Tab Settings (Figure 3)

general Vadio Addio	TX Macros Report	ang rrequencies colo	is Advanced	
JT65 VHF/UHF/Microwave o	lecoding parameters	Miscellaneous		
Random erasure patterns:	6	Degrade S/N of .wav file:	0.0 dB	
Aggressive decoding level:	0	Receiver bandwidth:	2500 Hz	
Two-pass decoding		Tx delay:	0.2 s 🗘	
		Tone spacing		
		🗌 x 2	🗌 x 4	
		Waterfall spectra		
		Low sidelobes	O Most sensitive	
Special operating activit	y			
⊖ Fox	O Hound			
	ARRL Field Day		FD Exch: 18 SC	
O EU VHF Contest	O FT Roundup	FT	RU Exch:	
O WW Digi Contest	O ARRL Digi Contest		- 10 	
	CQ with individual	contest name Cont	est name: GVIL	

Figure 3

- 1. Check the "Special operating activity" box.
- 2. Check the ARRL Field Day option.

3. All SC stations will need to replace the typical Field Day exchange with your county number/code from the maps/list below, i.e., "1B SC". Enter the exchange information in "**FD Exch**", i.e., "1B SC".

- 4. Check the box for "CQ with individual contest name".
- 5. In the "Contest Name" field, you will enter your 4-character county code (i.e. GVIL).

6. Click OK at the bottom of the Advanced tab which will bring you back to the main operating screen.

Your default CQ will be:

"CQ (4 letter county code) (callsign) (4-character grid square)" Example: "CQ GVIL WN4AFP EM84" (See Figure 4)

	0	Tx 2
	0	Tx 3
	0	Tx 4
	~ O	Tx 5
CQ GVIL WN4AFP EM84	۲	Tx 6

Figure 4

IMPORTANT: BEFORE YOU BEGIN THE SCQP, GO TO WSJT-X TAB "FILE" AND SELECT "RESET CABRILLO FILE"

NOW YOU ARE READY TO WORK THE SCQP!

"OUT-OF-STATE" Advanced Tab Settings (Figure 5)

General <u>R</u> adio Aud	lio Tx <u>M</u> acros	Reporting	Frequencies	Colors	Advanced		
JT65 VHF/UHF/Microwave	e decoding paramet	ters M	liscellaneous				
Random erasure patterns: 6			Degrade S/N of .wav	file: 0.0	0.0 dB		
Aggressive decoding leve	l: 0	÷ F	Receiver bandwidth:	250	00 Hz	(
Two-pass decoding			Tx delay:		0.2 s		
			Tone spacing				
			□ x 2		(4		
			Waterfall spectra				
			O Low sidelobes	0	Most sensitive		
Special operating activ	vity						
() Fox	() Hound						
	ARRL Field	eld Day		FD Exch: 1D IN			
O EU VHF Contest O FT Roundup			FT RU Exch:				
O WW Digi Contest		gi Contest					
	CQ with	CQ with individual cont		ntest name Contest name:			



- 1. Check the "Special operating activity" box.
- 2. Check the **ARRL Field Day** option.

3. All "Out-Of-State" stations will need to replace the typical Field Day exchange with "**1D (ARRL SECTION ABBREVIATION)**". Example: "**1D SFL**". <u>CLICK HERE</u> to find your ARRL Section.

- 4. Check the box for "CQ with individual contest name".
- 5. In the "Contest Name" field, you will enter "SCQP".
- 6. Click OK at the bottom of the Advanced tab which will bring you back to the main operating screen.

Your default CQ will be:

"CQ SCQP (callsign) (4-character grid square)" Example: "CQ SCQP WB9CIF EM69" (See **Figure 6**)





Figure 7

WSJT-X CABRILLO LOG

After you click OK (**Figure 7**), WSJT-X will open a Cabrillo contest log window. Use this log exclusively to prepare and send your Cabrillo log for FT8/FT4 QSOs. All other digital modes such as JS8CALL, VARACHAT, RTTY, PSK, etc. must be logged by different software (not WSJT-X). This is software you normally use for Phone/CW/Digital contest logging, i.e. N3FJP

IMPORTANT: BEFORE YOU BEGIN THE SCQP, GO TO WSJT-X TAB "FILE" AND SELECT "RESET CABRILLO FILE"

NOW YOU ARE READY TO WORK THE SCQP!

South Carolina Counties-Numerated



South Carolina Counties-Numerated

1A - Abbeville (ABBE) 2A - Aiken (AIKE) 3A - Allendale (ALLE) 4A- Anderson (ANDE) 5A - Bamberg (BAMB) 6A - Barnwell (BARN) 7A - Beaufort (BEAU) 8A - Berkeley (BERK) 9A - Calhoun (CHOU) 10A - Charleston (CHAR) 11A - Chester (CHES) 12A - Chesterfield (CHFD) 13A - Cherokee (CKEE) 14A - Clarendon (CLRN) 15A - Colleton (COLL) 16A- Darlington (DARL) 17A - Dillon (DILL) 18A - Dorchester (DORC) 19A - Edgefield (EDGE) 20A - Fairfield (FAIR) 21A - Florence (FLOR) 22A - Georgetown (GEOR) 23A-Greenwood (GWOD)

1B - Greenville (GVIL) 2B - Hampton (HAMP) 3B - Horry (HORR) 4B - Jasper (JASP) 5B - Kershaw (KERS) 6B - Laurens (LAUR) 7B - Lee (LEE) 8B - Lexington (LEXI) 9B - Lancaster (LNCS) 10B - Marion (MARI) 11B - Marlboro (MARL) 12B - McCormick (MCOR) 13B - Newberry (NEWB) 14B - Oconee (OCON) 15B - Orangeburg (ORNG) 16B - Pickens (PICK) 17B - Richland (RICH) 18B - Saluda (SALU) 19B - Spartanburg (SPAR) 20B - Sumter (SUMT) 21B - Union (UNIO) 22B - Williamsburg (WILL) 23B - York (YORK)