

(Email excerpt. From Dave Edmunds, WN4AFP, to Kevan Nason, N4XL on 4/26/2016)

You know what it takes to win any contest... Here are a few of my "keys"

....

#1. BIC for entire event (or at least as much time as your competitors)...

#2 KNOW your "on-air" operator strengths and weaknesses and Maximize your strengths

#3 KNOW your station's strengths/weaknesses and Maximize your strengths

#4 KNOW the contest - read rules 7 times prior to the event...

#5 SET REALISTIC GOALS - You can control your activity - so set a REALISTIC QSO goal. Know what activity you have to produce to Win the contest...

#6 KNOW your top competitors - identify ops with similar station - (I identify ONE target station for every contest... W2EG is my 'target' for WPX cw this year. - Research previous scores

#7 BE COMPETITIVE and ENJOY IT..(Don't allow contesting to become a stressful event.. -- contesting is my stress reliever) - One more tidbit - Please use an interesting and inviting audio CQ in your voice keyer...Encourage a response... even in a contest ops can tell who's enjoying it.

I personally believe that the Operator Skills is more important than any other factor.

There's more, but this is enough for now... please share any of these thoughts on Saturday....

Gotta run

73s Dave