There are two ways of making a Field Day contact.

The first is calling “CQ” on an unused frequency. CQ means “I seek you” and “I will listen for anyone to return my call”. In general, picking a frequency and calling CQ is the best way to make contacts quickly. The other technique involves tuning around the band looking for other stations that are calling CQ. Time spent looking around is wasted unless no one responds after many tries.

The GOTA plan is to use the first technique with call sign K9STV Say the following after pressing the transmit switch (Push to Talk button on the microphone) or as directed by your Coach.

**C Q Field Day C Q Field Day This is Kilo Niner Sierra Tango Victor**

**Kilo Niner Sierra Tango Victor Field Day**

Then release the transmit switch. A “normal” contact will work like this -- Another radio station will answer your CQ call by simply giving their call sign. For example, station W1AW will say,

**Whiskey One Alpha Whiskey**

When you hear the other person say this, write down their callsign as W1AW.

This can take some practice and you may not hear it perfectly. You then press the transmit switch again and say

**W1AW This is Kilo Niner Sierra Tango Victor Two Alpha Sierra Charlie Victor Over**

The other station will confirm receipt of your information by saying

**NE1RI QSL I am Four Echo Connecticut Over**

“QSL” means the copied the report. After logging the contact, say

**W1AW QSL Kilo Niner Sierra Tango Victor Field Day**

And start listening for other stations again. Wait a few seconds, and if nothing is heard, start at CQ again.

Radio operation is not perfect and when something goes wrong like:

• You can’t make out the other person’s call sign but you can hear a few letters. Reply by saying something like:

**Station beginning with Whiskey Bravo again please**

or

**Station ending in November again please**

or

**Station with the letter Sierra again please**

• They ask you to repeat your report. Say something like:

**< callsign > My Report is Two Alpha Sierra Charlie Victor QSL**

• You don’t hear their report. Say the following:

**< callsign > Please repeat your report Over**

Once the information has been captured, end the contact with

**< callsign> QSL Kilo Niner Sierra Tango Victor Field Day**

**GOTA Log:**

Contact data, Call sign and report, must be written down on GOTA log sheet and recorded in the logging computer by the coach or other logger. The person operating the radio [you] , must sign the log sheet and date it. Also please indicate if you are 18 years old or younger.

The person who is coaching you will sign their name and enter their callsign on the log sheet along with the BAND (80m, 40m, 20m, 15 m etc.) and the mode ( mostly SSB[Phone], but other modes like FT4[digital] and CW[Morse code]) are used as determined by the GOTA coach.

We encourage you to work as many stations as possible during your shift. A QSO rate of 60 per hour is possible and can even be exceeded if stations are trying to contact K9STV.

If you are not licensed, the transmitter is under control of the coach. Please know that the coach is the responsible individual for proper station operation.