

AARG Opportunity for POTA

Parks on the Air is a great platform for learning to operate portable radios, set up antennas, and practice all modes of ham radio. The POTA program is an awesome learning experience that will help you become a better ham radio operator.

One weekend each month AARG invites any club member who would like to participate in AARG POTA and to use the club call sign KK4ZBE. This will be an open invite to all club members and can be done either as an individual operator or together as a group.

AARG POTA Guidelines

- One weekend each month, Friday through Sunday (i.e. 2nd Saturday weekend).
- 3 day weekend provides flexible organization for people to meet up or fit their own schedule.
- Possible to pair up with other club members or operate solo.
- Use the club call – KK4ZBE as the Station Call Sign, Your personal call sign is the Operator.
- Adhere to all POTA program guidelines. [Parks on the Air](#)
- Adhere to all AARG operating guidelines.
- Use club call sign to activate a POTA park location or hunt from home QTH. (Note: as an individual using the club call sign, you are still required to operate within your own Amateur Radio License Class)
- Provides practice for single and multiple radio ops is so desired. (Simulate Field Day Ops with Bandpass filters)
- Logging for Activator – In the ADIF file, the STATION_CALLSIGN field is the club call sign. OPERATOR field is your personal call sign.
- KK4ZBE POTA park activation logs should be emailed to POTA@AARadioGroup.org
- No log required for submission when hunting and not at an activated POTA park.

POTA program guidelines [Docs Home - Parks on the Air Documentation](#)

AARG POTA Operating

- Operate according to your Ham Radio License frequency allocations. Recommend to use the [ARRL Frequency Chart](#) to ensure compliance.
- Identify yourself on the air as KK4ZBE. Always use the ITU phonetic alphabet when giving call sign.

POTA Logging

The Parks on the Air program requires that all Park Activators create an log of contacts made during the activation. This comprises of all contacts including those by calling CQ, hunting other park activators, contacts to other special events, or simple individual hams. The ADIF log requires a few special fields that are common in the POTA dedicated logging programs or can be added manually. Email your log in ADIF format to the AARG POTA email POTA@AARadioGroup.org and it will be uploaded to the club account on the POTA website.

No logging is required (but encouraged) when hunting parks when you are not activating or simply at your home QTH.

Special fields for POTA, Station, and Operator:

There are two special fields for a POTA ADIF log. MY_SIG and MY_SIG_INFO.

MY_SIG is the program identifier and will always be "POTA".

MY_SIG_INFO is the unique number identifier for your park location. [Map](#) i.e. US-9203

Active Amateurs Radio Group

Parks On The Air Guidelines

In a Parks on the Air (POTA) club activation, the club uses its designated call sign (STATION_CALLSIGN) on the air, while the individual operator making the contact records their own call sign in the OPERATOR field for individual credit.

Here's a more detailed explanation:

Club Call (STATION_CALLSIGN):

The club uses its designated call sign on the air, just like in Field Day. For the AARG this is KK4ZBE.

Operator Call (OPERATOR):

The individual operator who is making the contact records their own call sign in the OPERATOR field. This is your call sign.

Logging:

The club's call sign is recorded in the STATION_CALLSIGN field.

The operator's call sign is recorded in the OPERATOR field.

The POTA park ID is recorded in the MY_SIG_INFO field.

Credit:

The club receives credit for the activation based on the club call sign.

The individual operator receives credit for the contacts they make, based on their call sign.

Example:

If the "We Love Radio Club" activates a POTA park using their club call W1WHO, and club member N1ABC is at the microphone, W1WHO is entered in the STATION_CALLSIGN field, and N1ABC is entered in the OPERATOR field.

- **POTA Account**

A club must have a separate POTA account with the club's call sign as the primary one to participate in POTA.

- **Multiple Operators:**

If multiple operators are at the station, the OPERATOR field should be updated with the call sign of the operator making the contact.

Logging Software Designed for POTA

- Hamrs or Hamrs Pro
- Ham2k POLO
- Smart Logger
- N3FJP – Amateur Contact Log (POTA Template)
- Paper Log (Low Tech!)

ADIF Edit Tools (if needed to edit log ADIF files)

- **ADIFMaster** (Simple edits and adding missing columns, i.e. Sig_Info, My_Sig_Info, Station_Callsign, Operator)
- **Fast Log Entry V3** (Great for paper log to ADIF file format - Use POTA template)

