

# Making Your 1<sup>st</sup> QSO on HF

- 1) Find open frequency & listen for at a minute or 2 to make sure it's clear.
- 2) Say “Is this frequency in use?”
- 3) Wait 2 seconds and repeat step 2
- 4) Call “CQ CQ CQ this is (your call using standard phonetics) calling CQ and standing by.”
- 5) Wait 3 seconds. If no one responds, repeat step 4.
- 6) If someone responds, write down their call sign, signal report if given, and name if given. Also try to determine their signal strength.
- 7) Now you respond by saying “Hello (their call sign). You are (signal report) here in (your state or country). It's nice to meet you (their name), my name is (your name).” Then spell your name in standard phonetics. “QSL?” Sending it back to them.

# You want to “Rag Chew”

- 1) Remove the “QSL?” from the prior step and ask one of the following questions or one of your own:
- 2) What are your operating conditions?
- 3) Let them know you just got your license and then ask How long have you been licensed?
- 4) How did you get interested in ham radio?
- 5) Did you have an Elmer and how did you meet him/her?
- 6) What’s your favorite part of the hobby?
- 7) Do you like to DX? If they do...How many countries do you have? What is the first country you worked?
- 8) Did Ham radio have any influence on the job you have/had?



# To End the QSO

- A) Make sure you have their call sign and signal report so it's a valid QSO.
- B) Then say “Thank you (Their name or call), it was nice to meet you. Seven three”
- C) Give them a chance to say goodbye
- D) Once they're done, you can start all over again by saying “This is (your call in standard phonetics) QRZ.”
- E) When you are done for the night, you can say “This is (your call) going QRT”