

Why 2 Meters?

If the club (KLARA) is ready to sponsor a contest, why in the world should we fool around with 2 meter simplex?

The answers to this question are very simple.

- 1) A 2 meter simplex contest is open to **any** licensed amateur operator. Novice, Technician, General, Advanced, Extra; license class does not matter on 2 meters!
- 2) It's a great way for newly licensed operators to "get their feet wet" and make some new contacts.
- 3) By adding a single side band division, there is an added bit of a challenge for the higher license classes who have never operated in this portion of the band.
- 4) The antennas, etc. required are very simple and easy for anyone with basic skills with hand tools to home build. They need not be expensive. If you decide to play in the FM division a $\frac{1}{4}$ wave mag mount or a simple ground plane antenna will work very well for you. If you want to play in the single side band division, the basic antennas are only marginally more complicated (although you can, of course, make them as complex as you wish).
- 5) This is a great way to get people out in the fresh air and sunshine, get a radio in their hands, and still maintain social distancing, etc.
- 6) Experimentation is a huge part of the amateur radio hobby. This type of contest gives you an excellent challenge for experimentation.
- 7) Finally (but certainly not least), this gives us an idea of what is possible with 2 meter simplex and very simple equipment, should we need it in the event of an actual emergency.

Hope that helps you understand what we are shooting for!