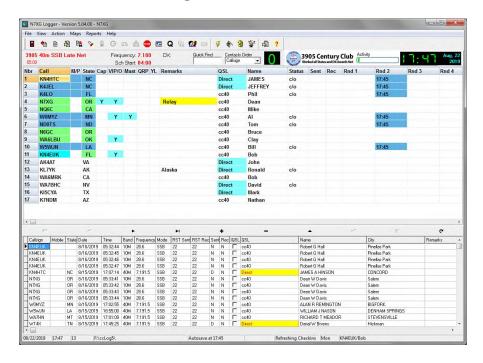


Getting Started Guide



If you like the Century club nets, check into the N7XG Logger software, and the QSL bureau. You do not have to be a member to use either. The software is a free download and you will have plenty of time to evaluate it. After 100 days you will be required to register the software. By then, your registration will be worthy, and you'll be glad to send it. It makes keeping track of contacts and cards a breeze. The learning curve is a couple of days of fooling with it. You can click on someone, call them, get a report, and log the call. Only the RST of 5/9 and 5/9 or whatever your RST call sent/received was is all you have to type in. Then you can print all of your contact QSL cards at one time, and mail them with a single stamp. Or wait a few days until you fill a envelope, and then send it to the bureau. Usually, you can get 10 or so in a regular envelope with a .44 stamp.

If you don't know the software, here is a few tips:

Download and install the software. There are instructions on the website if you are using either Vista or Windows 7. Use the directions for the version of windows you are using. Follow directions.

Personalize your software:

Under File:

System Options: What is important here is to enter your call sign correctly

Under View:

- **QSL Message**: Change the QSL message for each of the nets you will work. Just change Dean and his call sign to yours for starters and if you do not have your first 100 point award, remove the reference. Later you can change it again if you want.
- **My QTH's**: This is more for traveling and until you are operating from a different location nothing is needed here.
- **Station Configuration**: Create a configuration for your main QTH. If you use different antennas or power, then create additional configurations.

When you are ready to check into a net

Action: Monitor Net: Pick a net that will be starting soon. Like 75 meter early or late. This gets you the callsign and name of the Net Controller. If not, you have to fill in the blanks in the next step. Click on the net, then click, monitor net. Select your QSL message for the net you are logging into, and the Station configuration you will be using. (This helps when printing the QSL cards. Everything is automatic).

Once you are monitoring just sit back and watch people as they are checking into the net in the top of the screen. A call sign that is read means that you have already worked him for this band/mode. If it is green then you have not worked him. At the bottom of the screen will show you the contacts you have already made.

You will not see your name until you call the NCS and check in. Now click on **Maps**, and select the net you are logging into. It will open a browser window with a USA map, with pegs on the map relating to the list of call signs on the right side of the page. Listen, see who you can hear, note their signal report (what you hear- like 5/9, 5/7, 2/1 (the lowest you can hear), and note their login number. When it is your turn to call, or someone calls you, you can go back to the logger, and go directly to the number who is (his turn to call), and click on the number, and select log call icon at the top, and enter your RST and his RST. Click, Ok and you have logged a contact.

When it is your turn to call, pick someone you know you can hear, and will most likely be able to hear you, and select his number, and get ready to log the contact and RST.

When you are done, you are ready to print and mail your cards to the bureau.

QSL cards:

There are two mailing bureaus. One for 40 meters, and one for the rest. Send them SASE's and get into the computer, so you show up as CC40 or CC80 or both in the logger. You will be (**Direct** Mail), until you get into the bureau. Once you have mailed your envelopes to the bureau, you can tell the NCS operator that you are "Good in the bureau", or envelopes on the way. It will show up next to the (Direct) until you get into the computer.

Now, you have to setup your QSL card. This is a bit strange, but follow. It is pretty easy once you know where to look.

Reports, Report Explorer, and pick the QSL cards folder on the left, then find a format on the right you wish to use. You can right click on a design and select **Print Preview** to find a sample to use

Pick one that says 4 up. (Prints 4 cards per page 3.5" x 5.5"). You will use it more than a single card.

Save it to your name or your call sign, so you can find it easily, and personalize it. I save one copy later that I can fill out, rather than the computer for those times you screw up, or want to send a personal card. And you are set.

Printing QSL cards:

Reports: QSL pending, this will be a list of the contacts you have made, but have not sent cards to yet.

Reports: process QSL's, The Name of the report is the same name you used when you saved your design. Select **Print Cards**. When you have printed and verified, then, click **Update**. It will register all cards printed, as cards you have sent.

Checking in QSL Cards:

When you begin to receive cards, go to: **Action, Check in QSL cards**. Select the card you have received and double click the mouse. This will change the color to red to indicate you have received this card.

You should now have a good understanding of the basics of the logger. In other Guides we will explain how to run reports, process your contacts for awards, and what you should know to become a Net Control Station.

Terms

Mobile	This station was mobile from a vehicle
Portable	This station was not operating from his own QTH
Good in the Bureau	This station has envelopes or postage in one or more of the bureaus
Direct	This station does not have either envelopes or postage in any of the bureaus