

# GOTA Scoring FAQ

Produced by ARRL, the national association for Amateur Radio

**In addition to the regular QSO points earned, the individual operator of a GOTA station can earn points as follows:**

- The individual operator of a GOTA station can earn 20 bonus points when they complete a minimum of 20 QSOs.
- The individual operator of a GOTA station can then earn an additional 20 bonus points for each additional 20 QSOs (increments of 20) completed up to 100 QSOs (each individual GOTA operator can earn points). Each individual operator may make additional contacts for credit beyond the 100-QSO level, but only the first 100 qualify for the bonus points.
- Additional operators may also earn the 100-point bonuses for a GOTA station, up to the maximum of 1000 QSOs allowed for the GOTA station.
- If the GOTA station is supervised full-time by a designated GOTA Coach, the earned bonus points doubles (the 20 points for 20 QSOs becomes 40 points, 100 points for 100 QSOs become 200 points, etc).

**Q: Do you have to be a licensed amateur to operate the GOTA station?**

A: An unlicensed person may never operate an amateur station. As per the FCC rules, they may *participate* by speaking the message but there must always be a licensee at the control point of the GOTA station with an operator's license class that allows them to use the band and mode being used.

**Q: What is the maximum number of QSOs that may be completed and claimed by operators of the GOTA station?**

A: 1000 (NOTE: This is a change from the 2019 rules)

**Q: How do you earn GOTA bonus points?**

A: The operator of the GOTA station earns a 20-point bonus for completing 20-QSOs at the GOTA station. In addition, they earn an additional 20-point bonus for every 20 QSOs they complete up to 100 QSOs per operator. These QSOs do not have to be made all at once – they can be a cumulative total for operation at the GOTA station during Field Day by the operator.

**Q: May an operator make more than 100 QSOs at the GOTA station?**

A: Yes, but they only receive bonus points for each 20 QSOs up to 100 QSOs. Any additional QSOs beyond the 100 do count towards the 500-QSO limit for the entire GOTA operation. You still receive the regular QSO credit for QSOs over 100 made by an operator, but the maximum bonus points for any individual operator is 100 (excluding the double bonus described below).

**Q: I completed 85 QSOs at the GOTA station. How many bonus points do I receive?**

A: Since you completed at least 80 QSOs you receive an 80-point bonus (20 points for reaching the 20, 40, 60 and 80 QSO levels).

**Q: I completed 85 QSOs at the GOTA station and my friend completed 75. That's a total of 160 QSOs. Can we combine our efforts for 160 bonus points?**

A: The bonus points are given for the effort of each individual operator. You would qualify for four -20-point bonuses (80 points), and your friend qualifies for 60 bonus points for completing reaching the 60 QSO level, for a total of 140 bonus points. You cannot "pool" the additional QSOs to reach another 20-point bonus level.

**Q: How do I earn the "GOTA Double Bonus"?**

A: In order for the bonus points for the GOTA station to be doubled, there must be a designated GOTA "Coach" or "Mentor" working and present with the GOTA station whenever it is in operation.

**Q: Our designated GOTA Coach will be operating the 15-meter CW station in the next tent, with the instructions that if we need them we know where to go get them. Does this affect our double bonus?**

A: The GOTA Coach must be physically present at the GOTA operating position and monitoring/teaching the GOTA operators any time it is being used to be eligible for the double bonus points. The double bonus is to compensate for the GOTA Coach not being at other stations operating, so they may not be involved in any other station while they are serving as the GOTA station coach.

**Q: Some of our GOTA operators are comfortable making QSOs without a Coach while others need the Coach. How does this affect the scoring of the GOTA bonus points?**

A: In order to qualify for the double GOTA Bonus, the GOTA Coach must be present at any time the GOTA station is being operated. If the double bonus does not apply to all QSOs for the GOTA station, it cannot be applied to any.

**Q: Our GOTA Coach wants to go home to sleep. Does this mean we lose the double bonus?**

A: You don't have to have only one person serving as the GOTA Coach. Several experienced operators may serve as GOTA Coaches. As long as at least one of them is present while the GOTA station is operating, you can still claim the double bonus.

**Q: How do we claim the GOTA Bonus?**

A: First, mark the appropriate area in Item 15 on the Summary Sheet. Then in Item 19 on the Summary Sheet, you must list the name and/or callsign of each operator of the GOTA station for which you are claiming the bonus, the number of QSOs completed by that operator, and the number of bonus points you are claiming earned by that operator.

If you do not complete Item 19, the GOTA bonus may be disallowed.

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