Tips for using N3FJP's California QSO Party Logger

The California QSO Party logging software from N3FJP ([available at this link](#)) is a good choice for portable operations using Windows PCs or tablets. The learning curve is easier than some other contest loggers, and the big bold user interface layout is visible in sunlight (depending on your hardware of course).

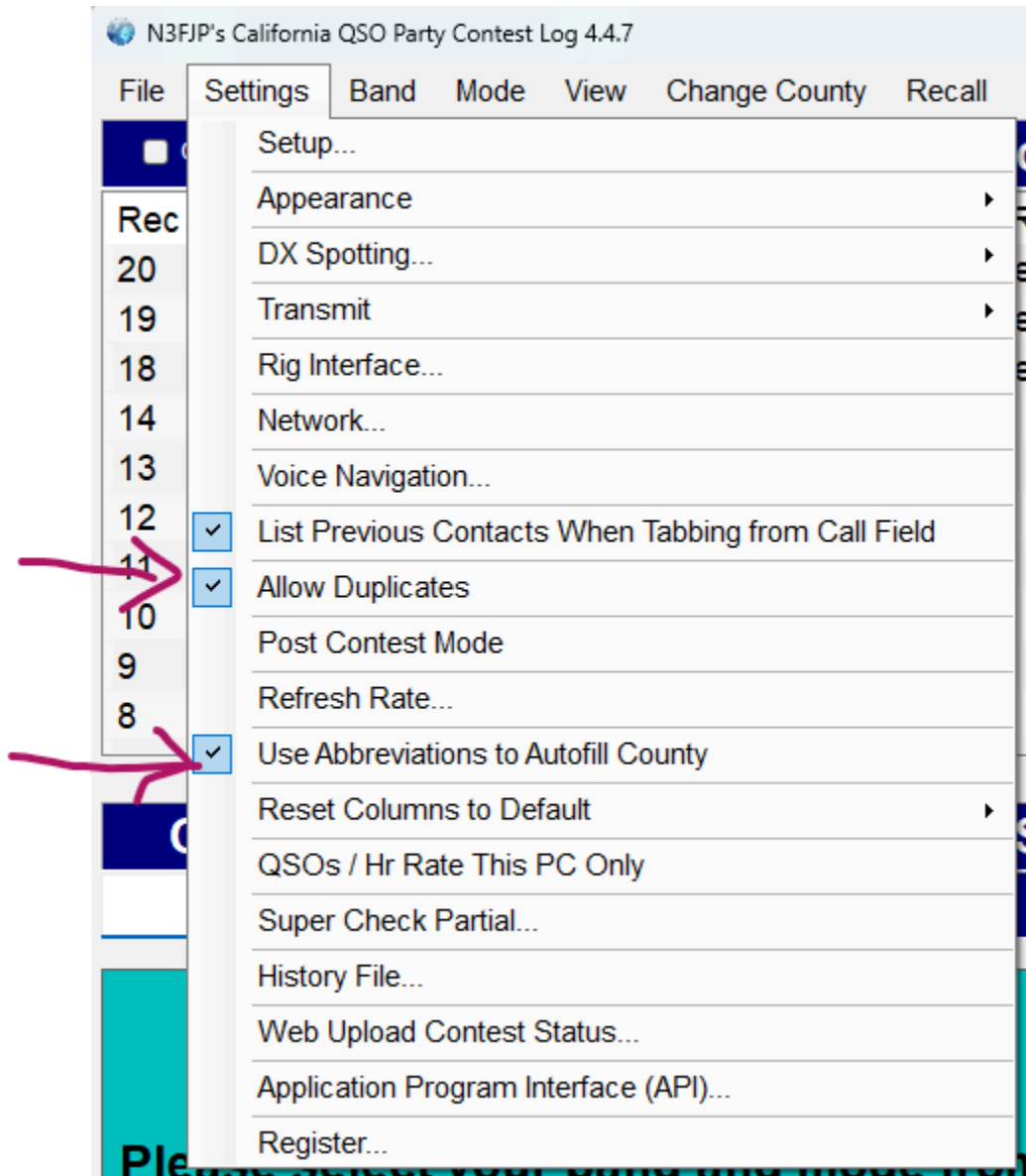Please make sure you're running the latest version (4.4.7 or later).

The options below are highly recommended for CQP operation.
1. "Allow Duplicates" will warn you when you are logging a duplicate contact, but will log the contact if you press Enter anyway. This is recommended to aid in log checking and avoid Not-In-Log (NIL) errors if the other station does not have you in their log. There are no penalties for logging duplicate contacts.
2. "Use Abbreviations to Autofill County" will allow you to type in the 4-letter county abbreviations (e.g. "SBEN") or the full name (e.g. "San Bernardino"), whichever you prefer. This will be easier on CW or if someone gives you the abbreviation phonetically.

See screen shot on next page:

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California QSO Party

N3FJP's California QSO Party Contest Log 4.4.7

File	Settings	Band	Mode	View	Change County	Recall

Setup...

Appearance ▸

DX Spotting... ▸

Transmit ▸

Rig Interface...

Network...

Voice Navigation...

☑ List Previous Contacts When Tabbing from Call Field

☑ Allow Duplicates

Post Contest Mode

Refresh Rate...

☑ Use Abbreviations to Autofill County

Reset Columns to Default ▸

QSOs / Hr Rate This PC Only

Super Check Partial...

History File...

Web Upload Contest Status...

Application Program Interface (API)...

Register...

Rec
20
19
18
14
13
12
11
10
9
8

Please select your band and mode from

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Logging a County-Line Contact

If you contact someone operating from a county line and they give you an exchange such as "SFRA/SMAT" on CW or "San Francisco and San Mateo county line" on Phone, you can log that in N3FJP by typing in both county abbreviations separated by a plus sign '+' (not a slash '/'):

Call	Serial	SPC	CA Cnty	Snt #
W6PW	7	CA	FRA+SMAT	004

This will generate the correct log entries – one line for each county, both with the same serial numbers for both you and them:

Rec	Call	# R	St / Prv / Cnt	County R	# S	County S	Date / Time	Mode	Bnd
5	W6PW	7	CA	San Mateo	004	San Benito	09/13 23:35	PH	20
4	W6PW	7	CA	San Francisco	004	San Benito	09/13 23:35	PH	20

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Logging From a County-Line Operation

If you are operating from a county line, it is easy to configure N3FJP to log this correctly. When you start the logger, if the Setup form appears, just type in one of the counties. (You can't use abbreviations or enter multiple counties here:)

Setup (Ctrl S)

Common Fields

Call	N6J
Country	USA
Continent	NA
Latitude	35.5
Longitude West is negative	-119.3
CQ Zone	3
ITU Zone	6

Required for In State CQP

County	San Benito

Increment Serial # By

● All Bands
○ Individual Band

Choose individual if networking multiple PCs!

Optional

Operator	NN6U
Initials	

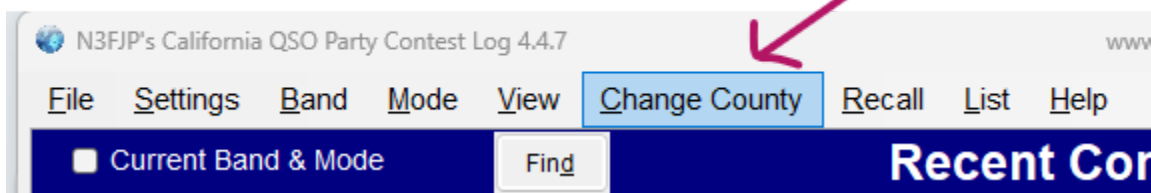☑ Always display this form on startup (you can display it from the Settings menu at any time).
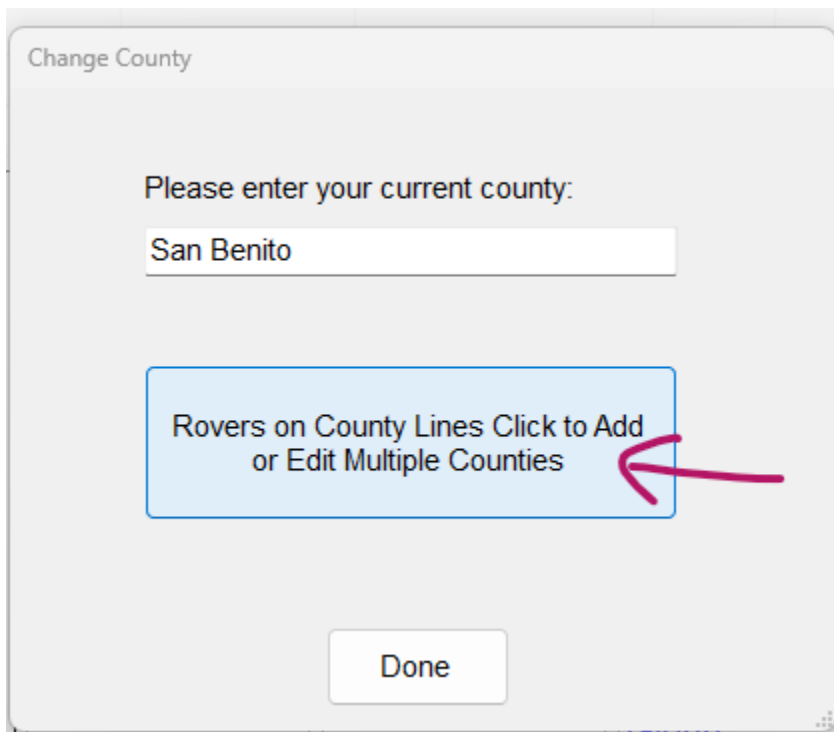
[Help]   [Done]

If the Setup form doesn't appear when you start the logger, go to "Settings", "Setup…" to bring up the form and make sure everything is entered correctly. (Don't worry about latitude/longitude unless you want the logger to give you bearings to stations so you can turn your antenna.)

After hitting "Done" to save the Setup:

- Go to the main menu item "Change County":

It should already have the first county you entered on the Setup form. Click on the big button to add multiple counties:

Type in the second county name (not abbreviation) and press **Enter** (<u>don't just hit Done</u>):

Repeat until all of your counties are shown in the list on top (3-county-line example shown) and then hit Done:

Now whenever you log a contact, the logger will automatically create the multiple QSO lines needed, all with the same sequence number:

Rec	Call	# R	St / Prv / Cnt	County R	# S	County S	Date / Time	Mode	Bnd
8	TE1ST	1	Costa Rica		005	Santa Cruz	09/13 23:46	PH	20
7	TE1ST	1	Costa Rica		005	San Benito	09/13 23:46	PH	20
6	TE1ST	1	Costa Rica		005	Monterey	09/13 23:46	PH	20

(Header row: Current Band & Mode Find Recent Contacts Last 20 All)

There is one inconvenience in this mode: if you happen to log someone else who is also on a county line, you cannot use the '+' syntax to enter their counties all in one entry. So for example, if you work W6T calling from Trinity and Shasta counties, you would first enter one county:

Call	Serial	SPC	CA C New!	Snt #
W6T	173	CA	TRIN	006

Then hit 'Recall' in the top menu (just to the right of 'Change Counties') and re-enter it with the second county:

Call	Serial	SPC	CA C New!	Snt #
W6T	173	CA	SHAS	006

This will create all the QSO lines needed for your county-line contact with another county-line station (six lines in this example):

Rec	Call	# R	St / Prv / Cnt	County R	# S	County S	Date / Time	Mode	Bnd
14	W6T	173	CA	Shasta	006	Santa Cruz	09/14 00:03	PH	20
13	W6T	173	CA	Shasta	006	San Benito	09/14 00:03	PH	20
12	W6T	173	CA	Shasta	006	Monterey	09/14 00:03	PH	20
11	W6T	173	CA	Trinity	006	Santa Cruz	09/14 00:03	PH	20
10	W6T	173	CA	Trinity	006	San Benito	09/14 00:03	PH	20
9	W6T	173	CA	Trinity	006	Monterey	09/14 00:03	PH	20
8	TE1ST	1	Costa Rica		005	Santa Cruz	09/13 23:46	PH	20

CW Operators – please note: It is not recommended to use the "Tab Sends Message" feature when operating from a county line, as the logger will send the exchange once for each QSO line created. Just use F2 and F3 if you are using the logger to send CW.

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