

ARRL Announces New Minnesota Section Boundaries, Abbreviations

TAGS: [arrl](#), [arrl 10 meter](#), [arrl 160 meter](#), [arrl field day](#), [ARRL International DX](#), [ARRL November Sweepstakes](#), [arrl rtty roundup](#), [meter contest](#), [new section](#)

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On March 31, 2021, the Amateur Radio Relay League (ARRL) announced that it would split its Minnesota Section into **three new Sections** “to create a management model that better communicates with, and represents the interests of, the overall Minnesota amateur population.” The new Section boundaries go into effect as of September 1, 2021. On March 31, ARRL First Vice President Michael Raisbeck, K1TWF announced new Section boundaries, names and abbreviations (*see map below*):

Minnesota North (MNN)

- All of the counties north of, and including, Lac Qui Parle, Chippewa, Kandiyohi, Meeker, Wright, Sherburne, Isanti and Chisago.

Minnesota Metro (MNM)

- Hennepin, Anoka, Ramsey, Washington, Carver, Scott & Dakota Counties.

Minnesota South (MNS)

- All of the counties south of, and including, Yellow Medicine, Renville, McLeod, Sibley, Le Sueur, Rice & Goodhue.

“I am also thrilled to advise that all three Section Manager positions have been filled,” Raisbeck said. “I will circulate a formal introduction in the weeks to come.”

This new change will affect ARRL contests and Field Day in the following ways:

- For ARRL contests that use ARRL/RAC sections as multipliers -- the **November Sweepstakes** and the **ARRL 160 Meter Contest** -- there will be an overall increase of two available multipliers.
- ARRL contests that use US states and Canadian provinces as multipliers -- the **ARRL RTTY Roundup**, the **ARRL International DX Contest** and the **ARRL 10 Meter Contest** -- are unaffected by this change. ARRL VHF+ contests and the IARU HF Championships are also unaffected by this change.
- The first contest to be affected by the RAC administrative change will be the 2021 ARRL November Sweepstakes, which will now require 85 multipliers to achieve a Clean Sweep.
- **ARRL Field Day** does not use multipliers, but beginning in 2022, Minnesota stations will send their new Section abbreviations as part of their exchanges.

According to Raisbeck, several vendors of logging and contest software have also announced changes, but some will not be effective until August 2021. He advised user to verify with your vendor well in advance of the upcoming contests. -- *Thanks to the ARRL for the information*