



# JS8Call Overview

Tech Net #16 - Mar 3, 2025

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# JS8Call

“The idea with JS8Call is to take the robustness of FT8 mode and layer on a messaging and network protocol for weak signal *communication* on HF with a keyboard-to-keyboard interface. JS8Call is heavily inspired by [WSJT-X](#), [Fldigi](#), and [FSQCall](#) and would not exist without the hard work and dedication of the many developers in the amateur radio community.”

# Disclaimer

As with everything in Ham Radio *EVERYTHING* in this presentation is the hard work and dedication of someone else.

I would like to especially thank Jordan Sherer who created JS8Call

# FT8 versus JS8Call...?

FT8 is a digital mode for amateur radio that allows operators to make long-distance contacts, while JS8Call is a program that uses FT8 to create a chat-like mode for radio operators:

- Leverages the robustness of FT8
- Ideal for weak signal conditions
- Real-time keyboard-to-keyboard messaging
- Store-and-forward messaging
- Automatic station announcements.

JS8Call is heavily inspired by WSJT-X, Fldigi, and FSQCall and would not exist without the hard work and dedication of the many developers in the amateur radio community.

JS8Call comes in a variety of builds.

- Desktop Linux (64-bit x86\_64, deb)
- Desktop Linux (32-bit i386, deb)
- Raspbian Stretch (armv7, deb)
- Windows 10 (win32\_64)
  - Windows 10 is the only officially supported Windows build at this time, but the application has been confirmed to work all the way back to Windows XP.
- Mac OSX 10.11+ (x86\_64)

## JS8Call Frequencies

From version . 0.5.x the default calling frequencies set up in JS8Call are listed below, but please note these are not set in stone and can easily be changed in your settings, or you can simply manually re-tune your radio to another frequency.

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1.842Mhz (160M)

3.578Mhz (80M)

7.078Mhz (40M)

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10.130Mhz (30M)

14.078Mhz (20M)

18.104Mhz (17M)

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21.078Mhz (15M)

24.922Mhz (12M)

28.078Mhz (10M)

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50.318 (6M)

144.178 (2M)

# JS8Call Operations Screen

The screenshot displays the JS8Call de KN4CRD (v2.2.0) interface. At the top, the window title is "JS8Call de KN4CRD (v2.2.0)" and the menu bar includes "File", "Configurations", "Mode", "Log", "View", "Control", and "Help". The main display area is divided into several sections:

- Freq / Band Control:** Shows the current frequency as 1.078 005 and the band as 1192 Hz.
- Call Sign and Time:** Displays "KB9MEQ - EL29ME" and the time "22:54:31" on "2025 Jan 12".
- Mode and Functions:** Includes buttons for "RX" (green), "TX" (green), "NORMAL+MULTI+AUTO+HB" (blue), "SPOT" (blue), "LOG" (grey), and "TUNE" (grey).
- Message(s) List:** A table with columns "Offset", "Age", "SNR", and "Message(s)". It lists three incoming messages from KB9MEQ: @HB HEARTBEAT EL29 at 20:25:05, 22:49:41, and 22:52:00.
- Directed Activity:** A section for sending outgoing messages, with a text input field and a "Send" button.
- Calling Stations:** A table with columns "Callsigns", "Age", "SNR", "Offset", "Name", and "Comment". It lists "@ALLCALL" and "@TTP".
- Outgoing Messages:** A section for sending outgoing messages, with a text input field and a "Send" button.
- Band Activity:** A waterfall plot showing signal activity across a frequency range from 800 to 2000 kHz. The vertical axis represents signal strength in dB, ranging from 0 to -80.

Callouts point to various features: "Freq / Band Control" points to the frequency display; "Band Activity" points to the waterfall plot; "Directed Activity" points to the outgoing message list; "Outgoing Messages" points to the outgoing message input field; and "Calling Stations" points to the calling stations list.

At the bottom, the status bar shows "Decoding JS8" and "Last Tx: KB9MEQ: @HB HEARTBEAT EL29". The bottom right corner displays "1/15".

# How JS8Call got its name....

You might be asking...why is this named JS8Call?

Why not something else, like BACON or HF Messenger? Good question!

- JS8Call was previously named FT8Call
- JS8Call uses a custom FT8 modulation called JS8 (Jordan Sherer designed 8-FSK modulation)
- JS8Call has a “directed calling” protocol, so JS8 + Directed Calling = JS8Call.



So...you want to learn more about JS8Call....!

<http://js8call.com/>

[https://www.delta25.de/JS8-2021-11/JS8Call\\_Guide.pdf](https://www.delta25.de/JS8-2021-11/JS8Call_Guide.pdf)

You can view a presentation of JS8Call by Jordan Sherer on youtube – <https://youtu.be/mZKhVcFOljY>

# JS8Call Nets

## JS8 QSO Party

The **JS8 QSO Party** is a chance to get on the air with JS8 and make some contacts every month. Whether you like a quick exchange or a long rag-chew, this event is for you. They have a lot of great, patient operators in the group, so the environment should be very welcoming!

The party is an all-day event held monthly on the **Second Saturday** of the month (unless the schedule is modified for a particular event). Each month will have a theme or goal.

**When:** 24 hours starting at 19:00 UTC on Saturday and ending at 19:00 UTC on Sunday

**Participation:** Global

**Bands:** All Amateur Bands

## Ghostnet Weekly JS8Call Net

Ghostnet is a multi-layered communications plan to allow radio operators to communicate with each other efficiently using a variety of data modes. See the S2 Youtube channel for more details.

**When:** Thursday 7:00 PM CST

**Participation:** All

**Bands:** 7.107 MHz Use @GHOSTNET

Check it out while listening into the CRHRC net...!!!

# JS8Call Groups.io Support

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ctrl + shift + ? for shortcuts  
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## JS8Call

main@js8call.groups.io

**Official JS8Call Group for development, testing, and discussion of the JS8call application.**

JS8Call is a derivative of the WSJT-X application, restructured and redesigned for keyboard-to-keyboard message passing. It is not supported by nor endorsed by the WSJT-X development group. While the WSJT-X group maintains copyright over the original work and code, JS8Call is a derivative work licensed under and in accordance with the terms of the [GPLv3 license](#).

Source code can be found in this public repository: <https://bitbucket.org/widefido/js8call/>

Latest downloads can be found here: <http://files.js8call.com/latest.html>

Interested in learning more? Feel free to read up more about JS8Call here.

Or, just want to get in touch? Feel free to email Jordan, KN4CRD, anytime.

### Group Information


12,550 Members  
4,326 Topics · Last Post: Jan 1  
Started on 7/11/18

### Group Email Addresses

Post: main@js8call.groups.io  
Subscribe: main+subscribe@js8call.groups.io  
Unsubscribe: main+unsubscribe@js8call.groups.io  
Group Owner: main+owner@js8call.groups.io

### Group Settings

- All members can post to the group.
- ✓ Posts to this group do not require approval from the moderators.
- ✓ Posts from new users require approval from the moderators.
- Messages are set to reply to group.
- Subscriptions to this group do not require approval from the moderators.
- Archive is visible to members only.
- Wiki is visible to members only.
- Members can edit their messages.
- Members can set their subscriptions to no email.



Questions

(Demo during the Zoom Call portion of the Technet)

**THANK YOU**