
Announcing:

2018 CQ World Wide DX Contest

SSB: October 27-28

CW: November 24-25

Starts 0000 UTC Saturday; Ends 2359 UTC Sunday

Log Deadlines: SSB – 2359 UTC Nov. 2 / CW – 2359 UTC Nov. 30, 2018

Join more than 30,000 participants from over 200 DX entities and all 40 CQ Zones in the world's largest DX contest.

The CQ World Wide DX Contest (CQWW) offers 48 hours of non-stop DX-chasing fun. Whether you are competing for awards, looking for a few new band-countries, or simply filling the logbook, the CQWW offers something for everyone. Check out the Classic and Rookie Overlay categories for even more chances to enjoy ham radio's premier operating event! Even though we are near the bottom of the sunspot cycle, the bands always magically light up in the CQWW with activity from around the world.

Contest Basics

Each mode is a separate operating event that runs for 48 hours from 0000 UTC Saturday until 2359 UTC Sunday. SSB is the last full weekend of October. CW is the last full weekend of November.

Working stations is easy. Exchange and log a signal report and CQ Zone number, e.g., 59 05 on SSB or 599 05 on CW. (If you're not sure which zone you're in, visit <<http://bit.ly/1BHtmsP>>. Generally speaking for U.S. operators, the U.S. west coast is in Zone 3, the east coast is in Zone 5, and the rest of the lower 48 is in Zone 4.)

Contacts are valid only on the 1.8-, 3.5-, 7-, 14-, 21-, and 28-MHz amateur bands.

Scoring

Your final score is based on QSO points earned for each contact times the number of multipliers worked.

Multipliers are the number of DXCC entities and Worked All Europe (WAE) countries, plus IG9/IH9, worked on each band plus the number of CQ Zones worked on each band.

Contacts with other continents count three points each. Contacts with the same continent, but different country, count one point (except in North America where they count two points). Same-country contacts earn zero points, but do count for multiplier credit.

Don't worry about calculating your score; the contest log checking software will do that for you when you submit a log. Most participants are using readily available contest logging software to help as well.

Entry Categories

The competition is divided into Single Operator and Multi-Operator categories. Single Operator categories also offer two additional Overlay categories.

Single Operator (all bands or any single band) – Only the one operator finds, makes, and logs all contacts in the following categories, and the following power levels within each category:

- High power: Up to 1,500 watts
- Low power: 100 watts or less
- QRP: 5 watts or less

Single Operator Assisted (all bands or any single band) – One operator may use the DX Cluster or other tools to help find contacts. Note that a CW decoder is considered assistance. The one operator must make and log all contacts.

Classic Category – Allows the use of only one radio, no QSO finding assistance, and only counts the first 24 hours of operating time — off times are a minimum of 60 minutes during which no QSO is logged. Single Operator Assisted entries are not eligible for this Overlay category.

Rookie Category – Open only to operators who were first licensed as radio amateurs less than three (3) years before the date of the contest. Indicate date licensed in the soapbox field of your log.

Multi-Operator – More than one person is involved in operating the station.

Single-Transmitter: This category allows one transmitter to work any station. It may only change bands after 10 minutes on a band. Note: A second transmitter may be used to work multipliers only. This category has some very specific restrictions so please read the full rules carefully.

- High power: Up to 1,500 watts
- Low power: 100 watts or less

Two-Transmitter: Allows the use of two transmitted signals on two bands. Each station may change bands as many as 8 times per hour.

Unlimited: Allows the use of one transmitted signal on each band.

Awards

Electronic certificates will be made available for everyone who submits an entry. Plaques are awarded to top finishers in major categories.

Submitting Your Log

Electronic logs should be in the Cabrillo format. Upload your log on the Web at <www.cqww.com/logcheck/>. The website also includes a utility to convert your ADIF format log file if needed. See full rules for instructions regarding paper logs.

All entries must be sent **WITHIN FIVE (5) DAYS** after the end of the contest: No later than 2359 UTC **November 2, 2018** for SSB and 2359 UTC **November 30, 2018** for CW. Resubmitting an entry after the deadline will result in it being considered as a late log.

Only one entry is permitted for each callsign. Any log submission will replace any previous submissions.

Full Rules

The complete rules of the CQWW DX Contest are available in 16 different languages on the web at <www.cqww.com/rules.htm> and in English only on the CQ magazine website at <www.cq-amateur-radio.com> (Look for link on home page or the CQWW DX Contest main page). Please review the rules and the frequently asked questions before the contest, especially for possible minor changes in some rule details. Any questions may be submitted via the online contact form at <<http://cqww.com/contact/>>.