

Announcing:

The 2021 CQ World Wide WPX Contest

SSB: March 27-28, 2021 CW: May 29-30, 2021.
Starts: 0000 UTC Saturday Ends: 2359 UTC Sunday

The CQ World Wide WPX Contest is the world's largest everyone-works-everyone radio contest.

New and Modified Categories

The 2021 WPX contests will include a new Multi-Transmitter Distributed category. Stations operating in this category may have a maximum of six transmitted signals, one per band at any one time, from stations in different locations. All equipment including remotely-controlled equipment, must be located in the same DXCC entity and CQ Zone. Six bands may be activated simultaneously. This is a new stand-alone category. It is not intended to replace, or compete with, other multi-operator categories. See the complete rules (links below) for further details.

QSO alerting systems are now permitted in all WPX Single Operator categories, except the Single Operator Classic Overlay categories. This change results in the elimination of all WPX Single Operator Assisted Categories and the requirement for audio recordings.

The Single Operator Classic Overlay categories will continue to prohibit the use of QSO alerting systems and should be considered by participants preferring to be unassisted. Also, the maximum operating time for Single Operator Classic Overlay participants has been reduced from 36 to 24 hours. Further, the Multi-Operator Single Transmitter High and Low Power Classic Overlay categories have been removed from the rules.

Contest Basics

Each contest mode is a separate event running from 0000 UTC Saturday until 2359 UTC Sunday. SSB is the last full weekend of March and CW is the last full weekend of May.

Amateurs worldwide try to contact as many amateurs and prefixes as possible during the period of operation. Single Operator stations may operate 36 of the 48 hours. However, off times must be a minimum of 60 minutes during which no QSO is logged. Multi-operator stations may operate the full 48 hours.

Contacts are valid only on the 1.8-, 3.5-, 7-, 14-, 21-, and 28-MHz bands (no WARC bands). Exchange an RS(T) report plus a progressive contact serial number starting with 001 for the first contact. Note: Multi-Two, Multi-Unlimited and Multi-Transmitter Distributed entrants use separate serial number sequences on each band.

Scoring

The final score is the result of the total QSO points multiplied by the number of different prefixes worked. A station may be worked once on each band for QSO point credit.

Contacts with your own country are worth one point on each band. Contacts between stations on different continents are

worth three points on 28, 21, and 14 MHz and six points on 7, 3.5, and 1.8 MHz.

Contacts between stations on the same continent, but different countries, are worth one point on 28, 21, and 14 MHz and two points on 7, 3.5, and 1.8 MHz. Exception: For North American stations only — contacts between stations within the North American boundaries (both stations must be located in North America) are worth two points on 28, 21, and 14 MHz and four points on 7, 3.5, and 1.8 MHz.

The prefix multiplier is the number of valid prefixes worked. Each prefix is counted only once regardless of the band or number of times the same prefix is worked. Special event, commemorative, and other unique prefix stations are encouraged to participate. A station operating from a DXCC entity different from that indicated by its callsign is required to sign portable. Prefixes must be issued or permitted by the licensing authority of the country of operation. See the full rules for a description of what constitutes a prefix.

Entry Categories

The competition is divided into Single-Operator and Multi-Operator categories. Single-Operator categories also offer three additional overlay categories which may be entered IN ADDITION TO the normal Single-Operator category. All entry categories may use QSO finding assistance except for the Classic Overlay.

Single Operator (all bands or any single band): Only one operator finds, makes, and logs all contacts.

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

Single-Operator Overlay Categories: Entrants in Single-Operator categories may also submit their log for one of the overlay categories shown below. All overlay entries are grouped into all band, high power or low power (includes QRP) in the results.

Tribander / Single Element Overlay: Allows the use of a multi-band, multi-element antenna with one feedline for the 14-, 21-, and 28-MHz bands, plus a single-element antenna for each of the 3.5- and 7-MHz bands. One example is a 3-element, tri-band antenna for 14, 21, and 28 MHz plus an Inverted-V wire dipole for 3.5 MHz and another one for 7 MHz. Another example is a single-element multi-band vertical antenna for all 5 bands or a fan dipole of single element dipoles for each band using a single feedline.

Rookie Overlay: Only open 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 soap-box field of your log.

Classic Overlay: Allows only one radio, no receiving during transmitting, QSO finding assistance is NOT allowed, and only the first 24 hours of operation are scored. Off-times must be at least 60 minutes.

Multi-Operator Categories (All-Band only): More than one person can contribute to the final score during the official contest period.

Single-Transmitter: Only one transmitted signal is permitted at any time. The station may change bands up to 10 times per hour. This category has specific restrictions on band changes so please read the full rules carefully.

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

Two-Transmitter: Two bands may be transmitted on simultaneously. Each station may change bands up to 8 times an hour.

Multi-Transmitter (Unlimited): One transmitted signal is allowed on each of the six contest bands.

Multi-Transmitter Distributed: A maximum of six transmitted signals, one per band at any one time, from stations in different locations. All equipment (transmitters, receivers, amplifiers, antennas, etc.) must be located in same DXCC entity and CQ Zone, including remotely controlled equipment. Six bands may be activated simultaneously.

Checklog: Entry submitted to assist with the log checking. The entry will not have a score in the results and the log will not be made public.

Awards

Electronic certificates will be made available for download for everyone who submits an on-time entry. Plaques are awarded to recognize top performance in a variety of categories. The current list of plaques and sponsors is at <www.cqwp.com/plaques>.

Club Competition

Many clubs around the world compete vigorously for the plaque awarded to the club making the highest total combined score in the SSB and CW weekends.

Submitting Your Log

Electronic logs should be in the Cabrillo format. Upload your log on the web at <www.cqwp.com/logcheck>. **Effective with the 2021 contests, paper logs will no longer be accepted for WPX.** Uploading logs via the web is the only approved method for submitting a log.

All entries must be emailed **WITHIN FIVE (5) DAYS** after the end of the contest: SSB logs no later than **2359 UTC 2 April 2021**, CW logs no later than **2359 UTC 4 June 2021**. Any log submission will replace any previous submissions. Resubmitting an entry after the deadline will result in it being considered as a late log.

Full Rules Online

Complete rules are available in several different languages at <www.cqwp.com/rules.htm> and in English only on CQ magazine's website.