

DX Advisory Committee Report

July 2019

to the

**American Radio Relay League
Board of Directors**

**Submitted by:
John C. Yodis, K2VV
Chairman, DX Advisory Committee**

To the Members of the ARRL Board of Directors and the PSC:

From: DXAC – Prepared and submitted by John C. Yodis, K2VV, Chairman

Date: July 8, 2019

Subject: July Report

Old Business

Maritime Mobile Operation

The PSC declined to forward to the DXAC for consideration a proposal to allow DXCC credit for /mm operation within an entity's territorial boundaries, regardless of technology that makes it easy to establish the station's true location. "Land-based" operation has always been a requirement for DXCC credit.

FT8 endorsement for DXCC

DXAC has received no feedback on a January 2019 recommendation for a one-time FT8 endorsement or certificate for 100 confirmed entities. DXAC acknowledges that the current DXCC recordkeeping system is not mode-specific for digital.

Other issued submitted to PSC in January 2019

DXAC has received no feedback on whether PSC has considered these issues for possible tasking:

- Allowing 100 entities on any 5 bands to qualify for basic 5BDXCC.
- Redefinition of the DXCC entities list and/or Honor Roll to acknowledge the long-term unavailability of some entities, keeping newer amateurs from the #1 spot. DXAC continues to receive inquiries as to why amateurs who have worked everything available are not "entitled" to #1 status.
- A policy on paying for QSLs.
- Availability of an archive of DXCC desk decisions on status of unapproved operations and "entities" such as North Cyprus.
- Potential measures to address abuse of remote operation.

New DXAC members

DXAC is pleased to recognize new members Saul Abrams, K2XA from Hudson Division and Steve Rutledge, N4JQQ from Delta Division

New Business

DXAC requests that PSC review the following subjects for possible assignment as tasks. Many reflect an attitude of “why can’t I have it now?”

Status of Digital Modes within DXAC

Based on committee member feedback and observations made at Xenia, FT8 has become widely accepted and employed by the DX community. It is supplying much needed activity on the bands in an extended sunspot minimum. Many amateurs, however, lament the loss of their hard-earned standing in RTTY and would like to see RTTY split off from other digital modes.

New DXCC

W9KNI has suggested a new 10-year DXCC competition starting in 2020 to encourage newer generations who feel they will never achieve “top of the heap”. This elicited mixed feeling within DXAC. New DXers still have the fun of the chase ahead of them. The old guard can still look to WPX, IOTA, RDA, etc.

DXCC Challenge by mode

DXAC has received a suggestion that the Challenge be broken down by mode and drop 6 and 160 meters. This would somewhat eliminate the geographical advantage enjoyed by Europe. Is it reasonable for ARRL to address every geographical and regulatory disparity?

Unattended operation

DXAC feels the use of unattended FT8 robots making thousands of contacts is outside of the spirit of amateur radio. Does DXCC need a policy statement, other than requiring observation of applicable regulations?

Illegal power operations

DXAC has received notice of illegal power being used by a DXpedition. Is it ARRL’s place to investigate these cases?

Awards for operating from multiple entities

This request asks for a new category of awards for “Providers” to recognize those who hand out QSOs from multiple locations. The Russian Districts Award does this, but it seems to be an unnecessary project for DXCC.

Change Honor Roll threshold

A discussion in Visalia asked about changing the qualifying cutoff for Honor Roll from top ten to a percentage of the current country count. This would allegedly keep the challenge of Honor Roll consistent with the effort required when the original DXCC list was only 247 entities.

Temporary deletion of DXCC entities

DXAC continues to see requests to have “non-available” entities removed from the DXCC list to allow newer amateurs to get to the top. Newer generations do not share memories of the long wait many experienced waiting for China, Albania and Iraq to appear on the bands.

The DX Advisory Committee stands ready to pursue any of the above subjects if the PSC feels they have merit.

Respectfully submitted:

73

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Midwest Division DXAC Representative / Chairman

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