
Announcing:

The 2016 CQ World-Wide WPX Contest

SSB: March 26-27, 2016 **CW: May 28-29, 2016**
Starts: 0000 UTC Saturday **Ends: 2359 UTC Sunday**

The CQ World-Wide WPX Contest is the world's largest everyone-works-everyone radio contest. The contest offers a realistic opportunity to work enough unique prefixes to qualify for *CQ Magazine's* prestigious WPX award in addition earning a contest certificate.

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 — **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 only valid 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 and Multi-Unlimited 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. Prefixes must be assigned 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 Operators may also enter an Overlay category.

Single Operator (all bands or any single band): only the one operator finds, makes, and logs all contacts. If you want

to use a DX spotting network or CW decoder, enter the Single Operator Assisted category, below.

- 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): the one operator may use the DX Cluster or other tools to help find contacts. The one operator must make and log 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. No distinction is made between assisted and unassisted in the overlay categories. All overlay entries are grouped into high power and low power in the results.

Tribander/Single Element Overlay: During the contest an entrant shall use only one tribander (any type, with a single feed line from the transmitter to the antenna) for 10, 15, and 20 meters and single-element antennas on 40, 80, and 160 meters.

Rookie Overlay: To enter this category the operator must have been licensed as a radio amateur three years or less on the date of the contest.

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.

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

First-place certificates will be awarded in each category for

The Elecraft K-Line

Now Featuring the New K3S Transceiver



K3S Superhet/SDR Architecture Ultra Low-Noise RX/TX

The Elecraft K3 set the standard for compact, high-performance transceivers, proving to be ideal for DXpeditions, multi-transmitter contesting, Field Day, and home stations alike. With the 2nd-generation K3S, we've raised the bar once again, upgrading nearly every subsystem. Improvements include:

- Ultra low-noise synthesizer
- USB port with integrated control and audio
- Second preamp for 12-6 m weak-signal work
- 5/10/15 dB attenuator settings
- ATU option with true bypass relay
- Accurate, high-speed CW even in SPLIT mode
- 100-500 kHz coverage
- Enhanced look and feel; soft-touch VFO knob

P3 Panadapter Now with TX Signal Monitoring Out-Performs Built-In Band Scopes

The P3 panadapter's real-time spectral and waterfall displays add a visual dimension to DXing, revealing weak signals you might otherwise miss. The P3 is fully integrated with the transceiver, allowing instant QSX to any signal. Optional TX metering adds power/SWR graphs and signal envelope monitoring.



KPA500 Works with Any Transceiver Silent, Ultra-Fast T/R Switching

The KPA500 amp features instant RF-based band switching, plus remote band selection that tracks the band of the K3S or K3. It has bright alphanumeric status display and LED bar graphs, and a rugged, internal linear supply. The compact KAT500 ATU (not shown) uses a fast, accurate tuning algorithm. Saved matching network settings can be recalled automatically as you tune the transceiver's VFO, so you'll be ready wherever DX appears.



PO Box 69, Aptos, CA 95001 | 831.763.4211 | info@elecraft.com | www.elecraft.com

every participating country and in each call area of the United States, Canada, Russia, and Japan.

Plaques are awarded to recognize top performance in a number of categories. The current list of plaques and sponsors is at <www.cqwpw.com/plaques.htm>.

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 <<http://www.cqwpw.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 emailed or postmarked **WITHIN FIVE (5) DAYS** after the end of the contest: SSB logs no later than 2359 UTC **1 April 2016**, CW logs no later than 2359 UTC **3 June 2016**. 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

The complete rules of the CQ WW WPX Contest are available in several different languages on the Web at <<http://www.cqwpw.com/rules.htm>> and in English only on the CQ magazine website. Please review the rules and frequently asked questions before the contest. Questions pertaining to the CQ WPX Contest may be emailed to <director@cqwpw.com>.

SPURIOUS SIGNALS

By Jason Togyer KB3CMM
spuriouscomic.blogspot.com

