

CQ WW DX Contest Classic Overlay

- **SSB: October 26-27**
Starts 00:00:00 UTC Saturday
- **CW: November 23-24**
Ends 23:59:59 UTC Sunday
- **I. OBJECTIVE:** For amateurs around the world to contact as many other amateurs in as many CQ zones and countries as possible.
- **II. BANDS:** Six bands only: 1.8, 3.5, 7, 14, 21 and 28 MHz.
Observance of established band plans is strongly encouraged.
- **III. CONTEST EXCHANGE:** SSB: RS report plus CQ Zone number of the station location (e.g., 59 05). CW: RST report plus CQ Zone (e.g., 599 05).



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- **IV. SCORING:**
- **A. Score:** The final score is the result of the total QSO points multiplied by the sum of zone and country multipliers. Example: 1000 QSO points * (30 Zones + 70 Countries) = 100,000 (final score).
- **B. QSO Points:** Stations may be contacted once on each band. QSO points are based on the location of the station worked.
- 1. Contacts between stations on different continents count three (3) points.
- 2. Contacts between stations on the same continent but in different countries count one (1) point. Exception: Contacts between stations in different countries within the North American boundaries count two (2) points.
- 3. Contacts between stations in the same country have zero (0) QSO point value, but are permitted for zone or country multiplier credit.



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- **C. Multiplier:** There are two types of multipliers.
- 1. Zone: A multiplier of one (1) for each different CQ Zone contacted on each band. The CQ Worked All Zones rules are the standard.
- 2. Country: A multiplier of one (1) for each different country contacted on each band. The DXCC entity list, Worked All Europe (WAE) multiplier list plus IG9/IH9, and WAC boundaries are standards. Maritime mobile stations count only for a zone multiplier.



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- **V. ENTRY CATEGORIES:**
- **A. Single Operator Categories:** One person (the operator) performs all operating and logging functions. There is no limit on operating time or band changes. Only one transmitted signal is permitted at any time.
- **1. Single Operator:** QSO alerting assistance of any kind is prohibited (see VIII.2).
- **a. High Power (All Band or Single Band):** Total output power must not exceed **1500 watts**.
- **b. Low Power (All Band or Single Band):** Total output power must not exceed **100 watts**.
- **c. QRP (All Band or Single Band):** Total output power must not exceed **5 watts**.



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- **B. Single Operator Overlay Categories:** Any Single Operator All Band entrant above may ALSO submit his/her log for one of the categories shown below by adding the appropriate CATEGORY-OVERLAY line in the Cabrillo log file header. Overlay category entries will be listed separately in the results; grouped by high power and low power.
- **1. Classic Operator (CLASSIC):** The entrant will use only one radio, no QSO alerting assistance, and may operate up to 24 of the 48 hours – **off times are a minimum of 60 minutes during which no QSO is logged.** If the log shows more than 24 hours of operation, only the first 24 hours will be counted for the overlay score. The one radio must not be able to receive while transmitting.



Classic Overlay Strategies

- A successful strategy
 - Depends on the capabilities of your station
 - Requires selection of the most productive 24 hours of operating time
 - Must maximize both rate and multipliers
- Strategies presented here assume a small station, 100 watts, tri-bander, vertical and/or wires for 160,80,40.



Classic Overlay Strategies, Time

- 1130p 145a 2.25 EU sunrise
- 630a 730a 1.00 JA, VK,ZL, etc
- 730a 200p 6.50 EU
- 400p 700p 3.00 JA, VK, ZL, etc
- 1130p 145a 2.25 EU Sunrise
- 630a 730a 1.00 JA
- 730a 530p 8.00 Sunday Sweep
- Total Time 24.00 hours



Strategies Band by Band

- 160 Meters
 - Emphasize Multipliers
 - W, VE, Caribbean
 - Operate on the hour and half hour after EU sunrise preferably on second night
- 80 Meters
 - Emphasize Multipliers
 - W, VE, Caribbean, KH6, KL7, Some EU and JA
 - Caribbean, South America after EU sunrise second night



Strategies Band by Band

- 40 Meters
 - Emphasize Multipliers
 - Operate during the period of EU sunrise and JA sunset
 - More effective stations may want to budget more time to 40 meters, especially on CW
- 20 Meters
 - Emphasize Rate AND Multipliers
 - Move to 15 soon after it opens



Strategies Band by Band

- 15 Meters
 - Best band for both Rate and Multipliers
 - May be best for smaller stations
- 10 Meters
 - Barring good openings to EU, work for multipliers
 - Get in and out quickly



Unusual Openings

- Keep your options open to unexpected opportunities
- Check 15 meters about 3 PM local for a short opening to Scandinavia
- Check 10 meters periodically for a “skew path” opening to EU (beam heading 90 to 100 degrees)



Develop Your Own Plan

- Check Announced Contest Expeditions
- Estimate the specific multipliers available by band
- Based on your station's effectiveness, create an operational plan
- Be Flexible during the contest
- Good Luck!!

