Running Your First CQ DX Marathon

Everything You Wanted to Know But Were Afraid to Ask

Mik-UM - W4UM

26.2

340

347

There are seven entities on the CQ list that are NOT on the ARRL DXCC list:

- **IG9/IH9** - **African Italy** (IOTA AF-019/AF-018)

- **IT** - **Sicily** (IOTA EU-025/EU-166)

- **GM/Shetland** - Shetland Islands (IOTA EU-012)

- **4U1VIC** - **ITU Vienna Int'l Center**

- **TA1** - **European Turkey**

- **JW** - **Bear Island** (IOTA EU-027)

- **Z6** (YU8) - **Kosovo**

CQ DX Marathon

- Cross between an **award** and a **contest**
- Runs for a **full year**
- Competitors try to contact as many **zones** and **counties** within the year
- There are **no carryo**vers from year to year
- Everyone start fresh each **New Year's Day**

History of the CQ Marathon

- Modern **CQ Marathon** started in **2006**
- Part of a **three-pronged response** by **CQ Magazine** to perceptions that Dxing activity outside of contests was dropping off
- John Sweeney, **K9EL**, is the Director
- The other two programs introduced in **2006**: the **CQ Field Award** and the **CQ iDX Award**

The Original CQ DX Marathon

- First run in what year?

  1947

- As an effort to promote DXing activity back to life after **World War II**

- One year later, it **"*morphed*"** into the highly successful **CQ World Wide DX Contest**

- Now the most active contest in the world

Activity Period

- The **2013 CQ DX Marathon** is a year-long activity, beginning at 0000 UTC January 1 and ending at 2359 UTC December 31

- **Each year's event is separate**

- The goal, as always, is to work as many **countries and CQ zones** as possible at least once during the calendar year

Frequencies

- Any authorized amateur frequency may be used

- Contacts through repeaters or satellites are not allowed for credit, nor are contacts with maritime or aeronautical mobile stations

- All contacts must be made entirely over amateur radio frequencies – i.e., Echolink-type contacts do not count.

Modes

- Any authorized amateur mode may be used
- But only **three mod**es will be recognized in the DX Marathon – **CW**, **PHONE** and **Digital**
- All modes other than CW or voice modes will count as **Digital**

Scoring

- **Each country** worked is worth **one point**

- **Each CQ zone** worked is worth **one point**

- The **total score** is the sum of zones and countries worked, on any mode and any authorized band

- There are **no multipliers** of any kind

- Each country and zone count only once

- A single QSO may count for both a country and a zone

CAUTION

- Although you can use the same QSO for a country and a Zone, if there is an error, two points will be lost!

- CQ suggests using a different QSO for country and zone

2012

- All **40** zones were active
- **298** CQ countries were active
- Maximum possible score of **338**
- **PP5EG** claims to have worked every one of them in 2012

Verification

- QSLs are **not** required
- The operator is expected to claim contacts only from stations the operator has every reason to believe are legitimate, and only to claim contacts in which an accurate two-way exchange was clearly accomplished
- Scores will be adjusted by the DX Marathon committee for claimed contacts with pirates or any station not considered legitimate
- Submissions may be penalized or voided in cases of fraud or poor sportsmanship

Categories

- Each entrant in the DX Marathon may submit one log each year per operating location
- Participants submitting logs for single mode or single band entries must include **only** those contacts
- Logs submitted with multiple mode or multiple bands will not be considered for mode and band awards
- Entries with two or more call signs will only count as a single entry if all contacts were made by the same (single) operator at the same station using the same antennas
- Entries that include contacts made with the assistance of remote receivers and/or transmitters in addition to contacts from a primary station are **not permitted**
- **Use of spotting nets such as DX Cluster® is allowed**

Two Entries Classes Permitted

- *Unlimited:* Any antenna may be used, along with any power level for which the operator is licensed. Use of spotting nets such as DX Cluster® is allowed
- *Formula Class*

Must Choose One of Two Options

(1) All contacts must be made with a maximum output power of 10 watts, regardless of band or mode; or

(2) the operator may run a maximum of 100 watts output to a simple antenna, such as a vertical or dipole

Formula Class

- An operator in Formula class must select QRP (10 watts or less) or 100 watts and limited antennas at the beginning of the year's DX Marathon, and may not switch between entry modes during the year

- All contacts must be made without assistance of any sort, including but not limited to lists, passes, or use of higher power or prohibited antennas to initially secure the contact

- Use of spotting nets such as a DX Cluster® is allowed.

Formula Class antennas, option 1:

- Operators selecting the 10 watt option are limited to antennas on a single tower and whose height does not exceed 65 feet or 20 meters above ground elevation within 330 feet or 100 meters of the tower base
- Wire antennas may also be used but must meet the criteria of the 100 watt option, and may be tower-supported at only one point

Formula Class antennas, option 2:

- Antennas for operators choosing the 100 watt option must be either simple verticals or wire antennas lacking significant gain
- No arrays are allowed, whether vertical or horizontal

Formula Class antennas, option 2:

- Wire antennas, regardless of type, may not exceed 130 feet or 40 meters in length, may not be higher than 65 feet or 20 meters above ground at any point of the antenna and may be tower supported at only one point
- The tallest point of vertical antennas used may not be higher that 65 feet or 20 meters above ground

Formula Class antennas, option 2:

- Yagis, quads **and rotatable dipoles** may not be used in this category
- There is no limit on the number of antennas that can be used as long as each antenna meets the above criteria

Plaques

- **Highest overall score in Unlimited Class** (Sponsored by the Northern Illinois DX Association)
- **Highest overall score in Formula Class** (Sponsored by the Northern Illinois DX Association)
- **Highest overall CW only score** (Sponsored by Bencher, Inc.)
- **Highest overall SSB only score** (Sponsored by the Collins Amateur Radio Club in Memory of Art Collins, W0CXX)
- **Highest overall Digital only score** (Sponsored by The NN6NN RTTY Team)
- **Highest overall score in each of the six Continents** (Plaque sponsor wishes to remain anonymous)
- **Highest overall score for single band entries for the 10, 12, 15, 17, 20, 30, 40 and 80m bands** (Sponsored by the ARAUCARIA DX GROUP- ADXG)

Certificates

Highest overall score per CQ Zone.

Highest overall score per Country.

Highest overall score in the Formula Class 10 watts or less option.

Highest overall score for single band entries for the 6 and 160 meter bands.

CQ Amateur Radio
THE RADIO AMATEUR'S JOURNAL

CQ DX Marathon
2011

WINNER
FORMULA CLASS

TOM COLYARD
K4MM

Winning Score: 284
Countries: 244
Zones: 40

CONGRATULATIONS!

Plaque Sponsor:
Northern Illinois DX Association

2011

Unlimited Class

Callsign	Score
IK0OZD	**327**
OM3EY	325
NY0V	324
G0BLB	322
EA1DR	321
PY2ADR	321

160 Meters

Callsign	Score
N4IS	192
K7ZV	140
K4IQJ	130

Formula Class - 100w

Callsign	Score
K4MM	**284**
UT9FJ	280
DL4CW	280
N5UD	272
E77O	264

CW

Callsign	Score
W1JR	**306**
W1RM	304
W4VQ	303
OH6MW	297
F5IN	296

North America

Callsign	Score
NY0V	**324**
N0FW	320
W4QN	320
AA6YQ	317
N4BAA	317

2011

North America

Callsign	Score
NY0V	**324**
N0FW	320
W4QN	320
AA6YQ	317
N4BAA	317

UNLIMITED CLASS

Callsign	Countries	Zones	Score
PP5EG	298	40	338
K2TQC	294	40	334
EA1DR	291	40	331
N3XX	291	40	331
VE1DX	290	40	330

FORMULA CLASS - 100 Watts or less

Callsign	Countries	Zones	Score
UT9FJ	281	40	321
W4TV	265	40	305
SQ1EIX	263	40	303
HA1ZH	261	40	301
N3CU	252	40	292

FORMULA CLASS - 10 watts or less

Callsign	Countries	Zones	Score
WG5G	257	40	297
W8QZA	221	40	261
IV3AOL	215	35	250
ND0C	196	39	235
YO4AAC	178	38	216

ALL SSB

Callsign	Countries	Zones	Score
N3CDA	264	40	304
PY6HD	241	40	281
PT7ZT	240	39	279
PY1SX	237	40	277
EA8MT	215	40	255

ALL CW

Callsign	Countries	Zones	Score
IK0OZD	277	40	317
W1JR	274	40	314
W1RM	273	40	313
JA0VFU	267	40	307
F5IN	264	40	304

ALL DIGITAL

Callsign	Countries	Zones	Score
N5ZM	242	40	282
R6YY	234	40	274
IK5FKF	219	40	259
IK0PEA	208	39	247
SP3BGD	200	38	238

AFRICA

Callsign	Countries	Zones	Score
EA8MT	215	40	255
V51YJ	208	38	246
CT3HF	204	40	244
EC8AFM	181	39	220
7P8PB	87	32	119

ASIA

Callsign	Countries	Zones	Score
JE1FQV	284	40	324
JA0DAI	278	40	318
A65CA	273	40	313
4Z4DX	268	40	308
JA0FVU	267	40	307

EUROPE

Callsign	Countries	Zones	Score
EA1DR	291	40	331
OM3EY	289	40	329
OK2SG	287	40	327
SM5DJZ	285	40	325
DL5AN	284	40	324

NORTH AMERICA

Callsign	Countries	Zones	Score
K2TQC	294	40	334
N3XX	291	40	331
VE1DX	290	40	330
W4QN	**289**	**40**	**329**
K3WC	287	40	327

OCEANIA

Callsign	Countries	Zones	Score
YB1AR	281	40	321
ZL2IFB	271	40	311
VK3HJ	262	40	302
VK4CC	253	40	293
VK3FM	224	39	263

SOUTH AMERICA

Callsign	Countries	Zones	Score
PP5EG	298	40	338
PP1CZ	271	40	311
PY4HO	264	40	304
PY4ZO	262	40	302
PY5KD	257	40	297

ALL 20M			
Callsign	Countries	Zones	Score
SP3BGD	200	38	238
K2RK	171	39	210
CO2VE	145	38	183
YB9WZJ	145	37	182
N4UEZ	137	32	169

ALL 17M			
Callsign	Countries	Zones	Score
LY5M	234	40	274
W1WBB	221	40	261
K7WA	75	24	99

ALL 15M			
Callsign	Countries	Zones	Score
VE3CRG	222	40	262
K3NK	203	40	243
K4MM	205	37	242
W8BBQ	192	38	230
VE1OP	184	38	222

ALL 12M			
Callsign	Countries	Zones	Score
M0TTB	205	39	244
K7MTR	202	37	239
N0CKC	96	29	125
LY5W	63	24	87

ALL 10M			
Callsign	Countries	Zones	Score
SM0MPV	226	40	266
PU2LEP	209	39	248
DL4AAE	112	34	146
PU2KXM	91	29	120

ALL 6M			
Callsign	Countries	Zones	Score
W3UR	70	17	87

ALL 160M

Callsign	Countries	Zones	Score
N4IS	148	33	181
K7ZV	112	34	146
NX4D	101	29	130
K4IQJ	94	29	123

ALL 80M

Callsign	Countries	Zones	Score
OH6MW	213	40	253
N8MZ	135	32	167
W9KVR	28	13	41
FG4NO	1	5	16

ALL 40M

Callsign	Countries	Zones	Score
W9KNI	274	40	314
K9CJ	199	40	239
K9DDO/4	146	34	180
CO2HA	44	15	59

ALL 30M

Callsign	Countries	Zones	Score
N9CM	215	37	252
PY2WC	180	37	217

ZONES				
Zone	Callsign	Countries	Zones	Score
3	N6ML	286	40	326
4	NY0V	281	40	321
5	K2TQC	294	40	334
8	WP4U	243	40	283
9	YV5EN	168	36	204
10	HC6EP	67	26	93
11	PP5EG	298	40	338
12	CE2WZ	170	39	209
14	EA1DR	291	40	331
15	OM3EY	289	40	329
16	UT9FJ	281	40	321
17	UA9FAR	278	40	318
20	4Z4DX	268	40	308
21	A65CA	273	40	313
22	VU2PTT	226	40	266
24	BV1EK	151	37	188
25	JE1FQV	284	40	324
26	XV4Y	173	38	211
27	DV1/JO7KMB	163	37	200
28	YB1AR	281	40	321
29	VK6HG	184	39	223
30	VK3HJ	262	40	302
31	KH6OA	31	19	50
32	ZL2IFB	271	40	311
33	EA8MT	215	40	255
38	V51YJ	208	38	246

Zones with no leaders had no submissions

DX Club League

Position	Club Name	Members	Years QRV	DXCCs
1	NJDXA - North Jersey DX Association	23	26	310
2	MHDXA - Mile High DX Association	26	29	304
3	FRC - Frankford Radio Club	42	28	300
4	CDXA - Carolina DX Association	70	29	299
5	NIDXA - Northern Illinois DX Association	35	28	295
6	KCDX - Kansas City DX Club	28	26	286
7	SDXF - Swiss DX Foundation	24	23	285
8	PVRC - Potomac Valley Radio Club	77	23	284
9	**SFDXA - South Florida DX Association**	25	30	283
10	**FCG - Florida Contest Group**	19	29	283

North America - 2013

Rank	Callsign	160	80	40	30	20	17	15	12	10	6	DXCCs ▼
1	K9CT	78	97	143	17	154	34	168	18	112	1	223
2	K3KO	60	84	101	47	119	49	155	71	96	0	223
3	N6ML	54	77	129	21	154	45	146	32	97	0	221
4	VE1DX	43	57	80	45	113	96	142	34	57	0	221
5	K0VXU	46	54	99	26	125	65	129	28	66	0	221
6	W4UM	0	10	35	21	69	32	49	21	12	0	219
7	W2QO	0	20	55	19	64	48	99	45	38	0	218
8	N0UN	0	0	0	2	210	3	117	0	24	0	218
9	K3WA	8	10	46	26	51	34	79	25	19	2	216
10	K3PA	8	0	148	17	42	33	48	18	9	2	212

South Florida DX Association – 2/22

Rank	Callsign	160	80	40	30	20	17	15	12	10	6	DXCCs ▼
1	W4UM	0	10	35	21	68	31	47	21	12	0	**216**
2	W4QN	10	22	44	26	28	21	47	17	12	0	**170**
3	WB4VMH	0	11	44	10	43	61	67	55	37	2	**134**
4	N4MB	0	0	11	0	41	0	22	0	13	0	**61**
5	W4AS	9	3	5	1	3	2	1	9	2	7	**32**
6	W3PV	0	0	1	2	6	1	21	0	3	1	**25**
7	WA4FLZ	0	0	4	3	3	3	6	4	4	0	**21**
8	KC4VU	0	0	9	0	3	0	4	0	1	0	**16**
9	W1RG	0	0	0	0	0	1	3	1	0	0	**5**
10	NZ5N	0	0	1	0	1	2	0	0	0	0	**4**
11	K4NNX	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	**1**

South Florida DX Association – 3/4

Rank	Callsign	160	80	40	30	20	17	15	12	10	6	DXCCs ▼
1	**W4UM**	0	10	35	21	69	32	49	21	12	0	**219**
2	**W4QN**	45	78	112	28	108	23	103	18	66	0	**187**
3	**WB4VMH**	0	11	46	11	45	65	69	60	38	2	**138**
4	**N4MB**	0	0	11	0	41	0	22	0	13	0	**61**
5	**W4AS**	9	3	5	1	3	2	1	10	3	7	**33**
6	**W3PV**	0	0	1	2	6	1	24	0	3	1	**27**
7	**WA4FLZ**	0	0	4	3	3	3	6	5	6	0	**24**
8	**KC4VU**	0	0	9	0	3	0	4	0	1	0	**16**
9	**W1RG**	0	0	0	0	0	1	3	1	0	0	**5**
10	**NZ5N**	0	0	1	0	1	2	0	0	0	0	**4**
11	**K4NNX**	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	**1**

South Florida DX Association

Rank	Callsign	160	80	40	30	20	17	15	12	10	6	DXCCs ▼	Slots
1	W4UM	123	266	327	288	353	321	339	300	338	147	**354**	2802
2	W9IL	4	143	216	155	345	264	323	172	298	3	**351**	1923
3	K2AU	7	164	212	204	339	249	318	228	271	11	**349**	2003
4	N8PR	168	275	329	309	346	317	330	289	321	116	**348**	2800
5	WA4FLZ	0	123	197	156	312	273	294	240	257	0	**339**	1852
6	W1RG	0	58	102	34	293	156	253	101	218	24	**334**	1239
7	K4NNX	34	180	231	216	300	302	288	257	242	110	**325**	2160
8	W4QN	158	256	308	293	322	307	306	290	282	44	**324**	2566
9	N4JRZ	0	52	122	2	306	201	282	157	228	0	**324**	1350
10	KC4VU	0	0	190	50	236	6	173	6	122	1	**323**	784
11	K4FK	17	85	126	27	237	84	196	41	108	3	**306**	924
12	WB4VMH	0	37	118	14	279	209	247	180	199	42	**305**	1326
13	W4AS	13	87	142	39	252	60	221	87	211	80	**297**	1195
14	W4DL	0	0	36	52	92	101	105	55	99	44	**188**	584
15	NZ5N	0	78	88	16	150	51	57	12	48	51	**185**	554
16	W3PV	0	0	100	20	83	26	94	2	41	4	**130**	370
17	N4MB	0	5	78	13	83	1	64	5	42	2	**112**	293

Do you use computer logging?

- DXKeeper, the logging component of the free-ware **DXLab Suite**, tracks your progress towards the current-year CQ Marathon award. At year-end, it can generate a submission spreadsheet from which you can copy your results directly into the official CQ Marathon scoresheet

- **Logger32** now supports the CQ DX Marathon as of version 3.37.0

- Does your program export your log info in **ADIF** format? If so, Jim, AD1C, has written a program that will take the ADIF log info and create an Excel file that can be used to cut and paste your log info in the official DX Marathon Excel Score Sheet!

Why Should You Participate?

- You've worked them all and have nothing else to do
- You're still waiting for P5
- You control how much or how little you wish to participate – unlimited, single band, or mode
- You set your own goals – e.g. 100, 200, etc.
- You can help others attain their goals
- Encourages congenial rivalry within SFDXA and among other DX clubs
- **You are a DXer**