

Results of the 2020 CQWW DX SSB Contest

“Simply ‘THE’ contest.” – Beppe, IN3IKF

BY JOHN DORR, K1AR

I’m proud to say that the 72nd edition of the CQ World Wide SSB contest is in the books. And, what an edition it was! Just as we had hoped, the sun came back to life — at least by a small amount. Whether it was the new class of rookies or seasoned veterans, interest in the CQWW remained at all-time highs. DL3AO reported fond memories of his first CQWW contest operation in 1949 as he celebrates 72 years of ham radio this year. Leo, PP1CZ, expressed his excitement by simply saying, “I love this contest!” And, then there was the experience of Gio, IK2AIT, who shared his memory of participating in his first CQWW in 1954 as I1YCZ in the Trieste Free Territory.

Well, despite the temptation, I managed to get to the second paragraph of this year’s write-up before mentioning the big elephant in the CQWW room — COVID-19. Who could have imagined the impact that the pandemic would have on the world’s largest contest? Contest DXpeditions were almost nonexistent. The huge multi-multi operations of the past were either cancelled or scaled back to a shadow of their former selves. And, as has been seen in other contests, with everyone staying at home, worldwide activity was at record levels with 9,242 logs submitted in this year’s contest, a 19.4% increase over last year’s impressive total of 7,742 entries!

So, even with the impact of COVID, we have an exciting report to share with you this year.

How About Those Results!

With COVID-19 maintaining a full grip on the world’s travel activity, the general trend for most entries in the 2020 CQWW SSB contest was producing similar scores with fewer multipliers when compared to last year. It was striking to note that only one single operator entry cracked the 10 million barrier, EA8RM, with an impressive 13 million points, blowing away his nearest competitor, VY2ZM, by more than 70%. Speaking of single operators, the impact from limited expeditions resulted in a number of home-based European stations making the Top-10, a group often reserved for traveling contestants. In the U.S., K5ZD was forced to cancel his planned trip to V4 and put together another one of his patented “casual” entries, while using only one radio in the Classic overlay category that became another winning score for his contest resume at 5.4 million.

It should be recognized that there were a number of stations who managed to navigate around the travel restrictions of last year, such as John, P4ØW, and Yuri, VE2IM (VE3DZ), posting impressive SOAB Assisted results along with top-scorer, PT5J (PP5JR) at 9 million.

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Vitor, PY2NY, one of contesting’s most enthusiastic participants and his impressive antennas.

In the ranks of single-band entries, DF7EE braved airline travel from Germany, posting an amazing 1.9 million score on 15 meters from CQ3W. Europeans continued to dominate the low band results with competition being fierce as home stations took over the limelight. Perhaps the most impressive single-band accomplishment this year was the amazing 1.6-million-point tally by N2NC, who piloted the K3LR 20-meter station, resulting in a world-high win. While it was sad to see the perennial K3LR multi-multi silenced this year, John’s result softened the blow.

Speaking of multi-ops, a big change for many of the multi teams this year was a switch to remote operating. While a few stations continued to operate with appropriate COVID protocols (check out the W3LPL sidebar story), many dove into remote operating for the first time. Kudos to everyone who gave it a try, knowing that the real excitement of multi-

op contesting is the camaraderie that can only come while being face-to-face. For the first time in many years, a U.S. station won the world Multi-Multi category with the KC1XX team beating out PX2A, delivering a 15 million score.

It's always encouraging to see the accomplishments of our rookies. This class of 2020 was led by DL3PWR, who posted an impressive score of 670,000. For most of us who are a bit longer in the tooth, that score is about 669,000 higher than our first Worldwide score. Well done, Jochem.

There was a tight horse race in the Classic category this year, with P49Y (AE6Y) squeaking by P3X (5B4AMM) by only 6,000 or just a handful of QSOs at 4.77 million. It's a reminder that maintaining consistent intensity of operation can often make a difference for serious entries.

In the end, COVID-19 slowed us down a little. But, the CQWW contest and its participants have amazing resiliency.

There's no doubt that the 2021 edition will be even better!

The CQWW is Still a Worldwide Contest – But ...

One of the questions that was on everyone's mind during the 2020 CQWW SSB was, "Where are the multipliers?" Well, for most, the answer was obvious. Over the past year, COVID-19 had ravaged the travel industry and DX contest trips were among the victims. As a result, there was a precipitous drop in country totals (See Table 1) when looking at the results across every category. In the 2020 contest, we experienced over an 11% year-on-year drop in total worked entities. Serious contest planners certainly saw this coming as the popular NG3K Contest DXpedition website reported a minuscule number of announcements compared to previous years. Indeed, the final numbers tell the story with the

large multi-op stations (who generally work "anything that is breathing") having worked 10-20 fewer countries per band compared to just last year!

What's Your Category?

It's probably not surprising to very many of you to discover that the number of multi-operator entries in the 2020

Table 1

Year	# Entities Worked
2013	236
2014	235
2015	232
2016	224
2017	202
2018	199
2019	215
2020	193

Table 1. Total number of entities submitting logs in the 2020 CQWW SSB Contest and previous years.

2020 CQWW DX SSB PLAQUE WINNERS AND DONORS

SINGLE OPERATOR

World	Juan Hidalgo, EA8RM
Donor: Southern California DX Club	
World – Low Power	Alexey Ogorodov, HC2AO
Donor: Slovenian Contest Club	
World – QRP	Doug Zwiebel, KR2Q
Donor: Jeff Steinman, NSTJ	
World – Assisted High Power	PT5J (Opr.: Sergio Almeida PP5JR)
Donor: Chick Allen, NW3Y	
World – Assisted Low Power	Yaroslav Oleynik, UW7LL
Donor: Gail Sheehan, K2RED	
U.S.A. – High Power	Randy Thompson, K5ZD
Donor: Potomac Valley Radio Club – KC8C Memorial	
U.S.A. – Low Power	Thomas Poland, N9NC
Donor: North Coast Contesters	
U.S.A. – QRP	Christopher M. Merchant, W1MR*
Donor: Pat Collins, N8VW	
U.S.A. – Assisted High Power	Bud Trench, AA3B
Donor: John Rodgers, WE3C	
U.S.A. – Assisted Low Power	Ken Low, KE3X
Donor: LA8W / LN8W & LA Contest Club	
U.S.A. – Zone 3	NO6T (Opr.: Axel W. Bruderer, KI6RRN)
Donor: Northern California Contest Club	
U.S.A. – Zone 4	Mike Wetzel, W9RE
Donor: Kansas City DX Club	
Europe	CR6K (Opr.: Jose Manuel Farto Lopes, CT1CJJ)
Donor: Potomac Valley Radio Club – W4BVV Memorial	
Europe – Low Power	Laszlo Weisz, HA3NU
Donor: Tim Duffy, K3LR	

Europe – QRP

Vitas Krasnickas, LY5G
Donor: Steve "Sid" Caesar, NH7C

Europe – Assisted

Imanol Antofanzas, EC2DX
Donor: Martin Huml, OL5Y

Europe – Assisted Low Power

OM0R (Opr.: Jozef Lang, OM3GI)*
Donor: Alex Goncharov, R3ZZ

Africa

3V8SS (Opr.: Ashraf Chaabane, KF5EYY)*
Donor: Chris Terkla, N1XS

Asia

P3X (Opr.: Sergey Rebrov, 5B4AMM)
Donor: Nodir Tursun-Zade, EY8MM

Caribbean / Central America – High Power

ZF1A (Opr.: Marty Sullivan, NN1C)
Donor: John Rodgers, WE3C

Caribbean / Central America – Low Power

Alfredo Velez, WP3C
Donor: Albert Crespo, NH7A

Oceania

NH6P (Opr.: Alex Tkatch, KU1CW)
Donor: Barbara Yasson, AC7UH

South America

P49Y (Opr.: Andrew L. Faber, AE6Y)
Donor: Yankee Clipper Contest Club

Canada

VY2ZM (Opr.: Jeffrey T. Briggs, K1ZM)
Donor: Contest Club Ontario – VE3WT Memorial

Indonesia

Ibrahim Noor, YC7YGR*
Donor: Karsono Suyanto, YB0NDT

Japan – High Power

Masa Okano, JH4UYB
Donor: Rush Drake, W7RM Memorial

Japan – Low Power

Nob Watanabe, JH1EAQ
Donor: Juan Carlos Munoz, TG9AJR

ASEAN (XZ, HS, XW, XU, 3W, 9M, 9V, V85, YB, DU) –

High Power

Yohanes Budholio, YB2DX
Donor: YB Land DX Club

SINGLE OPERATOR, SINGLE BAND

World – 28 MHz

Hamilton Oliveira Martins, PY2YU

Donor: Joel Chalmers, KG6DX

World – 21 MHz

Eugenio de Marino, CV7S

Donor: John Rodgers, WE3C

World – 14 MHz

K3LR (Opr.: John Golomb, Jr., N2NC)

Donor: North Jersey DX Assn. – K2HLB Memorial

World – 7 MHz

CR6T (Opr.: Antonio Rui Sousa Santos, CT1ESV)

Donor: Fred Laun, K3ZO – K7ZZ Memorial

World – 3.7 MHz

S53M (Borut Terpinc, S57UM)

Donor: Fred Capossela, K6SSS

World – 1.8 MHz

OLØM (Opr.: Ondrej Kolonicny, OK1CDJ)

Donor: OL7M Contest Group; QRO.cz; RemoteQTH.com

U.S.A. – 28 MHz

Courtney Judd, K4WI

Donor: John Rodgers, WE3C

U.S.A. – 21 MHz

Marvin Bloomquist, N5AW

Donor: 11PM Dayton Pizza Gang

U.S.A. – 14 MHz

N7TU (Opr.: David Donnelly, K2SS*)

Donor: Yankee Clipper Contest Club – KC1F Memorial

U.S.A. – 7 MHz

Dan Handa, W7WA

Donor: Chuck Dietz, W5PR

U.S.A. – 3.7 MHz

Steven Sussman, W3BGN

Donor: John Rodgers, WE3C

U.S.A. – 1.8 MHz

K2ZW (Opr.: Hajime Kato, JO1RUR)

Donor: South Texas DX & Contest Club (STXDXCC)

Europe – 28 MHz

Slaven Galic, E77A

Donor: John Rodgers, WE3C

Europe – 21 MHz

CR2X (Opr.: Martti Laine, OH2BH)

Donor: OH-DX-Ring, OH2AM – OH2SB Memorial

CQWW DX SSB experienced a dramatic drop from last year. In fact, the totals were 27% lower (2019 entries – 524; 2020 entries – 385). And, that doesn't even take into account that

there were a number of remotely operated multis this year. Not only has COVID-19 affected the DXpedition totals, but we have decidedly moved towards operating by ourselves (or at

least in very controlled small groups) until the pandemic subsides. When looking at the data in *Table 2*, you'll discover that 91% of all entries (excluding single-band participants) were operat-

Table 2

Category	AF	AS	EU	NA	OC	SA	ALL	% of total
SOAB High Assisted	4	79	587	643	22	38	1,373	22.0%
SOAB High Unassisted	8	122	384	390	46	29	979	15.6%
SOAB Low Assisted	5	72	574	282	21	54	1,008	16.1%
SOAB Low Unassisted	15	221	1,225	661	130	87	2,339	37.5%
SOAB QRP Assisted		2	32	6	3		43	0.7%
SOAB QRP Unassisted	1	11	74	20	2	3	111	1.8%
Multi-2	2	13	26	24	2	3	70	1.1%
Multi-Multi		5	15	11	5	1	37	0.6%
Multi-Single High Power		27	88	40	6	8	169	2.7%
Mult-Single Low Power	1	19	58	14	10	7	109	1.8%
Grand Total	36	571	3,063	2,091	247	230	6,238	100.0%
% by continent	0.6%	9.2%	49.1%	33.5%	4.0%	3.7%	100.0%	

*Single band entries not included in analysis.

Table 2. Number of logs received by entry class in 2020 CQWW SSB Contest.

Europe – 14 MHz OH8X (Opr.: Pasi Luoma-aho, OH6UM) Donor: Charles Wooten, NF4A	MULTI-OPERATOR, SINGLE TRANSMITTER TM6M (Oprs.: F1AKK, F4DXW, F4FDA, F4FFZ, F8ARK, F8DBF, F8FKJ) Donor: Southern Calif. DX Club – W6AM Memorial	MULTI-OPERATOR, TWO TRANSMITTERS World II2S (Oprs.: IZ2FOS, IK2QE1, IK2SGC, IZ2KXC, IU2IBU, IK2TDM, IK2UJS) Donor: Array Solutions
Europe – 7 MHz ED5R (Opr.: Angel Turpin Guillamon, EA5Z) Donor: Central Texas DX and Contest Club – NT5C Memorial	World – Low Power FY5KE (Oprs.: F11AR, F4CWN, F5HRY, FY5FY) Donor: Tennessee Contest Group	U.S.A. ND7K (Oprs.: N6WIN, N6MJ, W9KKN, W6PH, W4IX) Donor: Kimo Chun, KH7U & Mike Gibson, KH6ND – Dan Robbins, KL7Y Memorial
Europe – 3.7 MHz OL9A (Opr.: Jan Sustr, OK2ZAW)* Donor: Ted Demopoulos, KT1V	U.S.A. W3LPL (Oprs.: W3LPL, N1SZ, W3IDT, K3MM, N3QE, K3RA, WR3Z, KD4D) Donor: Carolina DX Assoc. – Ted Goldthorpe, W4VHF and Ken Boyd, K4DXA Memorial	Europe HG7T (Oprs.: HA7TM, HA5CAR, HA9PP, HA0DU, HG5DX)* Donor: World Wide Radio Operators Foundation (WWROF)
Europe – 1.8 MHz SN7D (Opr.: Mateusz Pigoń, SQ7D) Donor: Robert Kasca, SS3R	U.S.A. – Low Power K1XM (Opr.: K1XM, KQ1F) Donor: KZ5DX – DX HOGS	South America CB1D (Oprs.: XQ4CW, XQ1FM, XQ1KY, XQ1CR, CE3WW, CE1NAH, CA1FC5) Donor: Max Baratono, IW1FRU
Caribbean / Central America (21 MHz) Julio Cesar Garcia Canales, CM2RSV Donor: Nate Moreschi, N4YDU	Canada VE6SV (Oprs.: KØXF, VE6RST, VE6SV) Donor: John Sluymer, VE3EJ	Japan JA7YRR (Oprs.: JA7AUM, JA7FDY, JA7MSQ, JA7WSC, JE7KCI, JH7BVH, JR7BPM, JR7LVA) Donor: Yokohama DX Club (YDXC)
Oceania (21 MHz) Andrew Munson, VK4NM Donor: Bruce D. Lee, KD6WW	Africa EF8K (Oprs.: EA8DET, EA8DH, EA8DKF, EA8DX, EA8TR) Donor: WRTC 2022	ASEAN (XZ, HS, XW, XU, 3W, 9M, 9V, V8, YB, DU) 7A1A (Oprs.: YB1AR, YB1AM, YB1ACN, YE1AR, YB4GBN, YB1PEF) Donor: Champ C. Muangamphun, E21EIC – Siam DX Group
Asia (14 MHz) UPØL (Opr.: Vladimir Vinichenko, UN9LW) Donor: Dallas / Fort Worth Contest Group – W5PG Memorial	Asia UP2L (Oprs.: UNØL, UNØLM, UN6LN, UN7LZ, UN9L, UN9LG) Donor: Willy Umanets, UA9BA	MULTI-OPERATOR, MULTI-TRANSMITTER World KC1XX (Oprs.: K1QX, KC1XX, KM3T, W1FV, WA1Z) Donor: Dave Leeson, W6NL & Barb Leeson, K6BL
OVERLAY CATEGORIES World – Classic Steve Telenius-Lowe, PJ4DX* Donor: John Rodgers, WE3C	Europe DR1A (Oprs.: DL1MGB, DL3BPC, DL3DX, DL5CW, DL6FB*) Donor: Gail Sheehan, K2RED	U.S.A. K1TTT (Oprs.: NT2X, W1TQ, W3MLJ, N1TA, KC1KUG, K1NZ, N2HX, W1ZZ, K1KQC, W2JV, NJ1F, K1TTT)* Donor: Jim Lawson, W2PV Memorial
U.S.A. – Classic Doug Grant, K1DG* Donor: BeLoud.US	Europe – Low Power ED7O (Oprs.: EA7EU, EC7MA, EC5AN) Donor: EA Contest Club	Europe DFØHQ (Oprs.: DG1ATN, DH1AKY, DK7YY, DK5KMA, DL1AUZ, DL2OBF, DL5ANT, DL7VOA, DM8HH) Donor: Finnish Amateur Radio League
Europe – Classic Jose Miguel Fenemira Herrero, EA5DFV Donor: Steve Cole, GW4BLE Memorial	Oceania ZM4T (Oprs.: ZL1HAZ, ZL4WW, ZL3IO) Donor: Junichi Tanaka, JH4RHF	CONTEST EXPEDITIONS World – Single Operator BD9XE (Opr.: Dale Yu, BA4TB) Donor: National Capitol DX Association – Stuart Meyer, W2GHK Memorial
Asia – Classic T6A (Opr.: Robert Kasca, SS3R)* Donor: Willy Umanets, UA9BA	South America PR4T (Oprs.: PY1FI, PY1ZV, PY4BK, PY4BZ) Donor: Victor Burns, K16IM – The Cuba Libra Contest Club	World Multi-Op JT1KAI (Oprs.: JT1BV, JT1BZ, JT1BU, JT1CH, JT1CF) Donor: Gail Sheehan, K2RED
World – Rookie Jochem Scholtens, DL3PWR Donor: Tim Duffy, K3LR – N8SM Memorial	Caribbean / Central America KP3MM (Oprs.: KP3MM / KP4AA, AA4NC) Donor: Bob Raymond, WA1Z	Awarded to second place finisher
U.S.A. – Rookie Jonathan Turner, AC1EV Donor: Tim Duffy, K3LR – K3TUP Memorial	Japan JA7ZFN (Oprs.: JA7ACM, JG7PSJ, JH7XMO, JI7GBI, JP7DKO, JR7TEG) Donor: Arizona Outlaws Contest Club	
Europe – Rookie Ivan Surkov, R2ARR* Donor: EA Contest Club	ASEAN (XZ, HS, XW, XU, 3W, 9M, 9V, V8, YB, DU) – Low Power 4D3X (Oprs.: DU3JH, DU3LA) Donor: Bruce Frahm, KØBJ	
Asia – Rookie Safr Bin Muhiyuddin, 9M2SAF Donor: Joe Kimball, KL2A – VU2PAI Memorial		



Bill, W8QZA, getting ready to fire up as a QRP entry in his 31st consecutive CQWW contest operation.

ing as some form of a single operator. That's up from 85% in the 2019 contest.

How Did You Spend Your Time Last Fall?

There are many ways to measure one's level of commitment to a contest. For example, you can estimate how much money you've invested (not advisable), the size of your antenna farm, or the way you prepare ahead of time. An easier metric is operating time. As you might expect, you can break activity into three groups. I like to categorize them as: casual ops, serious ops, and the outer fringe. It turns out that about half of us operated around 10 hours in 2020 CQWW DX SSB contest (*See Table 3 for more information on operating time.* –ed). On the opposite end of the spectrum there were seven extremists who defeated all human limitations by operating the entire 48 hours. If that isn't

2020 CQWW DX SSB TOP SCORES

WORLD SINGLE OPERATOR HIGH POWER All Band	
EA8RM	.....13,010,130
VY2ZM (K1ZM)	....7,588,026
CR6K (CT1CUJ)	....7,356,154
E7DX (E77DX)	....7,324,988
UB7K	....7,090,160
ZF1A (NN1C)	....6,304,032
OM3BH	....6,287,804
XL3T (VE3AT)	....6,196,623
EA2W	....6,052,584
K5ZD	....5,454,575
28 MHz	
PY2NY	....413,015
41EBD	....194,649
EXØM	....147,639
21 MHz	
IW1FRU	....321,552
HI3T	....153,102
IW2BZY	....82,192
7 MHz	
PA2TMS	....105,968
S54W	....63,630
I24REF	....39,556
3.7 MHz	
OK1LRD	....19,176
SQ9IAU	....17,808
UX7Q (URSQFB)	....16,240
1.8 MHz	
KR2Q	....530,000
LY5G	....332,215
LZ1DM	....199,640
UR5FEO	....172,558
I2JFJL	....123,384
W1MR	....119,852
SP4CUF	....116,564
HG6C (H6IAM)	....98,085
JH7UU	....88,572
YCØVM	....82,680
QRP All Band	
HC2AO	....3,384,640
3V8SS (KF5EYY)	....2,962,400
HA3NU	....1,531,200
DM1A (DL1IAO)	....1,524,812
MU2K (RL5D)	....1,412,924
UA9BA	....1,406,088
WP3C	....1,370,642
LY4L	....1,343,532
28 MHz	
LU7VCH	....15,314
I2Z4IF	....7,260
US5VX	....3,816
21 MHz	
WE6EZ	....20,463
YB9KA	....16,587
JQ1NGT	....14,883
20 MHz	
IK2QPR	....357,704
14 MHz	
JR4DAH	....46,023
YU1NR	....45,849
F4GWM	....18,304
7 MHz	
IZ4VQS	....24,640
IZ1ANK	....17,732
SP5FKW	....17,088
3.7 MHz	
SP2QOT	....8,188
DO4HZ	....5,945
OL4W (OK1IF)	....5,088
1.8 MHz	
R2FI	....6,440
HA1TI	....5,004
SO8OO	....1,652
ASSISTED HIGH POWER All Band	
PT5J (PP5JR)	....9,067,764
EC2DX	....7,801,551
P4ØW (W2D)	....7,617,642
VE2IM (VE3DZ)	....6,669,960
IR4M (IK4MGP)	....6,146,832
9A5Y (9A7DX)	....5,412,150
VA2WA	....5,027,105
A42K (A41CK)	....5,010,368
EB5A	....4,722,376
LY7Z	....4,275,670
28 MHz	
PU5FJR	....213,660
PP5KC	....89,748
PY2ADR	....48,026
21 MHz	
CO6HLP	....524,478
OD5ZZ	....352,000
ZW2T (PY2RKG)	....346,464
14 MHz	
IK4LZH	....555,520
4XOT (4Z5F)	....384,280
UR3GU	....330,008
20 MHz	
ZW5B (PY5EG)	....540,991
LR1E (LW6DG)	....502,172
PY5QW	....281,664
21 MHz	
CQ3W (DF7EE)	....1,965,797
PY2UD	....1,119,168
VE3EJ	....962,325
14 MHz	
OK7K (OK1WMR)	....1,577,865
OM2Y (OM2KI)	....1,394,062
IR6T (IK1HJS)	....1,325,298
7 MHz	
US1Q (US8ICM)	....1,026,663
IB9A (IT9RBW)	....755,550
SN3A (SP3GEM)	....749,920
3.7 MHz	
IK2QPR	....357,704
ASSISTED QRP All Band	
CQ3J	....323,592
HA8A (HA8DZ)	....293,040
1.8 MHz	
HG2DX	....74,241
S56X	....63,420
OL7P	....60,048
ASSISTED LOW POWER All Band	
UW7LL	....2,381,808
OMØR (OM3GI)	....1,993,980
TM3Z (F4DSK)	....1,859,408
VP9I (N1NSB)	....1,703,852
OR2F	....1,512,434
PC3T	....1,322,035
9A2EU	....1,315,545
4U1A (OE1ZZZ)	....1,301,290
SQ6H (SQ6PLH)	....1,291,510
S52ZW	....1,188,180
28 MHz	
YP8A	....19,260
GW0GEI	....14,406
YT2T	....9,040
21 MHz	
UN4L	....53,331
CT1FPQ	....31,213
EA8IK	....30,248
14 MHz	
RT4W	....38,258
OZ6OM	....16,554
NA5NN (K2FF)	....10,998
7 MHz	
OK2AP	....18,688
SY1AEA	....14,945
PA2REH	....11,609
3.7 MHz	
LY2OU	....14,943
SP5ES	....8,742
M3E (G4CWH)	....4,104
1.8 MHz	
HA7I (HA7JTR)	....6,498
HA8BE	....5,632
YO8WW	....1,798
MULTI-OP SINGLE TRANSMITTER High Power	
TM6M	....10,289,360
DR1A	....9,981,528
RL3A	....9,397,684
ES9C	....9,030,580
LZ5R	....8,487,192
SP8R	....8,469,060
UP2L	....8,302,644
PR4T	....8,125,950
W3LPL	....8,068,090
EW5A	....7,290,613
Low Power	
FY5KE	....7,167,600
ROOKIE High Power	
DL3PWR	....670,804
R2ARR	....572,544
PA1LX	....288,444
AC1EV	....237,200
DJ5CT	....215,866
IX1HPN	....180,095
F8TRT	....144,300
W9KEY	....139,650
LB5GI	....119,988
VE1CNS	....81,008
ROOKIE Low Power	
SP8ALT	....358,278
411LCP	....345,933
IUØLFQ	....214,643
S55AL	....199,920
41EBD	....194,649

Table 3

# logs	QTH						% of All	Cum. %
op hours	AF	AS	EU	NA	OC	SA	ALL	
0-5	4	134	594	579	38	37	1,386	23.7%
5.1 – 10	4	113	695	514	53	56	1,435	24.5%
10.1-15	5	74	561	333	49	37	1,059	18.1%
15.1-20	7	66	356	228	36	28	721	12.3%
20.1-25	5	51	305	167	21	25	574	9.8%
25.1-30	3	31	155	76	14	18	297	5.1%
30.1-35	1	22	102	51	5	6	187	3.2%
35.1-40	2	6	47	35	6	2	98	1.7%
40.1-47.9	2	8	57	18	3	2	90	1.5%
48		2	4	1			7	0.2%
Grand Total	33	507	2,876	2,002	224	211	5,853	100.0%

Median time: 10.5 hours

Table 3. Operating times for 2020 CQWW SSB Contest Single-Op All Band entries.

F4IAR	160,060	KØEJ	278,274	3.7 MHz	N4WW	44,616	21 MHz	W7DG	53,848	
E77SH	149,420	K5RX	264,840	N4OO	3,955	W3NO	42,911	KG1E	14,104	
SQ3M	147,126	14 MHz	K3LR (N2NC)	1,577,414	1.8 MHz	N2ZX	7,014	NA5NN (K2FF)	10,998	
YC1RKT	145,340	N7TU	304,792	KR2Q	530,000	KØRF	5,145	K7SS	9,061	
LY5GT	136,800	K1RU	303,050	W1MR	119,852	K3JO	4,795	ROOKIE High Power		
CLASSIC High Power		W7WA	339,664	W6QU (W8QZA)	54,579	MULTI-OP SINGLE TRANSMITTER High Power		AC1EV	237,200	
P49Y (AE6Y)	4,776,414	K6EZ (JK3GAD)	61,226	NA4RR	44,688	W3LPL	8,068,090	W9KEY	139,650	
P3X (5B4AMM)	4,770,010	W1XX	54,020	KA8SMA	40,097	N2NT	4,926,639	K6KM	78,228	
PJ4DX	3,715,362	7 MHz	NDØC	28,300	N3CI	8,778	NV9L	3,666,876	W4IP	68,595
K5ZD	3,349,430	W3BGN	51,696	KEØWPA	7,200	K4RM	1,808,550	KD9JSY	26,696	
K1DG	2,389,725	NE8P	24,070	WR4I	4,752	W8PR	1,794,312	AB4BA	24,560	
EA5DFV	1,975,180	NØOK	9,450	W7LG	2,405	WB1DX	530,112	KEØVRT	22,446	
CE3CT	1,922,680	3.7 MHz	W2KZ (JO1RUR)	2,912	21 MHz	W3KB	510,720	K15O	22,116	
EA4KD	1,832,441	AG4W	2,050	WE6EZ	20,463	NE9U	442,001	K4SHW	12,089	
PW2L (PY2MNL)	1,685,037	1.8 MHz	N9NC	1,108,020	N2SQW	374,480	N9TCA	7,076		
OL8K (OK1GTH)	1,617,588	LOW POWER All Band	N9NB	1,007,688	WA1FCN	322,920	Low Power			
CLASSIC Low Power		N4TZ	699,018	AA3B	4,166,151	K1XM	743,660	W4BTW	63,228	
UA9BA	1,404,102	AD5A	536,500	N3RD	3,836,416	N8YXR	241,011	K15GNH	58,500	
WP3C	1,370,642	N1DD	382,402	K3WW	3,539,620	NM1C	115,814	W2ASC	51,084	
HA5PP	644,022	W6YX (N7MH)	380,380	K1KI (KM1P)	3,474,744	N4GAS	71,994	K2PJ	44,164	
V3A (V31MA)	521,050	WW4XX (LZ4AX)	354,960	N3RS	3,446,436	W3ZGD	26,320	N2OMD	41,808	
LY9A	495,296	K6XX	301,378	AA1K	3,342,768	W4TMD	21,093	W4SSF	37,518	
EA1R	484,861	K3SU	283,800	AB3CX	3,283,984	WA1F	18,270	N8BAP	37,145	
IK1JHM	475,272	KV8O (K8PGJ)	263,835	N4UU	2,469,840	W8AJT	12,150	K3RLW	22,624	
NT4TZ	397,575	28 MHz	N2SR	2,094,825	N2SR	1,958,220	AD4XT	9,250	KO4BVB	20,564
MM1E (MMØGOR)	391,058	K6XD	301,378	NW3Y	91,451	NS1A	6,345	N8CUB	16,910	
UA3BL	378,417	21 MHz	KV2K (K2NG)	857,150	N9TGR	71,934	CLASSIC High Power			
UNITED STATES SINGLE OPERATOR HIGH POWER All Band		K3AU	5,976	N3UA	58,380	K5ZD	3,349,430			
K5ZD	5,454,575	K6MR	1,890	28 MHz	W4RN	12,950	K1DG	2,389,725		
NN3W (@NR4M)	4,612,856	WB8WKQ	4,350	21 MHz	W7PP	10,773	N2IC	1,385,384		
K4ZW	4,202,216	KK7AC	1,444	K9CT	475,440	K1JM	1,343,947			
N1UR	4,195,076	21 MHz	K3UA (@K3LR)	864,354	7 MHz	K6JS	2,408	K4RO	619,324	
W9RE	3,098,067	N8II	138,810	K1MM	623,604	K7RF	578,272			
K5TR	3,081,208	K1VSJ	66,521	W3LL	20,276	ND7K	4,011,036			
N2QV	2,804,052	KØKT	45,552	AJ6T	4,028	K2AX	3,310,182			
K1DG	2,796,570	14 MHz	KV2K (K2NG)	857,150	3.7 MHz	K2LE	2,980,596			
K3ZO	2,750,878	KVØQ	296,234	W3LL	8,142	AA4VT	2,104,704			
KQ2M	2,580,952	N7DD	276,705	ASSISTED QRP All Band	NJ3I	1,771,147				
28 MHz		K6ND (N2KW)	170,601	K1CC	1,642,460	NC1CC	1,642,460			
K4WI	56,815	WDØBGZ	29,568	W6NCB .....	.87,780	W2CG	1,638,730		
W5PR	50,600	KZ5OH	19,089	K8ZT	75,123	K3CCR	1,201,719			
W4DD	49,800	7 MHz	W1TJL	102,120	K7ZS .....	.976,614			
21 MHz		W6KW	92,840	WA3EKL .....	.876,280	WA3EKL .....	.876,280		
N5AW	354,944	AA4NP	3,564	N05V	1,767	MULTI-OP MULTI-TRANSMITTER				
WA3FAE	2,378	WB7FJG	1,768	W6NV	58,826	KC1XX	14,926,080			
W3MF	1,116,750	3.7 MHz	K2GMY	2,460	K1TTT	8,070,671				
		28 MHz		WV2DX	4,263,514	WV2DX	4,263,514			
				K3EST	2,797,144	K3EST	2,797,144			
				NE3F	1,506,340	NE3F	1,506,340			
				WØPI .....	.98,819	WØPI .....	.98,819		

Multi-Operating Under COVID-19 Conditions

BY FRANK DONOVAN, W3LPL

When COVID-19 cases began to accelerate in October, W3LPL team members collaborated to develop a plan for safely operating in the CQWW SSB and CW contests. Understandably, most of our team members were not comfortable operating as part of a large, traditional multi-multi team during the pandemic, so a decision was made to enter both contests in the Multi-Single category with a four-person daytime team and a non-overlapping four-person nighttime team. The station was configured in its usual two transceiver-per-band multi-multi configuration with excellent in-band receiving capabilities in place.

Ventilation improvements were implemented to bring a large volume of outdoor air into the ham shack along with enough velocity to provide air movement throughout the shack. Multiple 1-kilowatt portable heaters were installed throughout the shack to compensate for the cold outdoor air.

In addition, physical changes were made to the stations to reduce the likelihood of spreading COVID-19 viruses because our two transceivers per band configurations are only 3 feet apart, a separation between operators that most considered unsafe. In response, we used NASA's proce-

dures for increasing the physical separation between operators deployed at their space launch and satellite operations centers by installing floor-to-ceiling, clear shower curtains between each operator position. This quite effectively increased the physical separation between operators but did not impede their team efficiency.

As you might imagine, we also had to modify other protocols that are generally not an issue during normal environmental conditions. In particular, all of our operators agreed to the following mandatory operator requirements:

- Everyone agreed to wear a mask 100% of the time when in the ham shack.
- Operators agreed to depart immediately after the end of their operating shift.
- Handwashing was required immediately after entering the ham shack.
- When an operator was in the ham shack, he was required to be operating a transceiver. No standing around to watch others.
- During the SSB contest, all CQs and exchanges were recorded, only callsigns were spoken.
- Loud talking or yelling was strictly prohibited. Talking was kept to a minimum.
- Everyone agreed to no indoor socializing; all socializing was outdoors.
- Everyone brought their own food and drinks. Shared food and drinks were not allowed. Our shared refrigerator was turned off with everyone bringing their own cooler.

2020 CQWW DX SSB BAND-BY-BAND BREAKDOWN — TOP ALL BAND SCORES

Number groups indicate: QSOs/Zones/Countries on each band

WORLD SINGLE OPERATOR ALL BAND

Station	160	80	40	20	15	10
EA8RM	155/10/39	487/14/48	1470/24/74	2220/28/94	2706/27/93	1365/17/67
VY2ZM	366/14/47	785/18/65	1104/21/74	2280/28/87	1035/21/77	333/9/37
CR6K	121/8/29	733/17/62	1232/22/69	2074/28/86	2191/28/100	575/12/33
E7DX	169/7/43	991/19/67	1746/32/103	2181/33/107	1811/29/99	463/12/50
UB7K	177/7/45	533/18/69	2070/34/108	2643/34/103	1353/32/99	660/13/54

WORLD SINGLE OPERATOR ASSISTED ALL BAND

PT5J	7/5/6	96/20/47	711/33/88	1258/33/96	2299/34/119	1207/23/82
EC2DX	152/10/50	570/21/81	1464/27/99	1797/32/103	1419/32/110	564/18/56
P40W	26/7/9	442/19/52	1124/26/76	1665/28/92	1739/28/97	490/17/38
VE2IM	192/9/17	859/17/61	1238/23/78	1858/26/91	1356/26/94	113/14/33
IR4M	241/11/53	465/18/74	1692/32/106	1514/34/109	902/32/98	167/15/50

WORLD MULTI-OPERATOR SINGLE TRANSMITTER

TM6M	33/9/26	476/20/76	1592/31/101	3133/36/128	1830/32/113	425/18/66
DR1A	112/12/52	670/19/81	1580/34/109	2568/38/128	1562/33/125	323/17/64
RL3A	94/13/56	899/27/90	2632/34/121	2518/38/133	1135/33/123	653/18/72
ES9C	347/14/59	1015/26/88	1862/33/115	2558/40/131	1707/33/122	598/14/64
LZ5R	113/8/47	799/21/81	2323/32/109	1958/37/115	1889/36/123	330/17/60

WORLD MULTI-OPERATOR TWO TRANSMITTER

II2S	161/10/49	1294/23/84	2079/32/112	2606/33/119	1350/32/120	558/19/57
HG7T	193/6/39	1176/18/73	1975/29/97	1533/34/103	1495/34/112	1008/11/43
RT4F	292/10/46	883/18/71	2516/34/111	2103/32/102	1023/29/105	253/7/40
PI4COM	432/9/52	878/14/67	1155/31/99	1590/32/107	812/29/98	256/15/51
IQ4FA	276/7/48	665/14/66	1097/26/92	1032/32/98	1297/32/98	467/19/64

WORLD MULTI-OPERATOR MULTI-TRANSMITTER

KC1XX	105/12/34	803/26/83	1696/31/105	3065/34/132	2143/27/118	618/17/57
PX2A	4/2/3	223/20/41	1114/33/88	2216/32/104	2965/31/112	1394/24/83
DF0HQ	1052/12/62	1891/20/82	3428/35/121	2484/37/125	1775/34/125	747/16/74
LZ9W	779/10/57	2152/24/93	3466/33/112	2523/35/107	1776/35/111	902/14/56
YT5A	531/9/56	1741/21/86	3005/33/119	3815/36/125	1220/34/109	944/13/51

USA TOP SINGLE OPERATOR ALL BAND

Station	160	80	40	20	15	10
K5ZD	54/9/24	317/13/57	348/21/71	1662/29/104	1394/25/97	169/11/36
NN3W	24/7/6	266/17/59	633/25/82	1530/32/107	1146/21/86	104/8/22
K4ZW	19/8/10	213/19/60	668/26/81	1417/32/102	866/22/74	84/10/28
N1UR	23/7/11	362/15/55	667/21/73	1324/29/91	1054/21/72	173/12/39
W9RE	26/10/11	135/19/47	340/27/67	1296/29/106	880/28/87	78/8/14

USA SINGLE OPERATOR ASSISTED ALL BAND

AA3B	36/8/18	290/17/62	223/23/72	1441/30/100	971/25/94	153/12/38
N3RD	32/10/13	172/18/50	197/24/71	1164/30/108	1070/26/105	149/15/38
K3WW	58/11/27	190/20/61	260/23/77	1156/27/104	770/26/100	101/12/36
K1KI	10/7/8	94/13/43	289/26/66	1067/32/105	897/26/100	299/11/44
N3RS	42/9/22	167/20/56	272/24/76	1027/30/113	755/27/100	82/15/42

USA MULTI-OPERATOR SINGLE TRANSMITTER

W3LPL	40/13/37	334/23/76	1010/32/101	1916/34/129	1271/27/112	48/16/47
N2NT	29/10/23	369/19/65	402/24/78	1558/33/115	1012/27/99	88/14/36
NV9L	16/11/11	206/22/58	271/28/73	937/34/111	1082/32/95	115/14/25
K4RM	20/6/8	174/18/55	204/26/60	641/28/89	522/29/97	74/14/20
W8PR	5/4/4	118/15/47	293/29/68	715/31/90	480/27/82	66/10/19

USA MULTI-OPERATOR TWO TRANSMITTER

ND7K	48/10/10	314/22/34	1147/30/69	1503/33/100	1237/32/93	128/16/22
K2AX	62/8/21	256/20/61	212/22/60	870/31/108	797/27/103	223/16/42
K2LE	31/5/7	185/15/52	326/24/78	1219/27/103	660/24/85	92/9/18
AA4VT	28/6/7	175/18/52	314/27/76	755/27/97	465/25/87	100/12/30
NJ3I	18/7/9	176/16/48	225/24/62	743/28/100	381/24/80	73/8/15

USA MULTI-OPERATOR MULTI-TRANSMITTER

KC1XX	105/12/34	803/26/83	1696/31/105	3065/34/132	2143/27/118	618/17/57
K1TTT	383/11/32	501/20/63	878/26/82	2557/32/119	1411/26/101	588/17/52
WW2DX	125/9/28	463/14/59	721/22/71	1419/27/94	759/19/66	206/10/35
K3EST	78/7/7	185/16/18	934/30/68	930/34/85	850/31/69	170/14/19
NE3F	13/4/3	196/14/41	200/22/47	518/26/93	457/26/90	136/12/32

- Our bunk room was off limits, everyone slept at home.
- Operators could take breaks only if they were at least six feet from every other operator.

Needless to say, this year's COVID response was a different contest environment for everyone; a different level of commitment for sure. But, this is the CQWW and the show must go on! And, on it did.



Even COVID-19 can't silence Rol, K3RA, while operating the 40-meter position at W3LPL.



Built like a Swiss watch, here's the pristine shack behind the voices of the HB9CC gang.

EUROPE TOP SINGLE OPERATOR ALL BAND

Station	160	80	40	20	15	10
CR6K	121/8/29	733/17/62	1238/22/69	2074/28/86	2191/28/100	575/12/33
E7DX	169/7/43	991/19/67	1746/32/103	2181/33/107	1811/29/99	463/12/50
UB7K	177/7/45	533/18/69	2070/34/108	2643/34/103	1353/32/99	660/13/54
OM3BH	249/7/40	850/13/57	1621/30/85	2081/31/92	1823/31/95	278/7/38
EA2W	96/6/30	568/15/59	891/19/71	2011/25/79	2067/30/96	373/14/48

EUROPE SINGLE OPERATOR ASSISTED ALL BAND

EC2DX	152/10/50	570/21/81	1464/27/99	1797/32/103	1419/32/110	564/18/56
IR4M	241/11/53	465/18/74	1692/32/106	1514/34/109	902/32/98	167/15/50
9A5Y	249/9/47	992/21/78	1337/27/91	1461/36/110	1171/34/107	160/15/58
EB5A	53/7/25	389/16/59	1211/25/76	1718/25/78	1362/29/93	159/15/40
LY7Z	380/9/47	674/17/69	1130/29/98	1202/34/103	980/26/95	679/13/55

EUROPE MULTI-OPERATOR SINGLE TRANSMITTER

TM6M	33/9/26	476/20/76	1592/31/101	3133/36/128	1830/32/113	425/18/66
DR1A	112/12/52	670/19/81	1580/34/109	2568/38/128	1562/33/125	323/17/64
RL3A	94/13/56	899/27/90	2632/34/121	2518/38/133	1135/33/123	653/18/72
ES9C	347/14/59	1015/26/88	1862/33/115	2558/40/131	1707/33/122	598/14/64
LZ5R	113/8/47	799/21/81	2323/32/109	1958/37/115	1889/36/123	330/17/60

EUROPE MULTI-OPERATOR TWO TRANSMITTER

I2S	161/10/49	1294/23/84	2079/32/112	2606/33/119	1350/32/120	558/19/57
HG7T	193/6/39	1176/18/73	1975/29/97	1533/34/103	1495/34/112	1008/11/43
RT4F	292/10/46	883/18/71	2516/34/111	2103/32/102	1023/29/105	253/7/40
PI4COM	432/9/52	878/14/67	1155/31/99	1590/32/107	812/29/98	256/15/51
IQ4FA	276/7/48	665/14/66	1097/26/92	1032/32/98	1297/32/98	467/19/64

EUROPE MULTI-OPERATOR MULTI-TRANSMITTER

DF0HQ	1052/12/62	1891/20/82	3428/35/121	2484/37/125	1775/34/125	747/16/74
LZ9W	779/10/57	2152/24/93	3466/33/112	2523/35/107	1776/35/111	902/14/56
YT5A	5319/56	1741/21/86	3005/33/119	3815/36/125	1220/34/109	944/13/51
DP7D	263/6/42	934/18/71	1202/26/96	1955/35/106	1240/30/94	744/13/51
LN8W	914/12/56	1293/18/74	1140/24/81	1727/36/107	1005/27/88	980/14/59

TOP SCORES IN VERY ACTIVE ZONES

Zone 3	Zone 15
NO6T (K16RRN @WA6TQT).....2,195,207	E7DX (E77DX) .....7,324,988
K7RL .....2,004,057	OM3BH .....6,287,804
K6NA .....646,935	S53MM .....4,590,938
VA7RR .....616,680	OL8K (OK1GTH) .....1,617,588
K9JF7 (N7GL) .....573,123	*HA3NU .....1,531,200
Zone 4	Zone 16
XL3T (VE3AT) .....6,196,623	UB7K .....7,090,160
W9RE .....3,098,067	UW5Y (US2YW) .....3,810,288
K5TR .....3,081,208	EW2A .....1,057,131
VE5MX .....1,667,157	EV1R .....1,019,160
K4AB .....1,654,696	RM2U (RU3UR) .....954,230
Zone 5	Zone 20
VY2ZM (K1ZM) .....7,588,026	P3X (5B4AMM) .....4,770,010
K5ZD .....5,454,575	C4W (5B4WN) .....3,524,952
NN3W (@NR4M) .....4,612,856	YP0C (YO3CZW) .....1,884,807
K4ZW .....4,202,216	4Z5LY .....1,339,704
N1UR .....4,195,076	4Z4AK .....507,282
Zone 14	Zone 25
CR6K (CT1CJJ).....7,356,154	JH4UYB .....3,047,568
EA2W .....6,052,584	JG7AMD .....653,346
DJ5MW .....4,049,265	*JH1EAQ .....540,408
G6XX (G4FAL) .....2,405,925	*JH1OGC .....517,370
EA5DFV .....1,975,180	JA2AXB .....512,540

*Low Power

The Youth Team of ZM4T

BY HOLGAR HANNEMANN, ZL3IO

In the 2020 CQWW SSB contest, we hosted a team of kids operating from ZM4T. Fortunately, we are COVID-19-free in New Zealand and our life is normal compared to the rest of the world. Due to my own health issues, I have limits to what I can physically do and as a result planned for some antenna work to be done the same weekend as the contest.

Our guests over the weekend were Jaidyn, ZL4WW (17 years old); Alec, ZL1HAZ (25 years old); and Saskia, ZL2GQ (24 years old). We took down a 5-element, 15-meter Yagi for repair (wind damage) and installed a 3-element, 20-meter Yagi on the tower for the SA / EU long path.

Did I also mention there was a contest that weekend? The team operated the CQWW in difficult conditions as a multi-single entry. The result didn't set any startling records, perhaps due to the lack of competition from KH6. The kids managed to finish in first place for Oceania and potentially qualify for a plaque. It is of particular note that none of the kids on our team own their own stations other than handhelds. For them to operate on HF they mostly run a remote connection into ZM4T. Alec (an electronics engineer) lives in Auckland (~300 miles away) and does this regularly. Jaidyn is a high school student who lives nearby (~20 miles) and visits us from time to time to operate. Saskia now lives in Wellington. She finished university in 2019 and started her career as a

hard enough, a couple of them accomplished this while operating with two radios in various configurations.

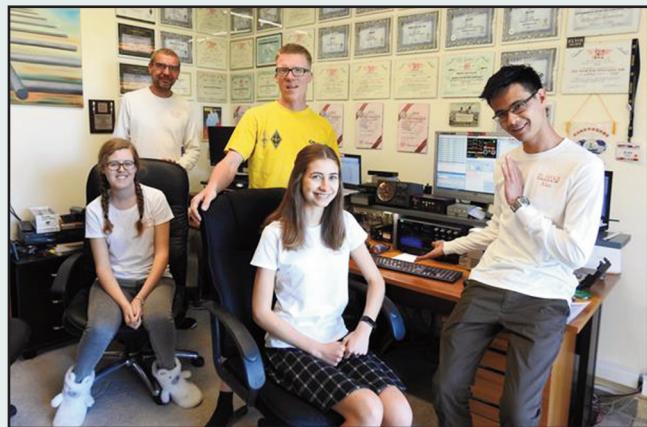
It turns out that there really isn't any geographical difference in operating times. We all fall into the same groupings regardless of location. My guess is that as the sun continues to come to life, the average operating times will increase as well. Maybe you'll be in the "48" club some day?

Accuracy Champions Extraordinaire!

In every contest, there is a group of operators that produces amazingly accurate logs. I want to personally applaud this list of first-class contestants as summarized in *Table 4*, some of whom are regular members of this enviable club. Congratulations for a job well done!

Some Direction from the Director

I'd be remiss if I didn't point out a few operating concerns that continue to appear in the CQWW contest. In some cases, these are minor infractions of the



The youth team at ZM4T is hoping for another big Oceania win in the CQWW (2019 photo, Standing l. to r. ZL3IO (host), OK1MV, ZL1HAZ; Sitting l. to r. ZL2EM and ZL4YL).

policy advisor. While she was happy to help the team and be around for support, she wasn't as keen to operate.

Some of the other kids we had here in the past were unable to join us this year. Alice, ZL2EM, and Xenia, ZL4YL, for example, were in the middle of their first year exams at Auckland University. They both finished with excellent results and got accepted into medical school.

In short, we were proud to operate as a youth team in this year's CQWW contest. Their enthusiasm is infectious. We can't wait until the next one.

Table 4

Cont	Rank	Call	Cat	Raw QSOs	QSO accuracy*
AS	1	JL3MCM	Low Power	518	99.61%
AS	2	T6A	High Power	2,304	99.26%
AS	3	JH7QXJ	High Power	919	99.24%
AS	4	UA9BA	Low Power	1,532	99.09%
EU	1	DK1KC	Low Power	900	99.89%
EU	2	SP2GMA	Low Power	1,047	99.71%
EU	3	OK6T	Low Power	2,058	99.71%
EU	4	SQ3WW	High Power	634	99.68%
EU	5	OH6ECM	Low Power	626	99.68%
EU	6	UT4EK	Low Power	612	99.67%
EU	7	G4NBS	Low Power	906	99.67%
EU	8	DL7UGT	Low Power	528	99.62%
EU	9	HB9AA	Low Power	513	99.61%
EU	10	MM1E	Low Power	1,063	99.44%
NA	1	KD7RF	High Power	752	99.60%
NA	2	KR2Q	QRP	731	99.45%
NA	3	WE9V	High Power	506	99.41%
NA	4	VE6BBP	High Power	1,872	99.36%
NA	5	CO2VDD	Low Power	552	99.28%
NA	6	N2IC	High Power	1,765	99.15%
NA	7	WP3C	Low Power	2,919	99.14%
NA	8	K5ZD	High Power	3,979	99.12%
NA	9	K4ZW	High Power	3,296	99.12%
NA	10	WW4XX	Low Power	567	99.12%
OC	1	WH7W	High Power	549	99.27%
OC	2	KH6CJJ	Low Power	1,241	99.03%
SA	1	PY2EX	High Power	1,112	99.19%
SA	2	OA4SS	High Power	1,410	99.01%

*Accuracy defined as percentage of fully copied received callsigns and exchanges.

rules. In other cases, as you can see in this year's scores, they result in disqualification. Let's review each category in more depth.

Out-of-Band Operation

There are a few examples of out-of-band operation that we have discussed in the past but continue to persist. Aside from logging stations that are simply not in your country's allocated frequency spectrum (e.g., a European station working someone on 7233 kHz), we are also discovering stations operating on frequencies outside of their license privileges, transmitting on band edges such as 14350 kHz and so on.

Cluster spots are among the contributors to this issue. The tendency to quickly jump, call, and work a spotted station has become a standard part of many operating methods. The advice, however, is simple. Take an extra two or three seconds to ensure the station you're calling is in your allocated band. And, if you are looking to establish a run frequency, make sure you're "in the band," avoiding the temptations of a clear 7126 or 21349.8 kHz in the U.S. as an example.

Use of Spotting Assistance as a Single-Operator

Unlike the recent changes in the CQWW WPX contests, the CQWW DX continues to maintain separate single operator categories for Assisted and Unassisted operations. We are regularly evaluating this issue but for now plan to maintain the status quo.

All being said, there continues to be abuse of spotting assistance tools by a small minority of entries, claiming to be unassisted operators. Finding these cases is one of the most labor-intensive aspects of the committee's work. Fortunately, we have the combination of dedicated committee members along with amazing SDR capabilities and other technologies to sniff out the majority of the cheaters. So, be advised that claiming something you're not is a sure path to being listed at the end of the results — a "spot" you don't want with your callsign!

Signal Quality

To some degree, we've all been guilty of this one — myself included. Whether we are using a small station trying to get every dB into our modest antennas or we're in a pile-up attempting to work that needed zone, there is a huge temptation to "crank up the audio" or use other

audio-enhancing means to give us a competitive advantage. The downside is obvious: Bad audio and / or broad signals / QRM to adjoining stations that makes few friends with others on the bands. You may not have noticed, but the CQWW DX rules call this out (see Rule XII.A that speaks to unsportsmanlike conduct). The contest committee continues to look at this on-air behavior and has the tools to take action as necessary.

And, Finally ...

Unfortunately, it's not very often that I get the chance to publicly express my appreciation for the amazing commitment that our incredible team of CQWW Contest Committee members demonstrates each and every year. There is no doubt that this team of dedicated log checkers is as good as it gets. On behalf of myself and everyone who enjoys the CQWW

each year, thank you for making our contest the premier operating event in all of ham radio, producing accurate and fairly scored results. Our team members include: CT1BOH, José Nunes; EA4KD, Pedro Vadillo; ES5TV, Tonno Vahk; F6BEE, Jacques Saget; GØMTN, Lee Volante; HA1AG, Zoli Pitman; IK2QE1, Stefano Brioschi; JH5GHM, Katsuhiro (Don) Kondou; K1DG, Doug Grant; K1EA, Ken Wolff; K3LR, Tim Duffy; K3WW, Charles Fulp; K3ZO, Alfred A. (Fred) Laun, III; K5ZD, Randy Thompson; KR2Q, Doug Zwiebel; LA6VQ, Frode Igland; LU5DX, Martin Monsalvo; N8BJQ, Steve Bolia; OH6LI, Jukka Klemola; PA3AAV, Gert Meinen; RA3AUU, Igor (Harry) Booklan; S5ØA, Tine Brajnik; S5ØXX, Kristjan Kodermac; UA9CDC, Igor Sokolov; VE3EJ, John Sluymer; VK2IA, Bernd Laenger; and YO3JR, Andrei (Andy) Ruse.

— See you in October! 73, John, K1AR,
CQWW Contest Director

Building and Operating a New Superstation at ND7K

BY DAN CRAIG, N6MJ

In 2018, Tim, N6WIN, reached out to me and said he was going to build a nice station at his retirement ND7K QTH in Arizona. After asking him what he was planning on putting up, he said that he wanted a station that could compete in domestic contests while allowing for some fun in DX contests as well. Tim's plan was to put up a 90-foot tower with some tri-banders on it. At that point, my task was to politely explain to him that our main competition would be N2IC in New Mexico and WA6TQT in California and that tri-band stacks would not be able to compete. This early conversation started the ball rolling, and after months of planning, we came to the conclusion that three 130-foot towers would get us what we wanted; a bit of an adjustment from the original plan.

At ND7K, we now have separate stacks to EU and JA on 10, 15, and 20 meters. And, as of CQWW DX SSB, we are about 85% complete — at least for now, with a few more Yagis to go and an 80-meter 4-square being the biggest remaining projects. I'm happy to say that there have already been some really big scores put up from Tim's station and expect many zone 3 records to fall over the next few years.

While it may seem difficult to be safe during this pandemic, we tried our best as one of the few onsite multi-ops during the 2020 CQWW SSB contest. We had the radios well separated, each op had their own headsets, and we sanitized the station during each op change.

Like everyone else, we were pleasantly surprised with conditions on the high bands. Being able to work both EU and JA on 10 meters during a contest hasn't happened in this part of the U.S. in years, so it was a nice surprise with 15 meters also performing above expectations.

We had a great team of guys. Some of us have never operated together but everyone worked great as a newly formed team. W6PH was our grizzled veteran putting in lots of hours throughout the weekend. W4IX was a brand-new team member and was able to help with some projects prior to the start of the contest as well as operate more overall hours than anyone else on the team. W9KKN was a late addition to the team, but offered a lot of experience, having been a major part of our ZF1A team. Not only was he diagnosing issues with the onsite ND7K station, he was also on-call to help

solve issues with the ZF1A station being used in remote operation.

Tim, N6WIN, has put so much work into this station over the last year. Having recently returned from K3LR's QTH with a snowbird set of recently retired LR OWA Yagis, he and Hector, XE2K, got to work to immediately place them into service right before the CQWW contest. The old LR antennas definitely thanked us for their new life in sunny Arizona.

At last, Tim finally experienced the benefits of his hard labor at ND7K! We can't wait to work you in the next one!



Here is the new ND7K station that is ready for big-time contesting!