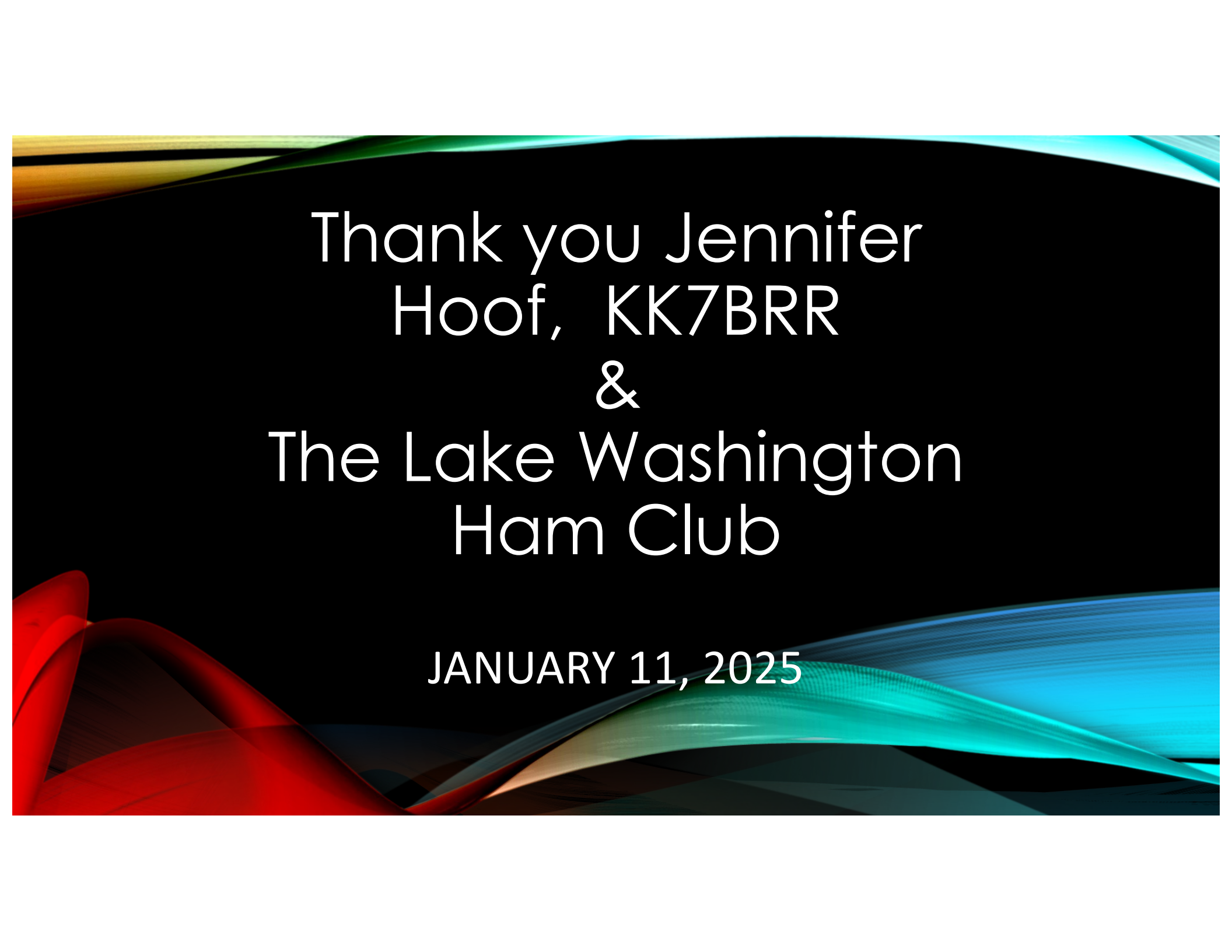




# The DX Marathon Program

Lake Washington Ham  
Club

JANUARY 11, 2025



Thank you Jennifer  
Hoof, KK7BRR  
&  
The Lake Washington  
Ham Club

JANUARY 11, 2025



Who is WC3W?

CQ DX Marathon Program

# What is DX Marathon?



**DX**

**THE FASTEST GROWING HAM RADIO  
DX PROGRAM TODAY!**

**In 2022 DX Marathon grew at +46%**

**In 2023 DX Marathon grew at +50%**

# DX Marathon history

Originated in 1939 by Radio Magazine, CQ's predecessor

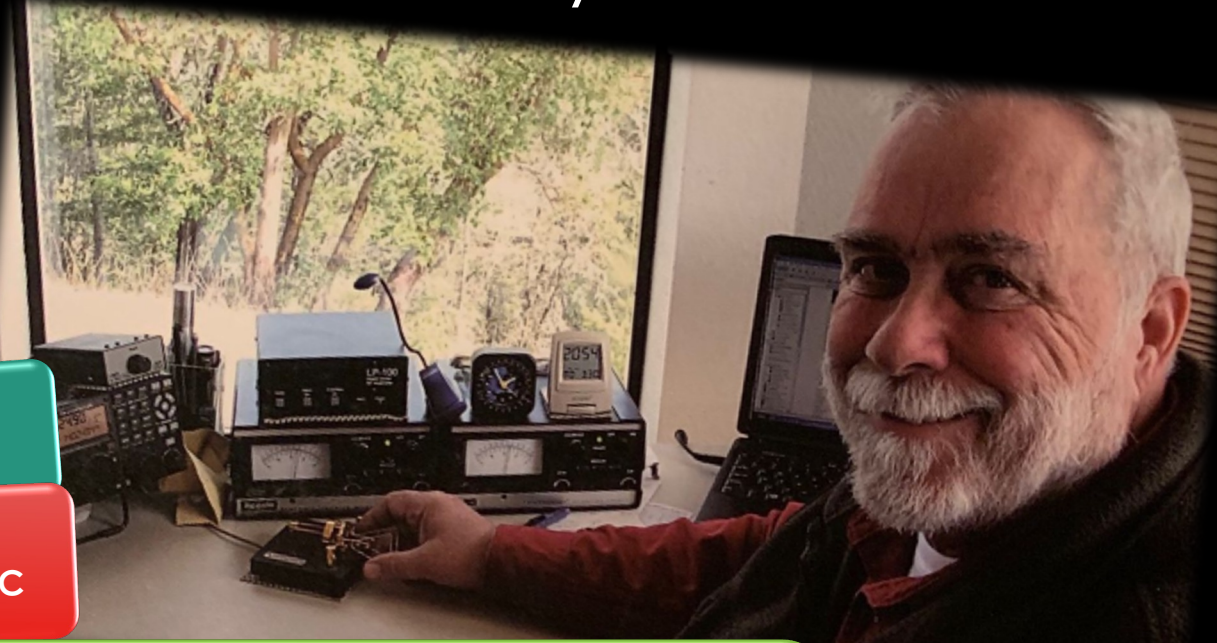
Suspended in 1940 due to WWII

Resumed by CQ staff in 1948

Dropped in 1949 due to CQWW and DXCC

Resurrected in 2005 by W9KNI and CQ Magazine to encourage activity by DXers who have worked 'em all

Bob Locher  
W9KNI



# DX Marathon "Hero"

Originated in 1939 by Radio Magazine, CQ's predecessor

Suspended in 1940 due to WWII

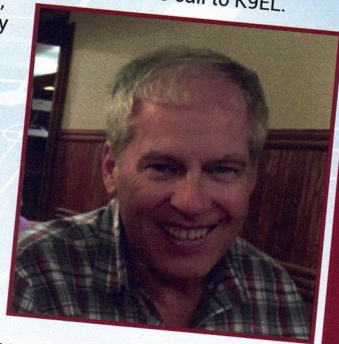
Resumed by CQ staff in 1948

Dropped in 1949 due to CQWW and DXCC

Resurrected in 2005 by K9EL and CQ Magazine to encourage activity by DXers who have worked 'em all

### John Sweeney - K9EL

was first licensed in 1962 as WN9ELV. He upgraded to General, Advanced and Extra Class, and in 1977 changed his call to K9EL. John grew up in Oak Park, Illinois, and graduated from the University of Illinois with an engineering degree. John now resides in Schaumburg, Illinois. He has also lived in England, Germany and Canada.



John is retired from the communications industry and currently enjoys ham radio and traveling. His primary station is a TS990, Expert amplifier and DB18E antenna. He is a member of NIDXA, SMC and Metro DX Club. John is also the administrator for CQ Magazine's annual DX Marathon and is a contributing author to the publication.

An active DXer, John has worked all countries and only needs P5 on CW. He's also earned 5BWAZ (#703) and 160 Meter WAZ. Besides being active working DX, John enjoys being DX and has operated ES, VE and YL, YB, 9V, 9K2, KH6, YF, 5V, 5R, 5T, 5U, 5V, 5W, 5X, 5Y, 5Z, 6A, 6B, 6C, 6D, 6E, 6F, 6G, 6H, 6I, 6J, 6K, 6L, 6M, 6N, 6O, 6P, 6Q, 6R, 6S, 6T, 6U, 6V, 6W, 6X, 6Y, 6Z, 7A, 7B, 7C, 7D, 7E, 7F, 7G, 7H, 7I, 7J, 7K, 7L, 7M, 7N, 7O, 7P, 7Q, 7R, 7S, 7T, 7U, 7V, 7W, 7X, 7Y, 7Z, 8A, 8B, 8C, 8D, 8E, 8F, 8G, 8H, 8I, 8J, 8K, 8L, 8M, 8N, 8O, 8P, 8Q, 8R, 8S, 8T, 8U, 8V, 8W, 8X, 8Y, 8Z, 9A, 9B, 9C, 9D, 9E, 9F, 9G, 9H, 9I, 9J, 9K, 9L, 9M, 9N, 9O, 9P, 9Q, 9R, 9S, 9T, 9U, 9V, 9W, 9X, 9Y, 9Z, 0A, 0B, 0C, 0D, 0E, 0F, 0G, 0H, 0I, 0J, 0K, 0L, 0M, 0N, 0O, 0P, 0Q, 0R, 0S, 0T, 0U, 0V, 0W, 0X, 0Y, 0Z.

John Sweeney  
K9EL

# The DX Marathon

## Board of Directors

WC3W Mark Wohlschlegel- Chairman

- PY5EG Atilano Oms
- KB0EO Dan Soderlund
- K2ZJ John Carioti
- N3SL Steve Larsen
- K9NU Paul Defelice
  
- W9KNI Bob Locher (Emeritus)
- K9EL John Sweeney (Emeritus)

August 2022

# The DX MARATHON

## Advisory Board of Directors

- Africa CT3MD Jose Vasconcelos
- Asia JA0DAI Shin-Ichi Watanabe
- Middle East A92GE David Smith
- Europe OK2PAY Lada Prajsner
- Europe PA2LO Gert van Loo
- North Am KI1U Michael Corey
- North Am K0XM Chuck Kraly
- Oceania YB5QZ Anton Iriawan
- Oceania VK3KTT Steve Maggala
- South Am CX6VM Jorge Diaz Furest

August 2022



# The DX Marathon

## Operating Managers

- Program Administrator & CEO WC3W Mark Wohlschlegel
- Scoring Manager WO7R Larry Loen
- IT Manager KI2D Sebastian Delmont
- Communications Manager K2CIB John Samuels
- Rules & Compliance Manager W4OX- Doug McDuff
- Data Analysis & Reports Manager- AD1C- Jim Reisert

August 2022

# What *is* DX Marathon?

**An annual DXCC + WAZ chase**

**One big advantage: confirmations are *not* required**

**An excellent reason (excuse?) to get on the air and work DX**

**Compete with others or with yourself: beat last year's score**

**No complicated rules**

**A year-long global event**

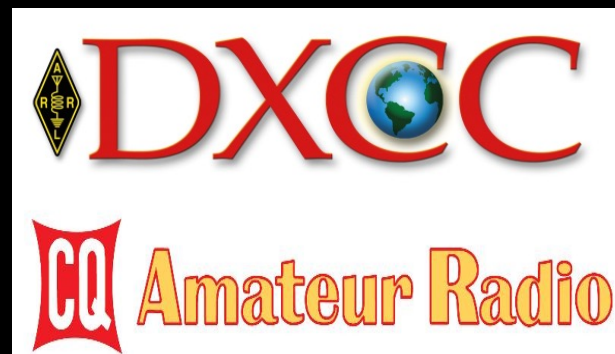
# How does it work?

Participation is easy:  
get on the air and chase DX as usual

At the end of the year, complete the entry  
form and upload to the DX Marathon website

## ***DXCC plus 6 WAE entities:***

1. Italian Africa – IG9/IH9 AF-019/AF-018
2. GM/Shetland Islands EU-012
3. IT – Sicily EU-025
4. TA1 – European Turkey
5. 4U1VIC – ITU in Vienna, Austria
6. JW – Bear Island IOTA EU-027



# Why participate?

Let's face it: for us, ham radio *is* DXing

DX Marathon challenges us to  
*work the world every year*

No multipliers or complicated formulas,  
no QSL cards required

Provides that *extra* incentive to remain active

Ideal for clubs ... but competition is optional:  
self-improvement is the main goal

# Eligible/Ineligible Frequencies

- Any authorized ham radio frequency from 6m-160m including WARC bands
- Contacts through repeaters or satellites are not allowed for credit
- Contacts with maritime or aeronautical mobile stations not allowed
- All contacts must be made entirely over amateur radio frequencies – i.e., Echolink-type or DMR contacts allowed

# DX Marathon classes

## Unlimited

- Full license limits

## Limited

- 100 watt maximum
- Yagi's with booms no longer than 16 feet, mounted no higher than 50 feet e.g. typical 3 ele tribander

## Formula

- 100 watt maximum
- No gain antennas: simple wires and verticals

## QRP

- 5 watt maximum
- Same antennas as Limited

# DX Marathon categories

## Single band / All band

- Focus on a single band 6 through 160 meters, including 60 meters

## Single mode / All mode

- Challenge yourself or friends by maximizing your score on CW, phone or digital.
- Digital includes RTTY, PSK, JT and FT modes – and anything else that might be invented!

## Club leagues

- An excellent tool to motivate and up-skill club members
- Compete among members and against other clubs

# DX Marathon simplicity

## Simple rules

- Use a single TX/RX site (station location)
- No multiple sites, no multiple remotes, no web SDR receivers
- A remote site is OK so long as it is the only site you use
- Operating your home station locally or remotely is OK provided it is your only site
- If you use than one site during the year, you can submit scores separately for each site

See

[www.dxmarathon.com](http://www.dxmarathon.com)

## Simple scoring

- Simply count up the total number of countries and zones logged in the year
- No multipliers, bonuses or subtractions



# DX Marathon New Website

[Home](#)[Rules](#)[Results](#)[Records](#)[Awards](#)[Resources](#)[News](#)[FAQs](#)

Welcome to CQ Magazine's Annual

## DX Marathon

Starting January 1 of each year and running until the end of December, the DX Marathon is the perfect answer for the DX-er who needs that extra incentive to get on the air every day!

Simply work as many **countries** and **CQ Zones** as you can in each calendar year, regardless of the band or mode. Each country and zone counts only once, so you can concentrate on working new ones, rather than working the same ones on multiple bands and modes. [Find more information in the rules.](#)

Check our constantly updated [Hints & Resources](#) to improve your 2023 score.

Submissions for the 2023 DX Marathon are not open yet, but you can find the official scoresheet and more applications in our [Software Tools page](#).

Learn about the [Origins of the DX Marathon](#).

Many awards are given for the top overall scores in four classes, plus top scores in modes, bands, US call areas, and more! Details of the [extensive award list](#) are available [here](#).

[All Time Records](#) · [2022 Results](#) · [Past Years](#)

CQ Magazine's policy on QSOs with Russia and Belarus has been updated. Please read [the latest changes](#).

### Latest News

[Interview with Kevin Thomas, W1DED - Jul 5 2023:](#)

[Tax Deductible Contributions Now Possible - Jun 25 2023:](#)

[Word from WC3W Program Administrator - May 3 2023:](#)

[New website launched! - Feb 11 2023:](#)

[NEWS from our new DX Marathon Manager - Mark, WC3W - Dec 1 2022:](#)

[CQ Policy on QSOs with Russia and Belarus - Aug 31 2022:](#)

[New DX Marathon Manager Appointed! - Aug 11 2022:](#)

# DX Marathon 2023 Submission

[Start](#)[DX Marathon Site](#)

56h 41m to deadline

## Prepare and Submit your 2023 DX Marathon entry

Start by uploading **ADIF files** or the traditional **Excel submission worksheet**.

Then you will be able to **select and review your QSOs** for each Entity and Zone before completing your information and submitting your entry.

[LOAD ADIF OR XLS FILE\(S\)](#)[→ CONTINUE WITH ...](#)[☰ LIST OF ACCEPTED ENTRIES](#)

### Notes

- Your QSOs will be grouped by Entity and Zone and the first one will be suggested as selected. It might not be the best one, and it might even be on the wrong entity, so **please review each selection before submitting**.
- This tool might not do the best job at selecting the right QSOs for your entry. **YOU are responsible for each final selection**.
- You can start editing your entry and come back later to continue. You can even upload additional or updated ADIF files later. **You can also submit your entry multiple times, and only the last one will be considered**.
- This tool keeps all the data locally on your browser until you send your submission. **If you clear your browser's cache, you will lose your data** and will have to load your ADIF files again and recheck your selections.
- This tool works best if you provide an ADIF file containing ALL of your QSOs for the year with all possible fields. At a minimum, it should include QSO\_DATE, TIME\_ON, CALL, BAND, and MODE. If it includes DXCC or CQZ fields, we take them at face value, if not, we do simple callsign prefix matching, but this will be less accurate.
- **For WAE/CQ Entities**, If your ADIF log includes ["region"](#) information, it will take precedence. Otherwise, we will look for specific

# CQ DX Marathon 2023 Submission

Start

DX Marathon Site

Help

55h 14m to deadline






297 claimed points for WC3W in 2023

[ADD OR UPDATE](#)
[DOWNLOAD](#)
[RESET](#)

 Mode  
Mixed (3,060)

 Band  
All Bands

**257 ENTITIES** 40 ZONES \* WAE

Prefix	Name	Date	Band	Mode	Call	QSL	Edit
1A	 Sovereign Military Order of Malta				-	-	
1S	 Spratly Is.				-	-	
3A	 Monaco	Apr 4	40m	DIGI	3A8AB	QSL	 <b>DONE</b>

 Select a QSO for **3A: Monaco** or 

Date	Band	Mode	Call	QSL	
Apr 4	40m	DIGITAL	3A8AB	QSL	DESELECT Current selection
Mar 31	10m	DIGITAL	3A2MW	qso	SELECT
Apr 10	30m	DIGITAL	3A2MW	QSL	SELECT
Apr 27	40m	DIGITAL	3A8AB	QSL	SELECT
Jul 11	30m	DIGITAL	3A2MW	QSL	SELECT

3B6	 Agalega and Saint Brandon Is.	Feb 26	30m	DIGI	3B7M	QSL	 +12
3B8	 Mauritius	Feb 4	30m	DIGI	3B8CW	QSL	 +1
3B9	 Rodrigues I.	Jan 18	10m	DIGI	3B9FR	QSL	 +2
3C	 Equatorial Guinea	Jan 15	20m	DIGI	3C3CA	QSL	 +5

## CQ DX Marathon 2023 Submission

[Start](#)
[DX Marathon Site](#)
[Help](#)
[55h 10m to deadline](#)

297 claimed points for WC3W in 2023

[ADD OR UPDATE](#)
[DOWNLOAD](#)
[RESET](#)

Mode  
Mixed (3,060)

Band  
All Bands

257 ENTITIES **40 ZONES** \* WAE

Zone	Name	Date	Band	Mode	Call	QSL	Other
Zone 1	Northwestern North America	Jan 2	10m	DIGI	VY1MB	QSL	+10
Zone 2	Northeastern North America	Jan 3	10m	DIGI	VO2NS	QSL	+3
Zone 3	Western North America	Jan 29	160m	CW	NA7TB	QSL	+23
Zone 4	Central North America	Jun 11	6m	DIGI	K9EL	QSL	+190
Zone 5	Eastern North America	Jan 11	15m	DIGI	VO1LM	QSL	+166
Zone 6	Southern North America	Mar 13	30m	DIGI	XE2J	QSL	+8
Zone 7	Central America	Jan 2	20m	DIGI	V31ZA	QSL	+47
Zone 8	Western Indies	Jan 12	30m	DIGI	HI9/F5PLR	QSL	+134
Zone 9	Northern South America	Jan 4	10m	DIGI	5K6RM	QSL	+40
Zone 10	Western South America	Feb 5	15m	DIGI	HCSVF	QSL	+23
Zone 11	Central South America	Jan 18	10m	DIGI	PU2SEG	QSL	+35
Zone 12	Southwestern South America	Mar 19	6m	DIGI	CE3SOC	QSL	+12
Zone 13	Southeastern South America	Jan 14	10m	DIGI	LU2NI	QSL	+67
Zone 14	Western Europe	Jan 8	40m	DIGI	EA3HMM	QSL	+528
Zone 15	Central Europe	Jan 9	40m	DIGI	IZ8PPI	QSL	+320
Zone 16	Eastern Europe	Jan 12	15m	DIGI	RU3DNN	QSL	+231

# VERIFICATION

**Honor system with very few infractions**

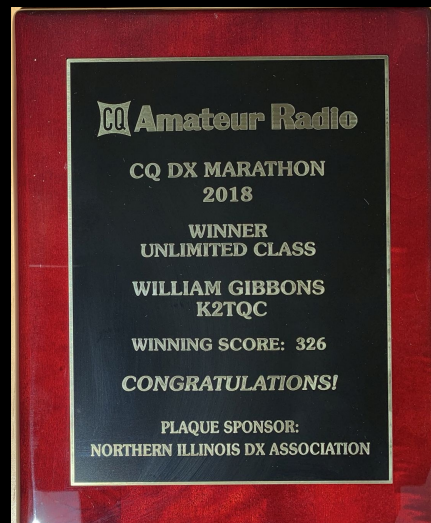
**DX stations may be contacted to verify  
logged QSOs if no online log exists**

**Any participant who violates the rules  
risks disqualification**

**When scoring is complete, the annual results  
write-up and plaques & certificates are prepared**

# Awards

30 wooden plaques



120 certificates



These are free *annual* awards,  
 thanks to our generous donors

# Wall plaques

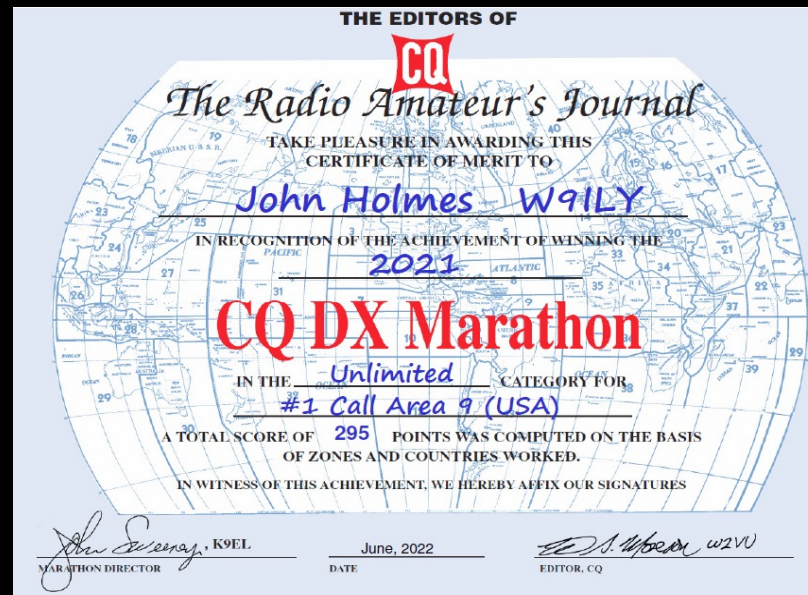
- Unlimited, Limited, Formula 100w & Formula 5w classes
- Continental winners
- 6 through 160 meter band leaders
- Top CW, phone and digital scores
- Top NA CW score
- Top EU CW score



# Certificates

Top in each zone

Top in each continent  
by mode



Top score in each  
participating country

Top VE by call area

Top USA by call area  
and class



# Sponsors & Financials

**Unlimited class: Northern Illinois DX Association**

**Limited class: Northern Illinois DX Association**

**Formula class, 100 Watts: Northern Illinois DX Association**

**Formula class, 5 watts or less: Jeff, KE9V**

**Top CW-only score: The CW Operators Club**

**Top phone-only score: Collins Amateur Radio Club in Memory of Art Collins, W0CXX**

**Top digital-only score: Bill, K2TQC**

**Top score in Africa: Dane Norvarlic, S53T**

**Top score in Asia: YBLand DXing Passion**

**Top score in Europe: Gert, PA2LO**

**Top score in North America: The Metro DX Club**

**Top score in Oceania: Col, Northeast Radio Group (NERG)**

**Top score in South America: ARAUCARIA DX GROUP !**

**Top CW-only score in North America: The CW Operators Club**

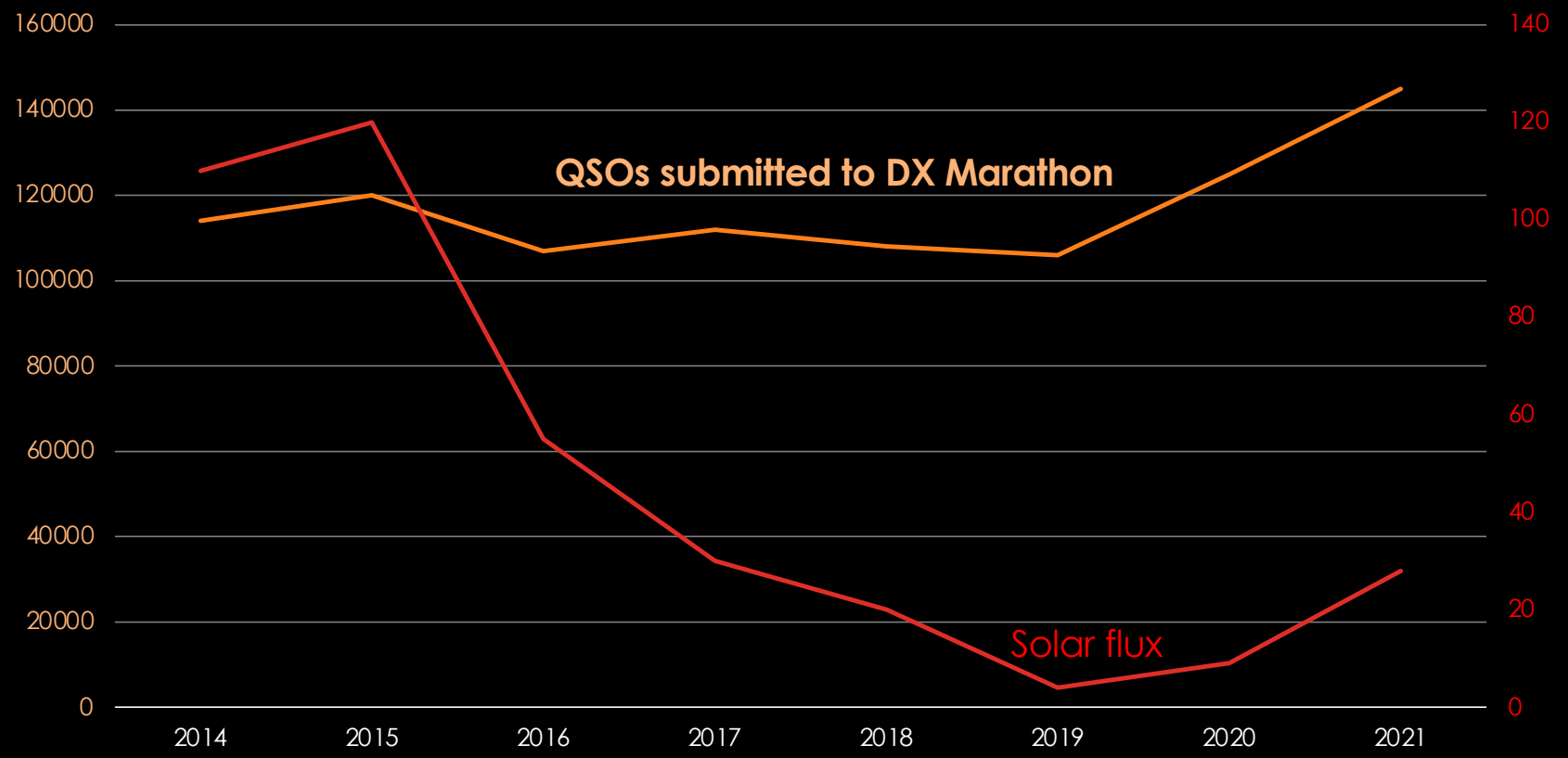
**Top CW-only score in Europe: The CW Operators Club**

**Top scores for 10, 12, 15, 17, 20, 30, 40 and 80m: ARAUCARIA DX GROUP -**

**Top score for 60m: anonymous sponsor**

**Thank you!!!**

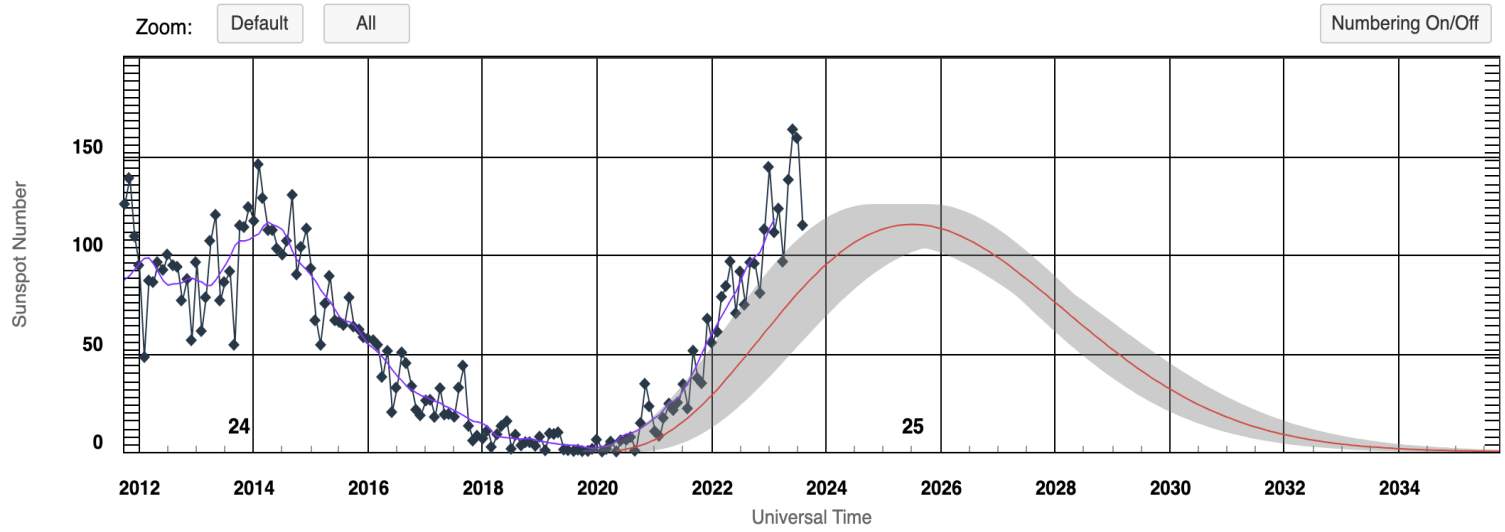
# Who needs sunspots?



# Cycle 25

## SOLAR CYCLE PROGRESSION

ISES Solar Cycle Sunspot Number Progression



◆ Monthly Values    — Smoothed Monthly Values    — Predicted Values    ● Predicted Range

Space Weather Prediction Center

Add/Remove Error Bars... ▾

Numbering On/Off



# My vision for growth

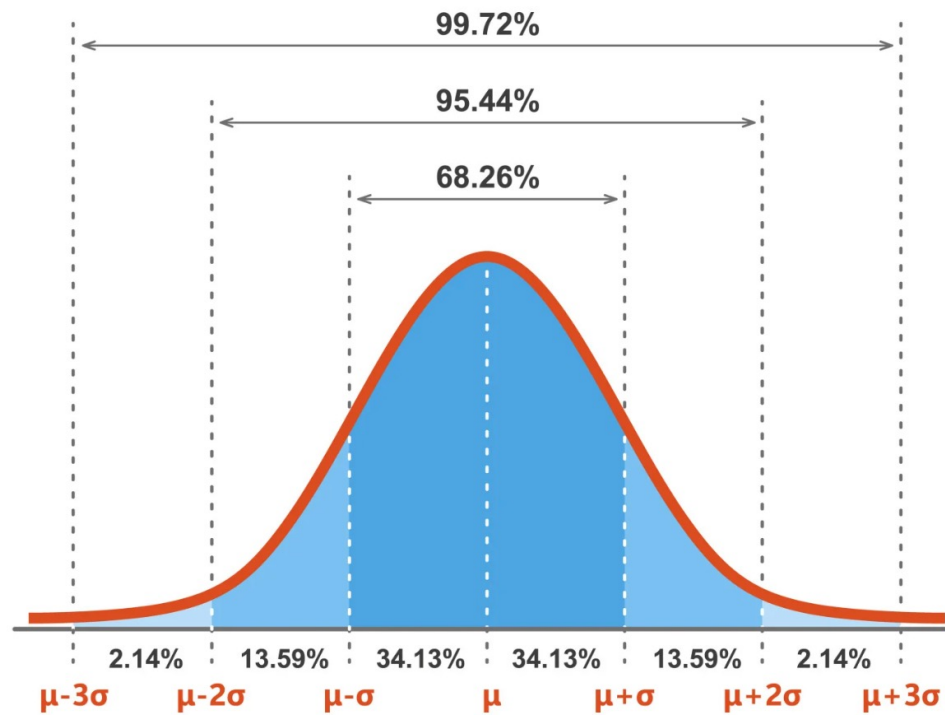


Figure 1. A standard normal distribution (SND).

# 2023/2022 Results

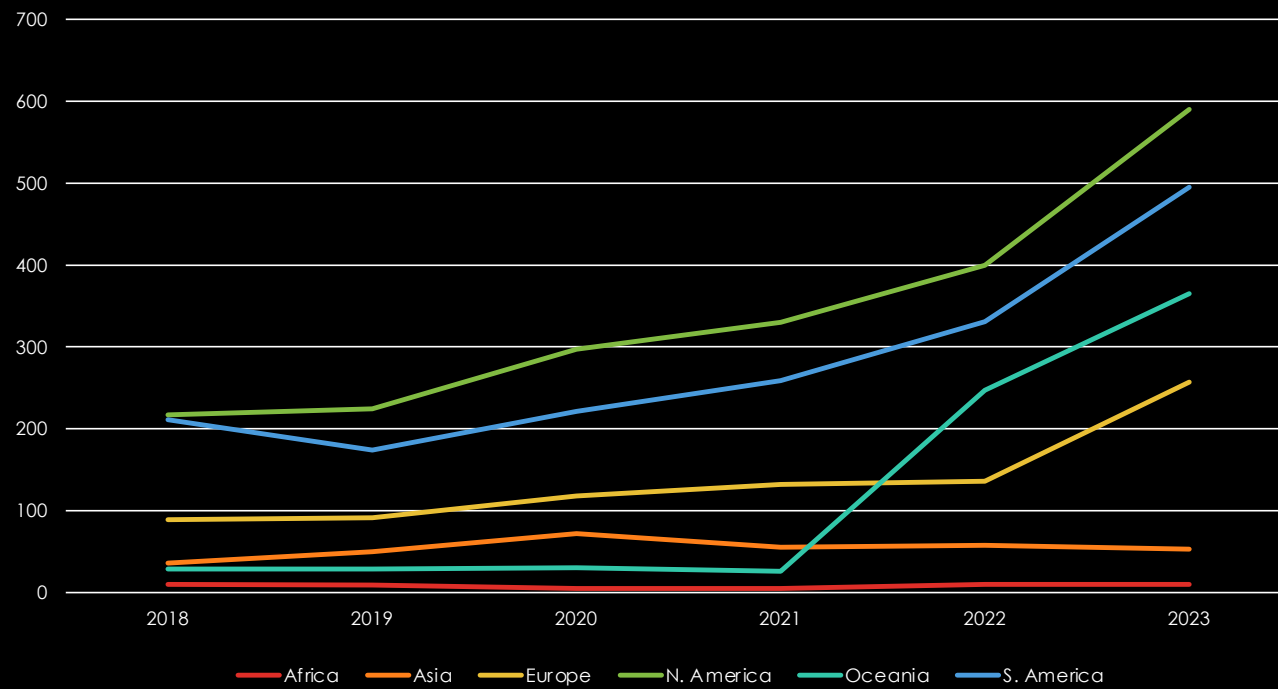
- 1769 (1182) Submission/327K (216K) QSO's
- 289 Entities + 40 zones = max score 329 (307)
- 99 Entries over 300 (13)
- Overall error rate 2.0% (2.7%)
  - Most frequent errors:
    - Wrong zone – 26% (17%)
    - Invalid calls - 35% (21%)
    - Wrong country – 29% (12%)
    - Pirates- 3% (\*28%-Russ)
    - Not in Log- 6% (16%)
- 65% were Unlimited
- 5% were single-band
- 36% were single-mode

## Top 3 Club Scores

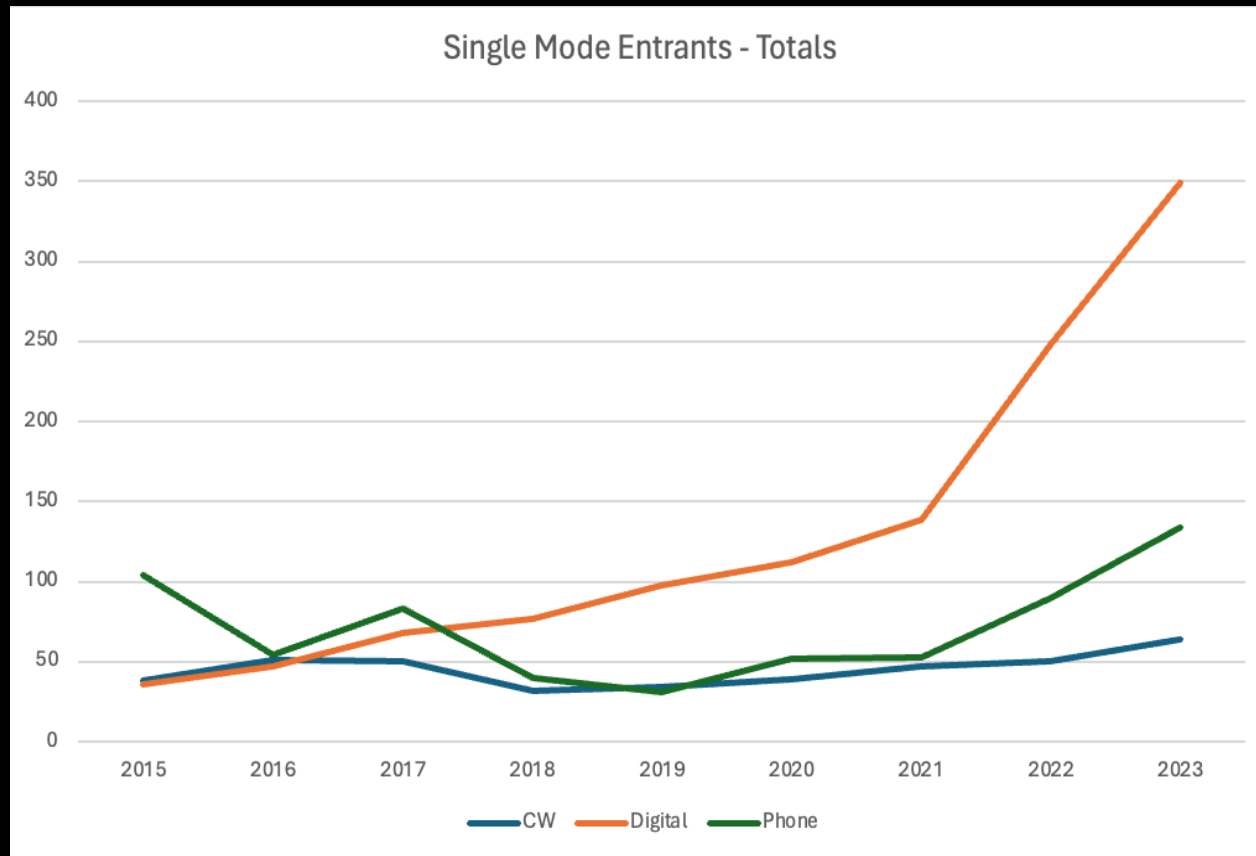
YB LAND INDONESIA	50208
RIO DX GROUP- BRAZIL	21358
SOUTHEASTERN DX CLUB	13438

Unlimited	IK0OZD	329	30 Meters	PY2XU	289
Limited	SV2AEL	324	40 Meters	W9KNI	275
Formula 100	OK2FD	315	60 Meters	W1NG	195
Formula 5	WG5G	313	80 Meters	PP5JR	238
CW	OK2PAY	309	160 Meters	K7ZV	119
CW-N America	K5BG	290	Zone 3	N6RV	323
Phone	PY4JW	275	Zone 5	K2JL	322
Digital	N3SL	320	Zone 9	HK3W	314
6 Meters	F5UKW	201	Africa	CT3MD	317
10 Meters	PY2LCD	316	Asia	TA2LG	319
12 Meters	IK0YVV	315	Europe	IK0OZD	329
15 Meters	PY5EG	297	North America	K9EL	325
17 Meters	K2TQC	318	Oceania	YB5QZ	322
20 Meters	VE3VEE	320	South America	PY7ZZ	316

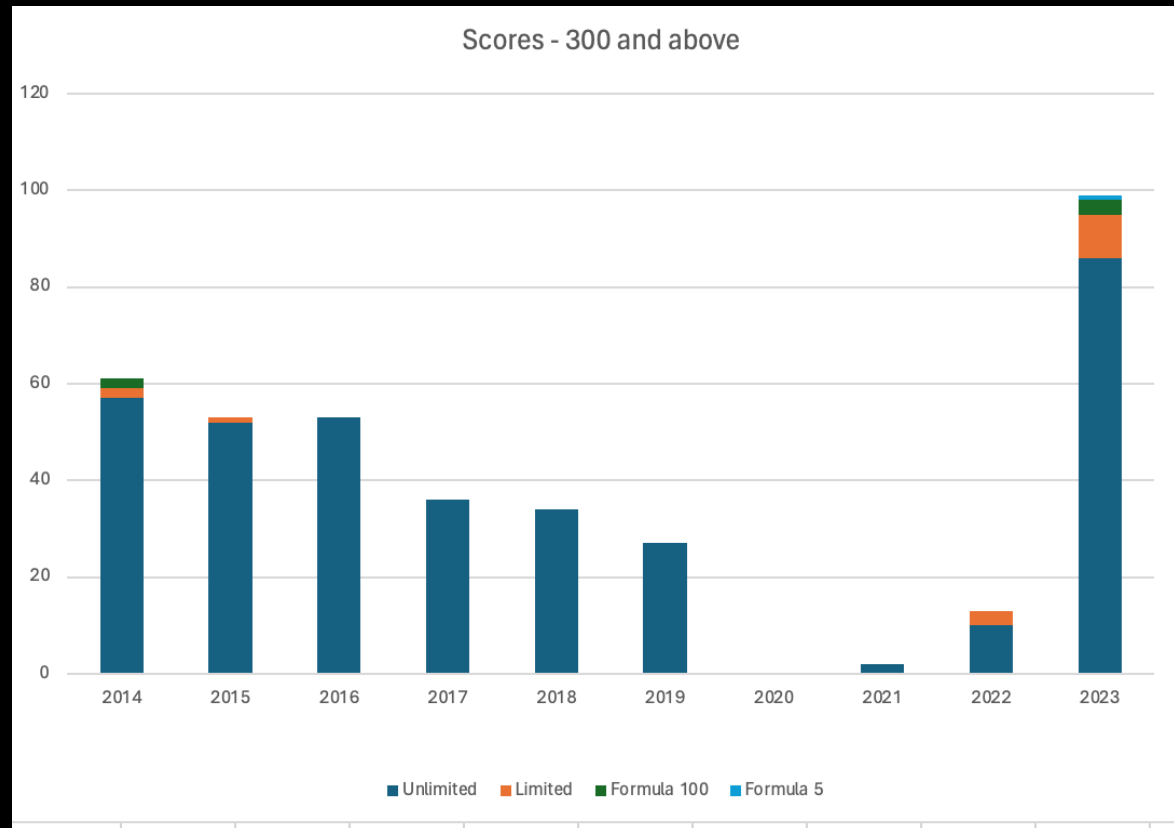
# Participation by Continent



# Single Mode

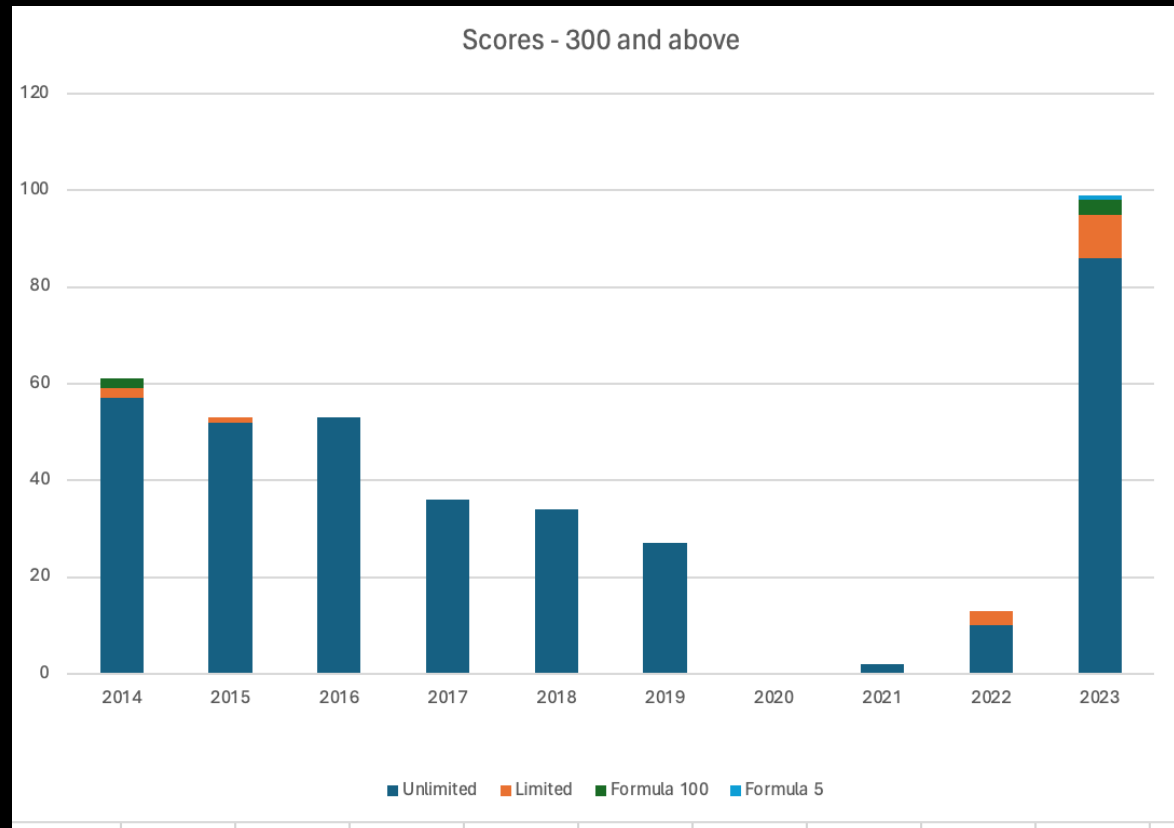


# Scores above 300 in 2023





# Scores above 300 in 2023



# DX Marathon 2024

- Slight modification in the categories
- Youth Overlay
- YL Overlay
- Club Competition Restructuring
- Super Marathon Award- John Sweeney K9EL
- DX Marathon Challenge

**Feedback, comments and  
suggestions are welcome:  
please email  
[wc3w@dxmarathon.com](mailto:wc3w@dxmarathon.com)**

# INTERVIEW

- <https://youtu.be/g2yR-too7pl>



**Thank you!**

**Questions?**

**Email: [wc3w@dxmarathon.com](mailto:wc3w@dxmarathon.com)**