

Fall 2018 Classic Exchange (CX) Rules

Classic Exchange "CX"

CW

Sunday Sep 23 1300Z to Sep 24 0700Z

Tuesday Sep 25 1300Z to Sep 26 0700Z

Phone

Sunday Sep 30 1300Z to Oct 1 0700Z

Tuesday Oct 2 1300Z to Oct 3 0700Z

(Please read The future of the CX at the end of this Announcement)

Bands

160-80-40-20-15-10-6-2

Modes

CW, AM, SSB, FM

Power

Keep it legal.....

The CX is a no-pressure contest celebrating the older commercial and Home Brew equipment that was the pride and joy of ham shacks many decades ago. The object is to encourage restoration, operation and enjoyment of this older Classic equipment.

You need not operate a Classic rig to participate in the CX. You may use any rig in the contest although new gear is a distinct scoring disadvantage as your multipliers are directly related to the age of the equipment you use! However, you can still work the "great ones" with modern equipment.

There are two (2) entry categories per mode:

- ▶ Three or fewer receiver-transmitter pairs
- ▶ Four or more receiver-transmitter pairs.

Each CX event has bonus points. Details in the Bonus section!

There will be CX recognition for high scores in AM, SSB, FM, and CW as well as overall.

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Suggested CX Frequencies (+/- QRM)

	CW	AM	SSB
160M	1.810	1.890	1.920
80M	3.545	3.860	3.840
40M	7.045	7.270	7.250
20M	14.045	14.280	14.260
15M	21.045	21.400	21.380
10M	28.045	29.000	28.600
6M	50.095	50.400	50.125
2M	144.100	144.300	144.200

Listen up and down 5 to 10 Kc for crystal controlled stations

DO NOT OPERATE SSB IN THE AM WINDOW (3.880 to 3.890 Mc).

Contest QSO Exchange:

Exchange your RST, QTH (state US, province for Canada, country for DX), name, receiver and transmitter manufacturer/model (Home Brew send final amp tube or transistor type).

The same station may be worked with different equipment combinations on each band and in each mode.

Non-participating stations may be worked for score if all required information is exchanged.

All QSOs must be direct radio communications - not through repeaters or the Internet.

Bonus Points for the Fall 2018 CX:

Bonus #1 2000 points for qualifying a crystal controlled transmitter.

Bonus #2 2000 Points for qualifying a home brew transmitter (crystal or VFO).

For the 1st bonus, any crystal controlled transmitter can be used -- HB, kit, store bought etc -- as long as you make the 3 contacts using crystal control.

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For the 2nd bonus, the home brew can not be a kit. For example, an HW-16 or Johnson Valiant do not count. Yes, Valiants came in kits as well as assembled...

If you qualify a HB transmitter with crystal control, you get 4000 points.

You only get to use each Bonus once per mode.

Scoring:

Step 1: Compute the total points per mode (QSOs x CX Multiplier)

Step 2: Enter any bonus points

Step 3: Add the mode mode totals and bonus points to get the final score

Example:

Mode	Number of QSOs	CX Multiplier	Total	Category
AM	10	120	1200	<4
SSB	30	1000	31000	4
CW	70	700	49000	<4
FM	5	100	500	<4
Subtotal:			93200	
Bonus #1	XTAL Controlled	2000	2000	
Bonus #2	Home Brew	2000	2000	
Final Score				

CX Multiplier: Total age of all qualified equipment used to make the claimed QSOs per mode.

To qualify to be counted in the CX Multiplier, each receiver or transmitter must be used in a minimum of three complete QSOs for the claimed mode.

If the equipment is Home-Brew, count it as 25 years old unless actual construction date or date of its construction article is older.

Transceivers score as separate receivers and transmitters of equal age.

I put a detailed example at the end of this announcement.....

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Submissions:

Please send a copy of your log and a listing of the equipment used, with ages, for each mode. Other soapbox information such as most interesting QSO, rig with the worst chirp, unusual events preparing for or during CX and interesting stories about your classic gear would be appreciated and used by the CX Newsletter editor.

Also, please send pictures of you, your shacks, and antennas.

Paper logs are OK, but please try to submit electronic logs..... it's much easier for Ron when verifying scores and much easier for Mark when doing the newsletter.

Don't worry about formatting your soapbox materials; Mark will take care of that.

Logs, soapbox comments etc are due by Nov 1, 2018.

General CX Question	Mark K3MSB or Ron K2RP
CX logs, Soapbox comments, pictures, Announcements, etc	Ron K2RP
CX Website, Newsletter	Mark K3MSB

e-mail: Mark k3msb@arri.net

e-mail: Ron k2rp@arri.net

E-MAIL IS (REALLY) PREFERRED BUT NOT ABSOLUTELY NECESSARY

Or by mail to:
K2RP
659 Shanas Lane
Encinitas, CA 92024

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Scoring Example:

Compute the age of your equipment.

Equipment	Service Entry Year	Age in 2018
B&W 5100B	1955	63
SX-101A	1960	58
HT-37	1965	53
SX-111	1965	53
TS-830S	1980	38
HW-16	1967	51

I made 30 QSOs on CW and qualified my B&W 5100B, SX-101A, HT-37, and SX-111, TS-830S, and HW-16.

The HW-16 was crystal controlled.

My CX Multiplier for CW is $63+58+53+53 + 38 + 38 + 51 + 51 = 405$

I get the 2000 point bonus for crystal control.

I've qualified 4 transmitter/receiver pairs for CW

Note that the age for a transceiver is 2 times it's age.

I made 3 AM QSOs using my B&W 5100B and SX-101A

My CX Multiplier for AM is $63+58 = 121$

I've qualified 1 transmitter/receiver pair of AM

I made 8 SSB QSOs using my TS-830S

My CX Multiplier for SSB is $38+38 = 76$

I've qualified 1 transmitter/receiver pair for SSB

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Now, enter all this into the scoring table

Mode	Number of QSOs	CX Multiplier	Total	Category
AM	3	121	363	4
SSB	8	76	608	<4
CW	30	405	12150	<4
FM	0	0	0	-
Subtotal:			13121	
Bonus #1	XTAL Controlled	2000	2000	
Bonus #2	Home Brew	0	0	
Final Score			15212	

My categories are

CW: Four or more receiver-transmitter pairs.

SSB: Three or fewer receiver-transmitter pairs

AM: Three or fewer receiver-transmitter pairs

The future of the CX

Since Ron K2RP and I (Mark K3MSB) have been running the CX for about a year, we've been discussing ways to get more participation in the CX.

One of the common comments we've had was the Sunday 18 hour format was a problem for people due to family and church responsibilities. Thus we added the "Tuesday" part of the CX several years ago. Looking at the logs, it doesn't seem to have gotten a lot of new guys participating in the CX.

Overall, we seem to have had a max of a little over 30 entries in the CX, and a minimum of less than 10. The Winter 2018 event had 19 entries, so I suppose that was around average.

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What can we do better?

Ron and I have discussed starting the CX on Saturday night at 0000Z and going until 3 AM Eastern (0700Z for EDT and 0800Z for EST) both Sunday and Tuesday. That gives 2 evenings for the Sunday part, and 2 evenings for the Tuesday part.

Another idea is to have a 9 day long CX Rally with combined modes, starting on a Friday night at 0000Z. This might be fine in the winter when people have more operating time; for the fall event we might stick with the current format.

When I started entering the CX in the very early 2000s, we used to have an SPC multiplier; this was nothing more than the number of States, Provinces and Countries you worked. Today, a mode's score is

QSOs x CX Multiplier.

We could modify that to be

QSOs x CX Multiplier x Number of states.

The above scoring table would then look like

Mode	Number of QSOs	CX Multiplier	SPC	Total	Category
AM	3	121	2	726	4
SSB	8	76	4	2432	<4
CW	30	405	6	72900	<4
FM	0	0	0	0	-
Subtotal :				76058	
Bonus #1	XTAL Controlled	2000		2000	
Bonus #2	Home Brew	0		0	
Final Score				78058	

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In my experience in the CX, there is little activity after about 9 to 10 PM Eastern time. I've stayed up several times (1 AM to 2 AM eastern) to try and catch the west coast CXers, but rarely do I hear them. Is the because the west coast guys have qualified their radios with other west coast guys, and there's no need to try for the transcontinental QSOs on 40 and 80 ? Similarly, most of my radios get qualified with east coast stations. But, it's sure is fun to work across the country with an ARC-5 !

Remembering what it was like when I was Johnny Novice, I was ecstatic to work across the country with my old (even then) gear!

How can we recapture some of that magic in the CX ?

Let your voices be heard. Email either Ron or me.

73 Mark K3MSB, Ron K2RP