



Report to the RSGB Spectrum Committee Meeting - November 2014

1 General position

Membership of CDXC currently stands around 850 - with 18% being overseas members. Our members are active primarily on the HF bands and use CW, SSB and Data modes in their pursuit of DX and contesting.

We are committed to promoting good operating standards on all modes for DX'ers, DXpeditions and testers. We are one of the larger global sponsors of DXpeditions.

2 Spectrum abuse

CDXC considers poor operating and deliberate or malicious QRM a form of spectrum abuse. Furthermore it shows the hobby in a bad light and discourages newcomers.

The DX Codes of Conduct have set out best practice, but there is a feeling that we are 'preaching to the converted' and need to find better ways to reach our audience.

To that end we published an article under the 'Getting Started' banner in the August 2014 RadCom and arranged and facilitated a DX Forum at the 2014 RSGB Convention. Both of these set out to encourage new entrants to DXing and to alert all DXers to the pitfalls of poor operating.

Unfortunately resources have not allowed us to progress the action of producing, in conjunction with the RSGB TEC, a form of training video that could be presented to Clubs and be available on the Internet. We have a new volunteer who is currently working on a DXing presentation (powerpoint) to be available to clubs and we hope he will take on this additional task in the New Year.

We have no solution or suggestions at this time to tackle malicious QRM, partly because it seems generally to emanate from areas beyond our shores.

3 The rising noise floor

Our members continue to be appalled at the proliferation of 'noise sources'. We urge the Society to do all it can to assist OFCOM in its efforts to rid us of non CE compliant SMPSS, Solar Panel controllers, Plasma TVs and the like.

4 New band plans

As before, the CDXC members' wish list continues to include 1,800 – 1,810 (especially now that Region 2 has defined that as the Data modes section for Topband); full legal power in the 1,850 – 2,000 segment; 3,800 – 4,000; 7,200 – 7,300 and an extension to all WARC bands.

There is a continued demand for a high power license as we have seen in EI; this is especially requested for chasing DX and contesting, where we are at a disadvantage to nearly all of our near-neighbours.

5 OFCOM Consultation

CDXC actively encouraged its members to submit a response to the OFCOM consultation document. We thank the Society for its guidance and suggestions for completing relevant sections.

While many of the questions were not of great concern to our members, the proposed change to the RSL was. One of the key elements of a callsign is to define the location of the station – particularly for DXing and for multipliers in contests. If the RSL were to become optional then we could see complete confusion on the bands – which would never recede as the optionality element would always remain. This must not be allowed to happen.

Chris Duckling, G3SVL
Chairman CDXC

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