

Results of the 2010 CQ DX Marathon

BY JOHN SWEENEY,* K9EL/VA3CDX

Participation in the 2010 CQ DX Marathon was up significantly despite some of the worst band conditions in years! Excluding the new PJ countries, there were actually two fewer countries available compared to 2009. However, there were 58 countries with no activity at all in 2010! Overall not the best year for DXing, so the competition was as fierce as ever. There were significantly more people with higher scores, so those countries that *were* active were in many logs. In the end, taking into account the new PJ countries, the winning 2010 score in the Unlimited Class was identical to the winning 2009 score.

Logs were received from 62 countries and 28 zones—a nearly 30-percent increase over last year. Once again the majority of the logs (75%) were Unlimited Class. 60 percent of the logs came from three countries—USA, Brazil, and England—with participation from England up over 100 percent from 2009. We even had one SWL entry this year. The competition for certificates was especially exciting in 2010, as there was a 25-percent increase in the number of single-mode submissions and a 50-percent increase in QRP (10 watts or less) submissions. As the DX Marathon rules were not clear on multiple entries and multiple certificates, a clarification was published earlier this year. Please see sidebar.

And the Winners Are...

Once again Bob Locher, W9KNI, was the top scorer in the Unlimited Class with a score of 325. Bob worked 285 of the 291 countries that were available in 2010, as well as all 40 CQ zones. Congratulations to Bob on winning two years in a row! PP5EG, OM3EY, and NØFW were not far behind with scores of 323, 320, and 318, respectively. Bob's last new one was worked at 2200Z on December 31st, so he obviously was very active right to the end of the contest! Competition in Formula Class was just as competitive, with Bernhard Wittek, DL4CW, claiming the Formula Class plaque with a total score of 254, four points ahead of the runner-up, KØABC. Congratulations to all of our Formula Class participants.

Once again the plaques for the winners in both classes will be provided by the Northern Illinois DX Association. We sincerely appreciate their support for sponsoring the DX Marathon plaques.

Major certificate winners in 2010 include Joe, W1JR, who came out on top in the CW competition at 305 points; David, N3CDA, who took top SSB honors with a score of 286; and Mark, K7MTR, who topped the digital-mode competition at 237 points. Fantastic single-mode scores and all higher than 2009. Notable in the single-band competition was Mike, K5NU, who amassed an amazing score of 243 points (205 countries/38 zones) on 80 meters! We had our first 10-meter-only submission. Hopefully, we will see more higher band submissions as the sunspots improve.

Each year has its unique problems and 2010 was no different. Last year, many participants lost points due to incorrect call-signs for zones 2, 3, 4, 5, 17, 18, and 19. I am pleased to report that the number of zone errors was down by 90% this year.

Hopefully, each of our participants will continue to use the information available on the DX Marathon website (www.dxmarathon.com).

Unfortunately, a new problem evolved in 2010—incorrect postings on DX spotting networks. Please listen carefully to the station you are working, as the call on the cluster may not be right. Many submissions included “JX/G3PJT,” which was called in many times. Unfortunately, G3PJT was actually at J6. 5N7M



Bernhard Wittek, DL4CW, took home top Formula Class honors in the 2010 CQ DX Marathon with a total score of 254 points.

Bernhard Wittek, DL4CW Formula Class Winner

Bernhard became interested in radio at a very young age, listening to shortwave broadcasts on his parents' tube receiver. At age 12, he attempted an amateur license but was distracted by other interests. After many years of SWLing, Bernhard finally got his ham license in 2004. His passion for SWLing quickly turned to a passion for DXing. Bernhard operates an IC-751A transceiver to all homebrew antennas. Currently his antenna farm consists of a 33-foot vertical and a 90-foot Zepp. Bernhard operates primarily CW and RTTY and is an avid QSL collector. He is also licensed in the U.S. as N4FC. Bernhard said he came across the DX Marathon accidentally a few years ago, noticed that his score was quite good and made a real effort in 2010.

Bernhard is an active participant in SOTA (Summits On The Air) and the photo in this article shows Bernhard on one of his expeditions in Austria.

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TOP SCORES Single-Mode

CW	Callsign	Countries	Zones	Score	Comments
	W1JR	265	40	305	Certificate Winner
	OH6MW	258	40	298	
	W4VQ	258	40	298	

Digital	Callsign	Countries	Zones	Score	Comments
	K7MTR	197	40	237	Certificate Winner
	SP3BGD	172	39	211	
	GU0SUP	129	37	166	

SSB	Callsign	Countries	Zones	Score	Comments
	N3CDA	246	40	286	Certificate Winner
	M0URX	243	40	283	
	PY2ADR	234	40	274	

Low Power	Callsign	Countries	Zones	Score	Power	Comments
	W8QZA	186	39	225	5	Certificate Winner
	ND0C	182	38	220	5	
	IV3AOL	162	31	193	5	

Single-Band	Callsign	Countries	Zones	Score	Band	Comments
	K5NU	205	38	243	80	Certificate Winner
	K4VSC	41	14	55	40	Certificate Winner
	VE8DW	43	17	60	20	
	W9KVR	125	38	163	17	Certificate Winner
	PU2ELP	156	34	190	10	Certificate Winner
	K4MM	68	15	83	6	Certificate Winner

Note: Expanded Top Scores boxes may be found in the Expanded scores section on the CQ website.

was called in as HN7M, 5T7M, 5U7M, and several other variations. WH6R was called in as WH8R as another example. Although actual pirate activity was down in 2010, there is still confusion with the E51 prefix and European Turkey. Please check callsigns carefully for the correct country! Many stations claimed credit for various EZ stations, but neither the DX

Marathon committee nor the ARRL has been able to receive any official information regarding the validity of the EZ stations that are currently active. For 2010, the lack of approval for EZ contacts did not have any significant impact on the final results.

Many submissions were received marked as Formula Class, but were actu-

Zone Certificate Winners

Callsign	Countries	Zones	Score
VE8DW	43	17	60
N0FW	278	40	318
K5EK	274	40	314
RA9OO	121	37	158
VK6HG	147	37	184

Note: Top scorers in other zones received Top Country Score certificate.

Country Certificate Winners

Callsign	Countries	Zones	Score
XV4TUJ	88	27	115
9A2EU	215	40	255
A65CA	246	40	286
BV1EK	111	32	143
BD1EFO	113	36	149
CE2WZ	160	38	198
CO2OT	73	18	91
CT1CQK	147	35	182
DJ9ZB	267	40	307
DU1IVT	119	36	155
E73PY	105	33	138
EA4KD	271	40	311
EC8AFM	181	36	217
EI7CC	221	40	261
F5CQ	254	40	294
FS/K9NB	88	25	113
G4PTJ	260	40	300
MD0CCE	271	40	311
GJ4PRB	76	17	93
GU0SUP	129	37	166
GW0VSW	90	17	107
HA8TI	189	40	229
HB9ALO	250	40	290
HC6EP	71	26	97
7Z1HL	199	37	236
IZ2AMW	266	40	306
LY5W/IT9	92	34	126
JH2UUVL	260	39	299
WP3GW	162	31	193
LA2LI	194	39	233
LU5VV	165	38	203
LY9Y	252	40	292
OH2BEN	258	40	298
OK2SG	264	40	304
OM3EY	280	40	320
ON4ON	270	40	310
OZ7YY	263	40	303
PA3FQA	273	40	313
PP5EG	283	40	323
R6YY	275	40	315
S51DX	215	40	255
SM5DJZ	260	40	300
SV1DPI	251	40	291
SV9COL	227	40	267
TA1HZ	121	30	151
UA9FAR	260	40	300
US7MM	263	40	303
V51YJ	192	40	232
VE1DX	265	40	305
VK3HJ	224	39	263
VU2PTT	183	39	222
T6AF	104	32	136
YB1AR	175	38	213
YI1RZ	117	32	149
YO9HP	252	39	291
YU1PC	151	37	188
YV6BXN	135	29	164
Z2-AC7GP	103	25	128
ZL2IFB	248	40	288
ZS1D	27	18	45



Oms, PP5EG, proudly displaying two of his DX Marathon certificates. Oms was runner-up in the 2010 Marathon Unlimited Class.

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Slobodan "Bob" Sevo, E770, 2009 Formula Class Winner proudly displaying his plaque.

ally Unlimited Class based on the types of antennas used. Simply limiting power to 100 watts does not necessarily qualify a station for Formula Class. Please read the DX Marathon rules carefully regarding the types of antennas and power allowed for Formula Class. And finally, don't forget that the CQ countries list includes additional valid countries that are not part of the ARRL DXCC program. Since most logging programs use the ARRL list, don't forget to work TA1 (European Turkey), IT (Sicily), IG9/IH9 (African Italy), and others. For complete details, please go to www.dxmarathon.com.

See our expanded results on the CQ website (www.cq-amateur-radio.com) web for QRM and additional score breakdowns.
 73, John, K9EL/VA3CDX

DX Marathon Clarification on Multiple Entries and Awards

For those of you who may have missed this in the April issue, the following clarification to the CQ DX Marathon rules is effective immediately.—ed.

Each entrant may submit one log each year per operating location. Plaques are awarded for the top score in Unlimited Class and in Formula Class. In addition, certificates are awarded to qualified participants in this order:

- Top Score—Country
- Top Score—Zone
- Top low power (10 watts or less) score in Formula Class
- Top Score—Single mode entry (SSB, CW, Digital)
- Top Score—Single band entry

Plaque winners are not eligible for certificates. Only one certificate will be awarded per entrant. In the case of a participant qualifying for more than one certificate, that participant will receive a certificate for the highest level based on the above order. At the discretion of the DX Marathon Committee, a certificate may then be awarded to the next qualifying entrant(s) in the additional category.

Results 2010 CQ DX Marathon

(Any comments appear beneath the line score of the entrant)

UNLIMITED CLASS															
Call	Countries	Zones	Score												
W9KNI	285	40	325												
Plaque Winner															
PP5EG	283	40	323	N6EE	239	40	279	LA2LI	194	39	233	DL8ZAJ	112	27	139
OM3EY	280	40	320	W0EWM	240	39	279	LA8AW	193	40	233	VK4FR	104	34	138
N0FW	278	40	318	F5IN	236	40	276	PY5MJ	193	40	233	T6AF	104	32	136
N5ZM	276	40	316	K6XT	236	40	276	VK2MWG	193	40	233	W9VA	111	25	136
PY2WC	275	40	315	SV3DCX	237	39	276	I2WIJ	192	40	232	W5GWH	99	33	132
R6YY	275	40	315	F5VHY	235	40	275	KD8GOX	192	40	232	LY5W/IT9	92	34	126
K5EK	274	40	314	K3NK	235	40	275	OH5RF	193	39	232	LY10EPC	92	29	121
PA3FOA	273	40	313	N8BJQ	235	40	275	V51YJ	192	40	232	W4DL	96	25	121
K3KO	272	40	312	PY2ADR	234	40	274	JN3SAC	190	40	230	PY2PT	90	28	118
EA4KD	271	40	311	PY2XAT	233	40	273	HA8TI	189	40	229	FS-K9NB	88	25	113
MD0CCE	271	40	311	F4BKV	232	40	272	W0VX	189	40	229	WA7PVE	75	31	106
W2QO	272	39	311	W5UHQ	232	40	272	W6NWS	189	40	229	HC6EP	71	26	97
W4QN	271	40	311	K3WA	231	40	271	EI4GXB	189	38	227	GJ4PRB	76	17	93
N8BR	270	40	310	N1IBM	232	39	271	K8BN	187	40	227	PUL3LYB	67	25	92
N8RR	270	40	310	VE3ZZ	231	40	271	K0ARY	188	38	226	DK8JB	74	14	88
ON4ON	270	40	310	F1JKJ	230	40	270	N7FF	187	39	226	DUI1JI	66	18	84
DJ9ZB	267	40	307	K2UF	230	40	270	G3LZQ	185	40	225	K4MM	68	15	83
I2ZAMW	266	40	306	KF7E	230	40	270	KZ2I	185	40	225	AD7XG	44	19	63
IK5PWQ	265	40	305	WD9DZV	232	37	269	PY9MM	189	36	225	VE8DW	43	17	60
VE1DX	265	40	305	OZ7RQ	228	40	268	W3EC	185	40	225	ZS1D	27	18	45
W1JR	265	40	305	IK2DJV	227	40	267	9A5CW	187	37	224	TB2MYE	32	11	43
DL5AN	264	40	304	SV9COL	227	40	267	SM7BHM	185	38	223	AD7CK	22	19	41
OK2SG	264	40	304	W9OA	227	40	267	VU2PTT	183	39	222	PP5KR	11	8	19
OZ7YY	263	40	303	G5LP	225	40	265	PA0MIR	179	40	219	VE2PIJ	3	3	6
US7MM	263	40	303	NQ7R	225	39	264	K8YC	180	36	216				
N8MZ	261	40	301	PY2DY	225	39	264	PY5CA	179	37	216	FORMULA CLASS			
W3GQ	261	40	301	PY2TIM	225	39	264	N9LAH	175	40	215	Call	Countries	Zones	Score
G4PTJ	260	40	300	N0RB	223	40	263	YB1AR	175	38	213	DL4CW	214	40	254
SM5DJZ	260	40	300	VK3HJ	224	39	263	A65BD	174	37	211	Plaque Winner			
UA9FAR	260	40	300	EI7CC	221	40	261	N9AG	173	38	211	K0ABC	213	37	250
W8AEF	260	40	300	K3TN	223	38	261	G3YBY	171	39	210	F4FDA	200	39	239
JH2UVL	260	39	299	N0KE	221	40	261	SV2CXW	181	29	210	K4WY	200	39	239
PY7ZY	259	40	299	W8AV	221	40	261	WA6JRZ	169	40	209	N1SF	196	38	234
K0XB	258	40	298	W8BBQ	221	40	261	PY1ZV	170	37	207	G4MUL	193	40	233
OH2BEN	258	40	298	OK1WCF	221	39	260	W7ABC	169	37	206	K8CQ	192	36	228
OH6MW	258	40	298	VE3UTT	220	40	260	WM3O	169	35	204	K6TTT	188	39	227
W4VQ	258	40	298	W4CU	220	40	260	LU5VV	165	38	203	W3ZL	192	35	227
N6AR	257	40	297	N9US/4	221	38	259	W0RIC	162	39	201	W8QZA	186	39	225
PP1CZ	257	40	297	K7ACZ	219	39	258	K3LB	159	40	199	Low power - 5 watts			
WT8C	257	40	297	PR7AR	218	40	258	CE2WZ	160	38	198	AD2AM	186	38	224
G3VKW	256	40	296	K5WAF	216	40	256	G3NKC	162	36	198	All SSB			
N8PR	257	39	296	9A2EU	215	40	255	NF7E	157	40	197	N1AM	187	37	224
WX6V	256	40	296	S51DX	215	40	255	VE3UZ	159	38	197	ND0C	182	38	220
UX1UA	255	40	295	G3TXF	214	40	254	WB2TFM	158	37	195	Low power - 5 watts			
F5CQ	254	40	294	ON4CAS	214	40	254	PY3OPP	158	35	193	LY3BY	181	38	219
K9NB	254	40	294	IZ5CML	214	39	253	WP3GW	162	31	193	Y04AAC	181	37	218
N8DE	254	40	294	W7RV	213	40	253	W6DCC	153	39	192	EC8AFM	181	36	217
W4HG	254	40	294	W90A-P9	212	40	252	PU2ELP	156	34	190	SP3BGD	172	39	211
W7DO	254	40	294	K7CMR	211	40	251	I0RCP	160	29	189	All Digital			
WA5VGI	253	40	293	Y09FNP	211	40	251	N7WO	152	37	189	W4KVS	171	35	206
LY9Y	252	40	292	PY6HD	210	40	250	IW0HLZ	149	39	188	AD1C	167	38	205
PY4OG	252	40	292	G4Ily	209	40	249	W7YS	149	37	186	JA1IRH	162	40	202
SQ1EIX	252	40	292	K1SND	211	38	249	PY2NZ	147	37	184	K6LE	164	35	199
SV1DPI	251	40	291	K9DDO/4	210	39	249	CT1CQK	147	35	182	KD5JWC	162	35	197
Y09HP	252	39	291	PT7ZT	210	39	249	W9ILY	149	33	182	All CW, All mobile			
HB9ALO	250	40	290	K0FX	208	40	248	HB9DDZ	143	38	181	SP5JXK	161	35	196
K6FW	250	40	290	N8TR	208	40	248	K2SX	144	36	180	All CW			
K8SM	250	40	290	RN3AKK	208	40	248	F5VKT	144	35	179	IV3AOL	162	31	193
W1SKU	250	40	290	SV2FLQ	209	39	248	K1MIJ	143	35	178	Low power - 5 watts			
W4VIC	250	40	290	K3XC	207	40	247	W1XT	141	36	177	PR7AB	155	38	193
W3OA	249	40	289	N8AGU	206	40	246	YB1TJ	137	38	175	NU4I	153	36	189
JA0DAI	248	40	288	N8NN	206	40	246	NC4MI	140	34	174	All CW			
LY3BM	248	40	288	W6XK	206	40	246	K0CF	140	33	173	WA7QCC	153	36	189
LY3W	248	40	288	N3TR	205	40	245	KT7G	136	37	173	All Mobile			
ZL2IFB	248	40	288	N7KA	206	39	245	AJ4FM	137	34	171	YU1PC	151	37	188
IW0HOU	247	40	287	SV3AQR	207	38	245	K3GMT	139	32	171	All CW			
K8AJ5	247	40	287	PY1SX	205	39	244	CE3PG	134	36	170	VK6HG	147	37	184
A65CA	246	40	286	K5NU	205	38	243	PP5BZ	132	35	167	PP2RON	145	38	183
N3CDA	246	40	286	K5VIP	203	40	243	G4OWT	130	36	166	I3DBA	145	37	182
K4UTE	245	39	284	UA3VVB	203	40	243	GU0SUP	129	37	166	All CW			
VE5UA	244	40	284	VK4LDX	204	39	243	N6KW	130	36	166	JA70XR	140	38	178
W1EBI	244	40	284	VK3FM	203	39	242	CT1AHU	125	36	161	All mobile			
M0URX	243	40	283	AA4XA	203	38	241	NN6NN	121	38	159	SV8PKJ	144	33	177
N4PQX	243	40	283	G3VWV	200	40	240	RA90O	121	37	158	AA5JG	142	34	176
OZ7AM	243	40	283	W2LK	201	39	240	DU1IVT	119	36	155	DH5MM	137	35	172
K6TA	242	40	282	K7GS	200	39	239	N4QVM	125	30	155	O09O	138	34	172
K6YK	242	40	282	K7MTR	197	40	237	SV2HWR	123	31	154	OK1BLU	140	31	171
W2IRT	242	40	282	PY2CX	199	38	237	PY3KN	124	29	153	KE4PT	139	30	169
N7CW	241	40	281	7Z1HL	199	37	236	TA1HZ	121	30	151	KA9MOM	137	31	168
W6RL	242	39	281	N6MA	196	40	236	F5IYJ	118	31	149	F5MPN	133	32	165
AA7A	240	40	280	PY5IP	197	39	236	JO7KMB/DV1	114	35	149	PY4ZO	130	34	164
N4LV	240	39	279	PY6KY	199	37	236	PY4FQ	114	35	149	Low power - 10 watts			
				LY3M	196	39	235	KB8KE	117	31	148	YV6BXN	135	29	164
				W4UFO	195	40	235	N0S	118	29	147	Low power - 10 watts			
				W5MPC	197	37	234	N0HF	113	33	146	AA4FU	131	32	163
				IK5FKF	193	40	233	W3ZGD	107	34	141	PY4XX	128	35	163

W9KVR	125	38	163
N3RC	126	35	161
WA2VQV	132	29	161
N6DIT	128	32	160
W4WNT	128	27	155
AA7DK	123	31	154
			All SSB
SV8PKI	125	28	153
ON3AD	118	32	150
			Low power - 10 watts
BD1EFO	113	36	149
W4MJW	120	29	149
			All SSB
Y11RZ	117	32	149
KF0IQ	121	27	148
BV1EK	111	32	143
PY4OY	109	33	142
YO9CWY	114	28	142
DF4ZL	110	30	140
			All CW
KJ8O	111	28	139
E73PY	105	33	138
WA1LWS	103	28	131
Z2/AC7GP	103	25	128
N0CKC	94	29	123
			All 17m
W2GHD	96	25	121
			All Digital
G3LHJ	95	23	118
			All CW, Low power - 5 watts
E73X	93	24	117
			All CW
XV4TUJ	88	27	115
			All SSB
GW0VSW	90	17	107
			All CW, low power - 2.5 watts
PY4LH	83	24	107
TA1DX	82	22	104
W9BK	80	19	99
			All SSB
N3CU	75	21	96
			Low power - 5 watts
W6GMT	71	23	94
			Low power - 10 watts
W2VU	70	22	92
			All SSB
CO2OT	73	18	91
WB0LJK	64	24	88
			All SSB
PA3CLQ	66	15	81
			All CW
LA9BM	63	17	80
CA3OEV	55	20	75
			All SSB
VE3CLQ	55	20	75
			All SSB
PU4HUD	51	18	69
PY1CMT	48	20	68
			All CW, Low power - 5 watts
PY4SKY	48	18	66
ON7IC	46	15	61
			All SSB
K4VSC	41	14	55
			All SSB
VE4KZ	36	19	55
			All Digital
KA2IBN	41	13	54
			All SSB
M5AEF	46	7	53
			Low power - 2 watts
W9LD	30	20	50
VK8HPB	31	18	49
			All SSB
KD6NL	33	15	48
			All SSB
KA9JAC	30	17	47
3G6CS	27	15	42
			All CW
M1DUD	32	6	38
			All 6 meters, Low power - 5 watts
YO9HJY	21	6	27
			All SSB, All 40m
PU2KXM	10	8	18
			All SSB
G4001SWL	237	40	277
			SWL