

Proposed Change to ARRL DX Contest Rules

We intend to petition the ARRL to allow Hawaii stations to optionally participate as State or DX entities in ARRL DX contests. The arguments to support this are as follows, not necessarily in order of importance:

- Allowing Hawaii stations to work DX entities for contest points will increase these station's opportunities to make DX QSO's.
- These contests are designed to foster DX contacts for ARRL members in the United States; Hawaii is a state, and therefore Hawaii amateur stations in ARRL DX contests should have the same opportunities to work rare DX as those in the contiguous 48 states.
- The current rule is evidently not well understood by amateurs in the contiguous 48 states as there have been several instances where they have refused to answer Hawaii amateurs during contests, citing the argument that a QSO with Hawaii did not generate points. The rules should be consistent: Treat states as states.
- The proposed change in rules will benefit the majority of Hawaii amateurs who do not have huge beams and high power. ARRL contests draw a multitude of DX stations that are for the most part not found on the bands otherwise.
- The current rules relate to the situation after WW2 when Hawaii was a territory with few licensed Amateurs. Today Hawaii has a larger licensed Amateur Radio population than eight of the states currently enjoying the opportunity to contact rare DX stations operating in the ARRL contests. (See Appendix A).
- Addressing this issue may result in increased contest activity in Hawaii, an important goal for contesting rules. Prior to the submitting this request to the Pacific Section CAC representative, a Hawaii survey will help quantify the effects of the ARRL contest rule change on the number of Amateurs operating contests. Only if there is sufficient interest will the request be filed.

A review of the ARRL contest rules suggests changes to be made:

Current [DX-Rules.pdf \(arri.org\)](#)

Contacts: W/VE stations may only contact DX stations. DX stations may only contact W/VE stations. Hawaii (KH6) and Alaska (KL7), St. Paul Is. (CY9), and Sable Is. (CYØ) stations participate as DX stations. Contact stations only once per band.

Proposed DX-Rules change

Contacts: W/VE stations may only contact DX stations. DX stations may only contact W/VE stations. *Hawaii (KH6) and Alaska (KL7) may optionally identify as a state by preceding their call with the prefix W/ or as a DX station with the KH6 or KL7 prefix.* St. Paul Is. (CY9), and Sable Is. (CYØ) stations participate as DX stations.

Contact stations only once per band.

Appendix A - Number of Amateur Licensees by State

<u>State Postal Code</u>	<u>Population</u> <u>(as of July 2017)</u>	<u>Extra</u>	<u>Advanced</u>	<u>General</u>	<u>Tech</u>	<u>Novice</u>	<u>Total</u>
<u>AS - American Samoa</u>	51,504	12	1	3	5	0	21
<u>VI - US Virgin Islands</u>	107,268	50	14	65	82	1	212
<u>GU - Guam</u>	167,358	96	12	47	114	1	270
<u>MP - Northern Marianna Is</u>	52,263	151	2	37	149	0	339
<u>DC - District of Columbia</u>	693,972	103	29	108	225	4	469
<u>ND - North Dakota</u>	755,393	273	77	404	819	15	1,588
<u>DE - Delaware</u>	961,939	386	90	461	790	22	1,749
<u>SD - South Dakota</u>	869,666	446	125	516	793	21	1,901
<u>RI - Rhode Island</u>	1,059,639	441	118	461	863	32	1,915
<u>WY - Wyoming</u>	579,315	412	122	545	949	17	2,045
<u>VT - Vermont</u>	623,657	487	122	509	997	17	2,132
<u>AK - Alaska</u>	739,795	638	181	906	1,761	22	3,508
<u>NE - Nebraska</u>	1,920,076	714	268	948	1,788	43	3,761
<u>MT - Montana</u>	1,050,493	723	194	980	1,991	39	3,927
<u>HI - Hawaii</u>	1,427,538	714	163	833	2,209	39	3,958

Appendix B - Contest Station identification

FCC rules allow use of a W/ prefix. The choice of a W prefix is suggested so that DX stations can quickly recognize the station is operating as a W/VE station.

§97.119 Station identification.

(c) One or more indicators may be included with the call sign. Each indicator must be separated from the call sign by the slant mark (/) or by any suitable word that denotes the slant mark. If an indicator is self-assigned, it must be included before, after, or both before and after, the call sign. No self-assigned indicator may conflict with any other indicator specified by the FCC Rules or with any prefix assigned to another country.