

New DXCC Awards for the New Millennium

Ring in the next millennium with some fresh DX challenges.

DXing is one of the oldest facets of Amateur Radio. The wonder of DXing is timeless, and the fluid nature of our geopolitical world continually renews the excitement.

A new millennium will dawn on January 1, 2001, but the ARRL will start the celebration in 2000 by making several additions to the popular DXCC program. These changes include new awards, and a new program for all-band DXers.

The DXCC Challenge

The DXCC Challenge is a new program designed to expand the horizons of hams who already hold their 5-band DXCC awards. It is open to 5-band DXCC holders *only*.

Individual standings in the DXCC Challenge will be based on accumulated credits for contacts made on all eligible bands within the DXCC program, *using current DXCC entities only*. This includes credits already received by DXCC for contacts with the current DXCC List entities after November 15, 1945.

The DXCC Challenge standings will be calculated annually with a September 30 submission deadline. Standings will be reported as numbers only. Plaques will be made available for those who accumulate 1500 DXCC Challenge credits. Plaque endorsement bars will be available for increments of 500 credits.

The DXCC Challenge program will begin on January 1, 2000 and will include submissions received through September 30, 2000. For 2000 the eligible bands are: 160, 80, 40, 20, 10 and 6 meters. The list of eligible bands will be increased each year until all bands are included.

DeSoto Cup

Beginning in 2000 we will award the annual DeSoto Cup, named for Clinton B. DeSoto, W1CBD, who wrote the definitive 1935 *QST* article that inspired the original DXCC program. The DeSoto Cup will be awarded to the DXer who is at the top of the DXCC Challenge list on September 30th of

any given year. Only one cup may be awarded to any DXer in his/her lifetime.

20-Meter Single-Band DXCC Award

Also new in 2000 is the 20-Meter Single-Band DXCC award. This is the first of several new single-band awards that will be phased in over the next year or two.

Contacts with current entities on the DXCC List will be credited, beginning with QSO dates of November 15, 1945. (Any contact on any mode counts for this award.)

DXCC reports returned after August 1, 1999 will show 20-meter contact credits. You can request an award certificate (and submit additional 20-meter cards) after January 1, 2000. For those with a 5-Band DXCC issued before April 1, 1992, up to 100 20-meter cards may be submitted with no per-card charges applied if you do not already have 100 current credits on 20 meters. (Example: You have a 5-Band DXCC dated September, 1983, but have since submitted 30 current cards for 20 meters. You may submit 70 cards to bring your total up to 100 with no per-card charge.) Award certificates will be dated, but not numbered.

DXCC 2000 Millennium Award

To whet the appetite for DXing in the next millennium, the DXCC 2000 Millennium Award available for the newcomer, Old Timer, and anyone in between. Think of it as a way to prepare yourself in 2000 for the great millennial DXing to come!

The DXCC 2000 Millennium Award period begins 0000 UTC January 1, 2000, and ends at 2359 UTC on December 31, 2000. All contacts must be made during this time period.

The DXCC 2000 Millennium Award certificate is awarded for working 100 or more of the entities on the ARRL DXCC

List. Contacts may consist of any combination of bands or modes.

You must certify on the original application the authenticity of log extract information for contacts with the 100 entities on the DXCC List. No QSL cards are required for this award.

The DXCC 2000 Millennium Award is separate and distinct from the traditional DXCC awards programs. *Qualifying for the DXCC 2000 Millennium Award does not provide credits for the traditional DXCC awards programs*. Applicable rules of the DXCC program, such as location of stations and conduct, apply to the DXCC 2000 Millennium Award.

The DXCC 2000 certificate is available to members and nonmembers. No endorsements of any kind are offered. Certificates are dated, but not numbered.

The official application must be used to facilitate processing. Application forms are available for an SASE, or an SASE with one IRC for amateurs outside the US. Send your requests to: DXCC 2000 Millennium Applications, American Radio Relay League, 225 Main St, Newington, CT 06111 USA. Applications may also be downloaded from the Web at: <http://www.arrl.org/awards/dxcc>.

Send your completed application within one year of the close of the DXCC 2000 Millennium period to ARRL HQ along with \$10 US to cover costs of printing postage, and handling.

Who knows what the next millennium will bring? Perhaps, by the beginning of the fourth millennium, DXCC will be awarded for working 100 stars, planets, or even galaxies! I'm looking forward to DXing in the third millennium. How about you?

