

San Diego DX Club Bulletin

January 2025



MEETING PROGRAM

The January 2025 Meeting Program will be presented by Mark Wohlschlegel, WC3W and titled:
DX MARATHON

MEETING NOTICE - DATE CHANGE

The January 2025 SDDXC meeting will be held on Wednesday, January 29, 2025 (NOTE date change. This month only) starting at 6:30 P.M. PDST at Elijah's Restaurant located at 7061 Clairemont Mesa Boulevard as well as on Zoom. Come early for social hour and dinner.

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From the Prez . . .

Rob, WA3IHV

2024 is in the rear-view mirror and what a wonderful year it was. Cycle 25 continues to rise creating spectacular band conditions on 12M and 10M! 2025 should be even more exciting.

Our December Christmas party was a great success. The Club honored long-time SDDXC member Terry Baxter, N6CW by inducting him into the Hall of Fame. This is awarded to the Club member who has a DXCC country total among the top, a lifetime record of achievement in DX'ing, and a lifetime record of service to the DX community and SDDXC. Glenn K6NA presented his bio to qualify him for this award. Terry is only the 6th member to achieve this honor. Steve Handrop, K6RSH was awarded the Rookie of the Year.

The Club's awards program began in the early 80's with DX'er of the Year. This was awarded to the club member with a significant increase in their MIXED DXCC total placing them among the top totals in the Club. DX'er of the Year has been bestowed upon 7 members. In 1993 four additional categories were added. 1) Rookie of the Year Award for working the most number of new countries in the previous year (any band/mode). Nineteen members have been given this award. 2) Big Gun Award for having worked enough countries to qualify for Mixed Honor Roll (currently 331 countries). Forty-nine members have earned this award. 3) Top Gun Award for working every country on the DXCC list (340). Twenty-four members have received this award. I know that there are others that would qualify but have not come forward. 4) Hall of Fame Award.

DX'pedition activity is robust with operations from Gambia C5PL, Andaman Islands VU4X, Nigeria 5N9DTG, and Benin TY5C to name a few.

Our upcoming meeting is on January 29, 2025 with a live Zoom presentation by Mark WC3W speaking about the DX Marathon.

73 es HNY

Rob, WA3IHV

LIFE IS SIMPLE



EAT



SLEEP



AMATEUR RADIO

www.dxzone.com

SDDXC YouTube Channel

Recordings of monthly meetings are available on the San Diego DX Club YouTube channel.

[\(1201\) San Diego DX Club - YouTube](#)

Secretary's Report

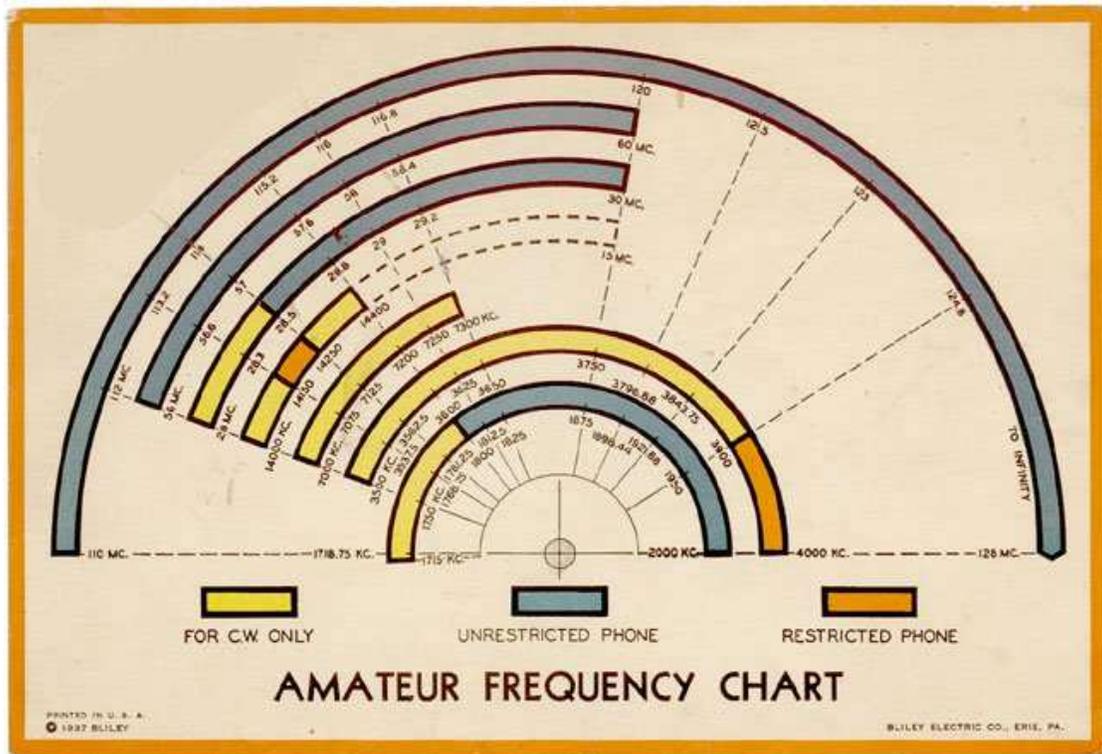
Bob, W6ACU



SDDXC Meeting Minutes

There was no formal meeting of the SDDXC in December, 2024 . The SDDXC 2024 Holiday Party was instead celebrated by the membership. A great time was had by all. Pictures from the event are in this edition of the Bulletin.

Bob, W6ACU



SDDXC Bulletin Archives

Past issues of the SDDXC Bulletin (240 in all) are available on the Club website at:

<https://www.sddxc.org/docs/newslist/>

Board Meeting Minutes

Bob, W6ACU



SDDXC Board Meeting January 15th 2025

The meeting was called to order at 7:-00 PM. In attendance:

Rob Reichman, Bud Hennessy, Lou Poanessal, Jerry Stafford, Steve Handrop and Bob LaRose

RECAP OF HOLIDAY PARTY

Everyone agreed that it generally went quite well. However, several people did not get the meals they requested. There was also concern that the restaurant put us in a smaller room than we had last year and that resulted in a lot of noise from the other patrons. Several people have still not paid. It was agreed to revisit the issues when we start talking to the restaurant about this year's party.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Brian did not attend but sent his report in advance. He and Rob are in the process of filing all the necessary year-end files for the State and Federal.

Rob discussed his investigation of our changing our Federal status from a 501C7 to a 501C3 entity. He has come to the conclusion that staying as a 501C7 status is more applicable to our club.

We understand that our Treasurer, Brian, will be attending our regular meeting on the 29th Rob will discuss with him if he wishes to continue as Treasurer considering his recent move.

SCDXC REORGANIZATION

Rob attended (via Zoom) a reorganization meeting for the Southern California DX Club. They had about 120 members before their recent dissolution but only 10-15 members would regularly participate and no one wanted to be their new President. Rob offered them the possibility to participate as a group in our club meetings (via Zoom) but there was no interest. Rob left open to them to individually join our club and attend remotely by Zoom, as some of our members currently do.

UPCOMING GENERAL MEETING – JAN 29th – DX MARATHON by Mark WC3W

Bud will get Bio for the Newsletter.

MISCELLANEOUS

Jerry said that he has the new camera and donated laptop for the next meeting.

Bob will send out the Zoom link for the upcoming meeting.

Bob, W6ACU

SDDXC Treasurer's Report

Brian, KN6MJK



December 2024 REPORT FIGURES (Full Month)

INCOME:
\$60.00 Holiday Dinner Party Payments at the party
\$230.00 2025 Dues Payments
EXPENSES:
\$199.94 Holiday Party Prizes
\$98.93 Holiday Party RSVPify and supplies
\$1,301.40 Brigantine for Holiday Party

AVAILABLE CASH BALANCE 12-31-2024: \$3,687.73

Brian, KN6MJK

SDDXC Zoom Meeting Notice

The SDDXC is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Zoom meeting invitations will be sent to all members prior to the January 29 meeting of the SDDXC.

Meeting Program

Bud, AE6BH

SDDXC Meeting January 29, 2025



We will have Mark Wohlschlegel, WC3W, as our presenter for this month's meeting. Mark runs the CQ DX Marathon program (think of it as starting over every year to get a DXCC in competition with others...).

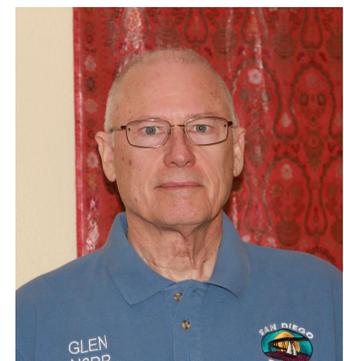
Bud, AE6BH



[BBC World Service - The Documentary Podcast, Morse code: Ready to transmit](#)

SDDXC DX Standings

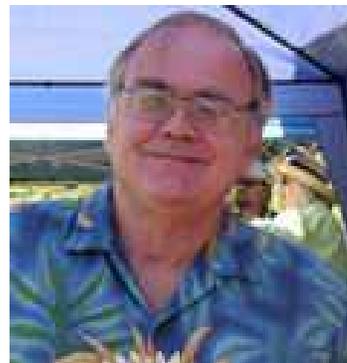
Standings are available on the SDDXC website at
[San Diego DX Club \(sddxc.org\)](http://San Diego DX Club (sddxc.org))



Glenn, AI6RR

SDDXC Contest Results

John, K6AM



SDDXC RESULTS

Will return in February

John, K6AM

Dear DXers/ IOTA Chasers

Breaking News for DX/IOTA Chasers!

We're thrilled to announce that our recent boot camp near **Sacrifice Rock, Kozhikode**, has yielded promising results for 80m and 160m propagation!

Inspired by these findings, we've decided to set up a dedicated station for 80m and 160m, complete with receive and transmit antennas. This will provide a unique opportunity for those seeking VU on 160/80m!

We Need Your Support!

To make this endeavor a success, we rely on your individual contributions. Please visit our website and make a payment via PayPal. All donations will be acknowledged and updated on our website.

Express LOTW Available!

For a nominal fee of \$5, we'll provide Quick LOTW. To facilitate this, please:

1. Make the payment
2. Fill out the Google Form: <https://forms.gle/fHszs9XKu5nuP5xP8>

This will enable us to keep track of your request and ensure a smooth process.

Logistical Update

We're excited to announce that the first batch of essential materials has been dispatched from Hyderabad to Kozhikode!

Our team is working tirelessly to ensure that everything is in place for a successful activation.

Your Support Matters!

We urge you to support our efforts and help make this expedition a success. Every contribution counts, and we're grateful for your kindness.

Stay tuned for further updates, and let's work together to make this IOTA activation unforgettable!

Thanks & Regards

Sarath, VU2RS & Team

From the Editor

Bob, K9RHY



What's Going on in VQ9 and 3B8?

On 3 October 2024, the British Prime Minister Keir Starmer and Mauritian Prime Minister Pravind Jugnauth announced in a joint statement that the UK will hand sovereignty of the Chagos Archipelago (VQ9) over to Mauritius (3B8).

Within the Chagos Archipelago lies Diego Garcia, a British Indian Ocean Territory, located at 7 Degrees South Latitude, off the tip of India. Diego Garcia is exclusively a military installation located on an atoll in the Chagos Archipelago. The island has an area of 6,720 acres.

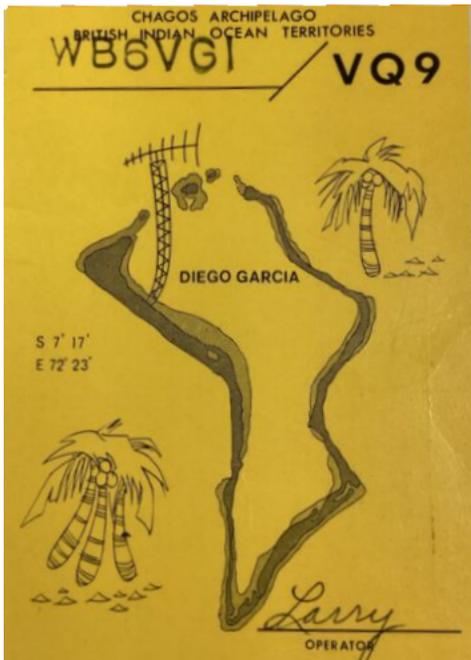
The UK Government's chief negotiator, Jonathan Powell, made an emergency trip to Mauritius last week in an attempt to salvage the draft deal to surrender sovereignty of the Chagos Islands to Mauritius. The incoming and newly-elected government of Mauritius had rejected the draft agreement which it inherited from the government of Pravind Jugnauth which lost the last election. Mauritian Prime Minister Navinchandra Ramgoolamed described the draft deal as having failed to deliver 'the benefits that the nation could expect from such an agreement'. On his rescue mission last week, Jonathan Powell submitted an updated proposal, which the Mauritian government is now considering. But British officials have said no additional money has been offered to Mauritius and informed press speculation in the United Kingdom is that the deal may now be dead.

Since the revelation in September that negotiations for a deal had been re-opened and a draft agreement reached, opposition to the deal in the United Kingdom has hardened. Critics of the deal suggest that it will provide a back door to Chinese interference with the Diego Garcia base, and have claimed that opposition to continued British sovereignty in the United Nations General Assembly had been orchestrated by the Russians and Chinese to serve their interests.

There were also concerns that the Chagos Islanders were losing their British citizenship and being transferred to Mauritius without having been consulted, leading for calls amongst Chagos Islanders for a referendum on the matter like those that have taken place amongst Falkland Islanders and Gibraltarians. Islanders are also pressing to be allowed to reoccupy Peros Banhos, one of the outer islands in the Chagos Archipelago. They have also sought to remain British citizens, fearing discriminatory treatment by the Mauritian authorities.

The United Kingdom has owned Diego Garcia within the Chagos Archipelago since 1814, and had hitherto rebuffed attempts by Mauritius to assert that the archipelago should have been transferred to Mauritius when it gained independence from Britain on March 12, 1968.

This date marked the end of British colonial rule and the establishment of Mauritius as a sovereign nation within the Commonwealth. Sir Seewoosagur Ramgoolam became the first prime minister of the newly independent country. In 1965, the UK detached the Chagos Archipelago from Mauritius. Mauritius gained independence in 1968, but the Chagos Islands remained under British control as part of the British Indian Ocean Territory (BIOT). Since its independence, Mauritius has claimed sovereignty over the Chagos Islands. In 2019, the International Court of Justice issued a non-binding advisory opinion stating that the UK should end its administration of the Chagos Archipelago. In October 2024, the UK announced it would cede sovereignty of the archipelago to Mauritius.



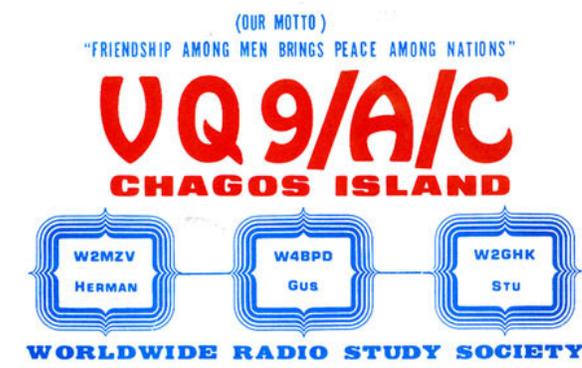
The United Kingdom leased the island of Diego Garcia, an island in the Chagos group, to the United States for its exclusive use as a military base in 1966. The lease to the United States runs until 2036, with a renewal option thereafter.

The United States maintains a secure major airfield on Diego Garcia, as well as a naval support base that hosts a full range of naval vessels from nuclear submarines to aircraft carriers. The protected lagoon is used as an anchorage for ships of MPS Ships Squadron Two, a strategic logistic reserve kept afloat and ready for use by US Marines and the US Army in the Middle East region should the need arise. At such times, the airfield becomes a key base for long-range strike and reconnaissance aircraft.

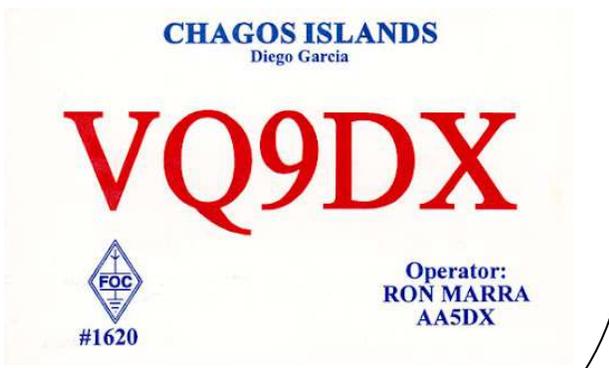
The incoming Trump administration opposes the draft deal based on legitimate national security concerns. The outgoing Biden administration was the group favoring the potential diminution of our national security, but clearer heads are prevailing.

The UK agreed to transfer sovereignty of the Chagos Islands to Mauritius after decades of dispute. This decision, announced in October 2024, marks the end of Britain's last African colony. The agreement includes the following key points:

- The US military base on Diego Garcia will continue operations for an additional 99 years
- Full authority over the Chagos Islands will be transferred to Mauritius
- Mauritius will have the legal right to resettle the islands, except for Diego Garcia



However, the process has faced some challenges because in December 2024, newly-elected Mauritian Prime Minister Navin Ramgoolam rejected the current agreement and demanded reopening talks.



As of January 2025, the UK government has delayed finalizing the deal until the incoming Trump administration in the US is consulted.

This agreement is seen by some as a development in resolving territorial disputes and upholding international law. However, it has faced criticism, with some arguing it could be a "major self-inflicted blow" for the UK.

Should it occur, turnover of the Chagos Islands to Mauritius is likely to have significant implications for the DXCC (DX Century Club) status of Chagos (VQ9). While the exact changes are not yet finalized, several potential outcomes are being discussed:

The current Chagos Islands entity may be removed from the DXCC list, as it will no longer be a British territory. Chagos Islands might become a new DXCC entity as a "geographic separation entity" of Mauritius, given that they are located more than 350 km from Mauritius.

Diego Garcia, which will continue to host a US military base, could potentially become a separate DXCC entity, similar to other British Sovereign bases like ZC4 (Cyprus).

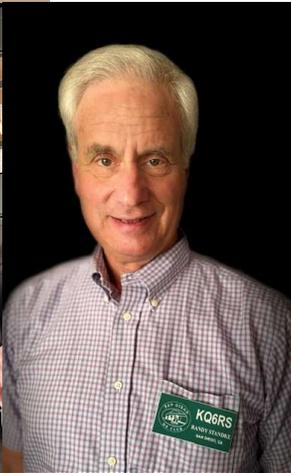
The DXCC prefix for Chagos may change from VQ9 to a Mauritius-related prefix, possibly 3B8 or a variant.

As of January 2025, the ARRL has not yet made a final decision on the DXCC status of Chagos. The organization is likely waiting for the completion of negotiations between the UK and Mauritius, as well as consultation with the incoming US administration, before announcing any changes to the DXCC list.

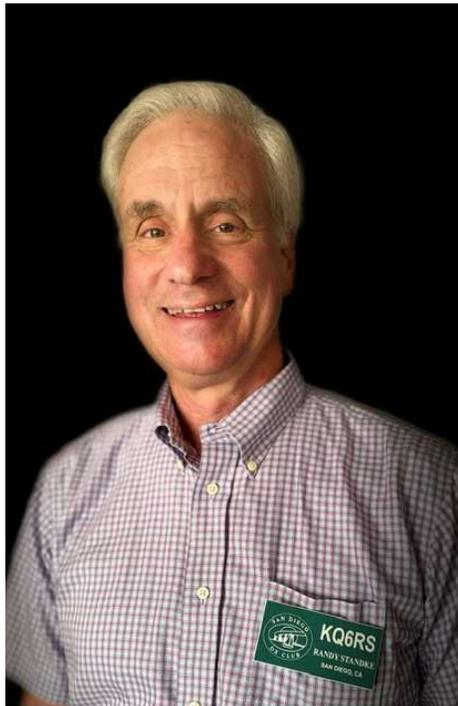
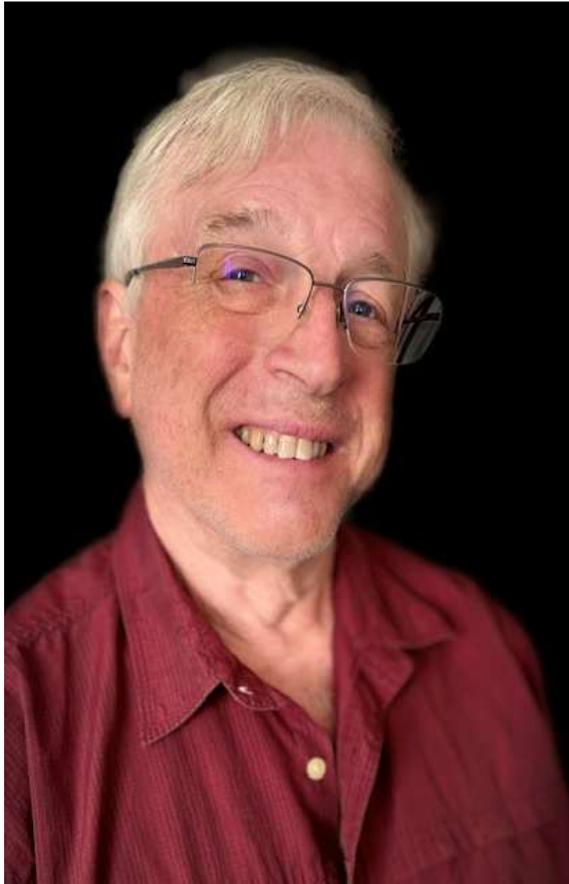
DXers are advised to stay tuned for official announcements from the ARRL regarding the future DXCC status of Chagos Islands. These changes could potentially create new entities for DXCC and would certainly require updates to existing standings.



SDDXC 2024 Holiday Party



SDDXC 2024 Holiday Party



Club Log DX Report for January, 2025

Most active bands

Band	QSOs	% DX	Graph
160M	16,727	18.10	
80M	102,567	12.11	
60M	17,647	37.07	
40M	216,551	21.75	
30M	73,178	39.29	
20M	197,635	29.97	
17M	74,156	45.90	
15M	149,506	48.58	
12M	83,828	62.15	
10M	184,039	59.29	
6M	8,752	24.90	

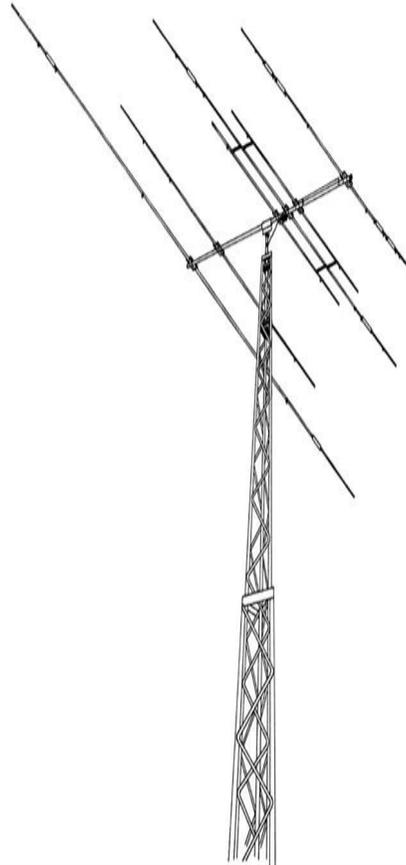
Rank	Prefix	Entity Name
1.	P5	DPRK (NORTH KOREA)
2.	BS7H	SCARBOROUGH REEF
3.	CE0X	SAN FELIX ISLANDS
4.	BV9P	PRATAS ISLAND
5.	KH7K	KURE ISLAND
6.	KH3	JOHNSTON ISLAND
7.	FT/G	GLORIOSO ISLAND
8.	3Y/P	PETER 1 ISLAND
9.	FT5/X	KERGUELEN ISLAND
10.	YV0	AVES ISLAND
11.	3Y/B	BOUVET ISLAND
12.	ZS8	PRINCE EDWARD & MARION ISLANDS

Most active modes

Mode	% Use	QSOs	Graph
FT8	55.17	627,199	
CW	17.34	197,135	
SSB	13.22	150,336	
FT4	12.21	138,829	
PSK	1.00	11,423	
RTTY	0.44	5,012	

Solar activity

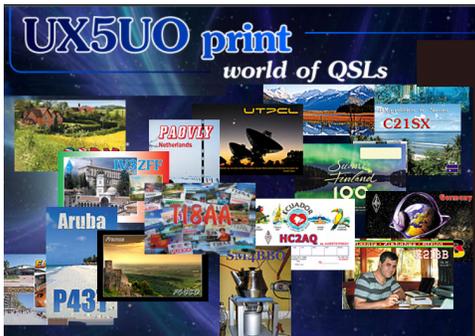
Date	SFI	A	K
2025-01-18	227	21	2.00
2025-01-17	208	14	3.00
2025-01-16	174	16	2.33
2025-01-15	166	12	2.67
2025-01-14	160	11	2.00
2025-01-13	158	6	2.33
2025-01-12	156	7	1.67



Active expeditions

Callsign	DXCC	Last QSO	# QSOs
HR5/F2JD	HONDURAS	2025-01-17 17:44	164,423
TX7N	MARQUESAS ISLANDS	2025-01-17 08:15	14,394
3D2XD	FIJI ISLANDS	2025-01-17 07:25	1,826
5H8HZ	TANZANIA	2025-01-08 17:23	18,590
TY5C	BENIN	2025-01-05 12:58	45,936
KP4/AB2RF	PUERTO RICO	2025-01-04 03:23	4,342
OF9X	FINLAND	2024-12-31 21:49	31,217
3D2USU	FIJI ISLANDS	2024-12-15 03:14	241,739
TO9W	SAINT MARTIN	2024-12-13 15:49	22,023
VU4A	ANDAMAN & NICOBAR ISLANDS	2024-12-10 01:23	30,968
TL8ES	CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC	2024-12-09 22:15	29,467

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