

San Diego DX Club Bulletin

October 2025



8Q7AJ - 8Q7BQ

**A Pricy
Paradise
Postcard**

REPUBLIC OF MALDIVES

MEETING PROGRAM

The October 2025 meeting program will be presented by Jose Castillo, N4BAA and titled:
All Things CQ WAZ & Don Quixote & then some....

MEETING NOTICE

The October 2025 SDDXC meeting will be held on Wednesday, October 22, 2025 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

As Autumn is upon us in SoCal, Cycle 25 continues to be kind to HF propagation. K-indices have consistently been below 5 owing to good conditions on the 15, 12, and 10M bands for both short and long path propagation.

Several contests are coming up in the next few weeks. CQ WW SSB Oct 25, ARRL CW Sweepstakes Nov1, ARRL SSB Sweepstakes Nov 15, and CQ WW CW Nov 29 to name a few.

Our Holiday Party will be at Marie Callenders (6950 Alvarado Rd, SD) on Sunday Dec 14 from 1-4 PM (SAVE THE DATE). Expect to have a spectacular time with your friends from the Club and bring your appetite.

Our upcoming general membership will be held at Elijah's Restaurant (7061 Clairemont Mesa Blvd, SD) on October 22 at 6:30 PM or via Zoom. Our Presenter will be Jose Castillo, N4BAA discussing the WAZ Program. In addition, we will have Jim, N6TJ give a brief overview of the Santa Maria – 2026 DX and Contesting Convention to be held April 10-12, 2026.

Earlier this month we attended the ARRL Pacificon in San Ramon CA. The SDDXC was well represented at this convention. Our own Noel ,AG6KA won the grand prize this year, a Yaesu FT710. Congrats!!!

We encourage all ARRL members to return their ballots for SW Division Director and Vice Director as they are due on Nov 21, 2025 by Noon ET.

Finally, we encourage EVERY LICENSED HAM to write their U.S. Congressman and Senators to support H.R. 1094 and S. 459 respectively. These bills will loosen antenna restrictions in HOAs. More information is included elsewhere in this newsletter.

Hope to see everyone on Oct 22 at the meeting!

Gud DX es 73

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](#)

Board Meeting Minutes

Bob, W6ACU



SDDXC Board Meeting October 13th 2025

In attendance- Rob Reichman, Jim Wellington, Jerry Stafford, Steve Handrop, Bud Hennessy, Bob LaRose.

HOLIDAY PARTY.

Dec 14 1-4PM - Marie Callenders, 6950 Alvarado Rd

Jerry has been coordinating with Brenda (619-465-1910) and has verbally reserved their larger room that will accommodate 50 people. It was suggested we get something in writing.

We need to give a two week notice of the final count and menu choices

Bud will serve as the Committee Chairman and MC

We will continue the tradition of a White Elephant gift exchange

Jim will arrange to use PayPal for the reservations

Club will pay for ½ of the cost of the meal so that the net per person will be in the range of \$15.

Ray will serve as Official Photographer

We selected the following menu items:

- Heartland Chicken Pot Pie

- Roasted Turkey Dinner

- Braised and Slow-Roasted Pot Roast

- Limited Vegetarian menu will be available

- Side Caesar Salad

- Dessert – Apple, Chocolate Cream or Lemon Meringue Pie

- Fountain Drinks, Iced Tea and Coffee included

- They also have a cash bar

TREASURER'S REPORT

Jim presented the report. Bob moved for approval and Jerry seconded. Vote was unanimous.

DAILY DX CLUB/ARRL 2026 “YEAR OF THE CLUB”

In conjunction with the ARRL 2026 “Year of the Club”, the Daily DX will be featuring various DX Clubs each month. Rob is submitting a few paragraphs on SDDXC history and current events. We discussed the possibility of a 2026 Field Day operating activity. There were discussions about where and how it would be possible. Some ideas were to operate from a Red Cross office and borrowing the tower trailer. Will be discussed further in coming months.

SUMMER BASH

Based on the success of this year’s BASH, we will repeat it again in 2026. Date will be July 19th. Rob will make the reservation with the County Parks Dept.

ARRL REQUEST FOR CLUB SUPPORT ON AMATEUR RADIO EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS ACT

We agreed to participate in this letter-writing campaign and publicize it in the Bulletin.

UPCOMING MEETING

WAZ Award Program – Jose, N4BAA, will be speaking this month.

Jim, N6TJ will be speaking about the upcoming Santa Maria DX Conference in lieu of Visalia – April 10-12 2026.

Ideas for future meetings – Bud to review Pacificon speakers for possibilities. Other suggestions on remote control operation and SWR testing.

W6IRD (SK) CELEBRATION OF LIFE

Bob Farkaly sent out a notice about the service to club members.

Bob L sent a card to his widow, Sharon.

Bob, W6ACU

The DX India Foundation is thrilled to announce that the VU7 DXpedition team has confirmed its schedule to operate from Agatti Island, Lakshadweep Islands, from January 10th to January 22nd, 2026. This rare DX opportunity promises to bring excitement to the amateur radio community worldwide.

<https://www.dx-world.net/au2m-arnala-island-as-169/>

New Plans:

We are now planning a back-to-back expedition to Gujarat (AS-176) and Arnala Island (AS-169).

The schedule for the expedition is as follows:

- November 1st: Arrive in Ahmedabad, head to Bhavnagar Shialbet (6-hour journey), reach by evening, and set up for operation.
- November 2nd-4th: Operate from Gujarat (AS-176).
- November 5th: Head to Mumbai.
- November 6th-8th: Operate from Arnala (AS-169).
- November 9th: Return home from Mumbai.

Secretary's Report

Bob, W6ACU



SDDXC Meeting Minutes September 24, 2025

Called to order at 6:30 PM at Elijah's by our President, Rob Reichman, WA3IHV

PRESENTATION

We had a very interesting talk about the use of AI in Amateur Radio presented by James Wilson, K6WRJ.

A video of the presentation and meeting can be found on the SDDXC YouTube Channel:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3AAccaTQvtA>

ATTENDANCE

We had 17 members in attendance plus 6 attended on Zoom.

ROUNDTABLE

You can hear and see the Roundtable on our YouTube Channel.

DOOR PRIZES

Pretzels – Noel, AG6KA

Red Wine – James, K6WRJ

Red Wine – Glen, AI6RR

Bob, W6ACU

SDDXC Bulletin Archives

Past issues of the SDDXC Bulletin are available on the Club website at:

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

SDDXC Treasurer's Report

Jim, K6SMT



September 2025 REPORT FIGURES (Full Month)

INCOME:

None

EXPENSES:

\$24.37 Dinner: guest speaker James Wilson K6WRJ

CASH BALANCE 09-30-2025: 4,102.95

Jim, K6SMT

October 2025 Meeting Notice

Bob W6ACU

Here are the Zoom Credentials for our meeting on October 22nd that will be held in-person at Elijah's on Wednesday night. Meeting starts at 6:30, Zoom opens around 6:00.

San Diego DX Club is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/2504054238?pwd=2HMK4xi2Xcl7GHeQbxnjYsHhcAEfwa.1&omn=83086798888>

View meeting insights with Zoom AI Companion

<https://us06web.zoom.us/launch/edl?muid=0be2a81f-0788-450e-a559-d6cf2edc72d9>

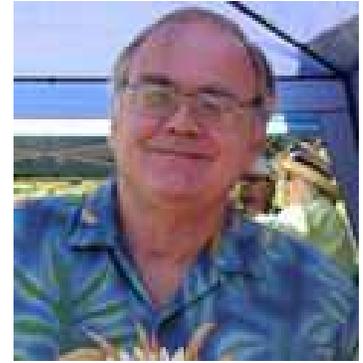
Meeting ID: 250 405 4238

Passcode: 2gZpWn

Bob W6ACU

SDDXC Contest Results

John, K6AM



No SDDXC Contest Results this Month



Vicky Zumwalt N6KLS, YLRL President
Debbie Johnson WB6LVC, ARRL Registered Instructor Southwestern Division, YLRL District 6 Representative
Gayle Olson K6GO, YLRL (and SDDXC) member

From the Editor

Bob, K9RHY



A Pricey Paradise Postcard: Faxing a QSL to 8Q7AJ on Bandos Island

Fellow San Diego DXers, pull up a chair for a little story about my most expensive QSL.

Back in the early '90s—when sunspots were plentiful and pileups were part of the daily grind—I worked Mike McGirr, K9AJ, operating as 8Q7AJ from Bandos Island in the Maldives. It was a picture-perfect tropical setup, and Mike was putting out a strong signal from that corner of the Indian Ocean. I caught him on 20 meters CW one chilly November evening near Chicago and logged it with a grin.

I've known and respected Mike for years. The 5Band WAZ plaque I saw on his shack wall inspired me to chase the same award – which I received in December, 1991.

The QSO was a typical DX contact: “8Q7AJ de K9RHY, 599, Mike!” His reply came back with that familiar K9AJ energy. Naturally, I wanted the QSL right away. No waiting for the Bureau this time—this was *fax* territory. Remember, this was before the internet took over, before LOTW was invented and a good fax machine was the closest thing we had to instant messaging.

So I whipped up a QSL with all the details (date, time, RST, and a quick sketch of my antenna farm) and faxed it straight to the Bandos Island Resort—number courtesy of their glossy brochure. “Attn: Mike McGirr, K9AJ,” I wrote on the cover sheet, picturing it sliding out of the machine next to the pool bar.

A few weeks later, I saw Mike at a NIDXA dinner meeting: “Got your QSL—loud and clear!” But there was a twist. The resort had billed him \$25—yes, twenty-five 1990-era U.S. dollars—for “special delivery services.” That was about the cost of a decent dinner with cocktails and a glass of wine back then! Mike, being the super good sport he is, paid the charge and told the front desk, “It’s not caviar—it’s just a radio contact!”



1990 DXPEDITION-REPUBLIC OF MALDIVES
 QTH: BANDOS ISLAND, NORTH MALE' ATOLL
 OPERATORS: MIKE MCGIRR (K9AJ) & SUE MCGIRR (KA9RHK)
 8Q7AJ (MIKE) 8Q7BQ (SUE)
 CONFIRMS QSO/SWL REPORT WITH:

CALL	DATE	TIME	MODE	PLATE	STATION
K9RHY	30 Nov 90	0125	14 CW	599	2x CW-SSB

The Republic of Maldives is an archipelago, consisting of almost 1,200 islands, none of which is more than several meters above sea level, and which represent the tops of an underseas mountain range. The archipelago extends 764 kilometers from north to south—beginning about 650 kilometers SW of Sri Lanka. We had two stations on the air and paid special attention to 40, 80, & 160 meters, where zone 22 is often difficult to work. Our equipment consisted of: ICOM transceivers (IC-726 & IC-730), Dentron MLA-2500B amplifier, HyGain TH-2 yagi and the "Battle Creek Special" vertical for the low bands. (We were 116 kg over our baggage allowance). Special thanks to W8UVZ, W0CD, & K8GG for the use of the "Battle Creek Special." Thanks also to K9EL and HS1BV for helping in our visit to HS0E, and N9AOL and NC9T who looked after the K9AJ packetcluster node.

QSL Manager: K9AJ
 Michael J. McGirr, M.D.
 13 Oak Hill Drive
 Crete, IL 60417 U.S.A.

TICKS FOR FAX QSL!!

QSO confirmed by: *Mike*

We've been laughing about it ever since. At a W9DXCC hospitality suite in '95, over Old Styles and mediocre pizza, Mike said, "Your fax nearly cost more than my seaplane ride." Much later, at Visalia, he added, "Next time, just use LoTW" (which was a real thing by then).

That little fax has turned into a long-running joke between us and a reminder of what makes this hobby special. It's not just the contacts—it's the stories behind them. Mike's gone on to operate from South Georgia, South Sandwich, and all sorts of far-flung islands, still with that same good humor.

So, if you're ever tempted to fax a QSL to a DXpedition in paradise, think twice. Stick with LoTW! Save twenty-five bucks and hand it over in support the next DXpedition to a rare one instead. Cheaper—and a lot more fun.

Here's Mike's story:

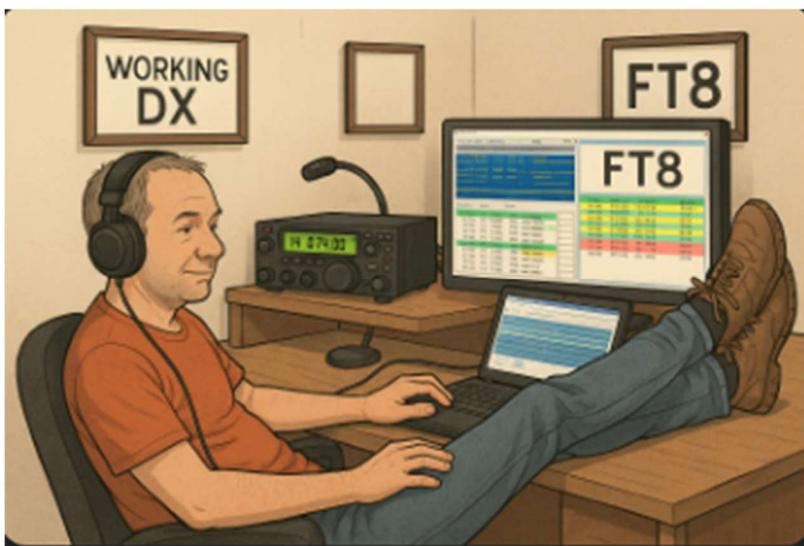
- K9AJ, Mike McGirr
- Board Certified ER Physician (retired)
- Licensed since 1963
- Preference: CW

Mike's DXpeditions:

8Q7AJ, 9N1MM (guest CW op), XF4DX, K9AJ/HC8, K9AJ/KH5K, W0RLX/KH5, AH1A, T30AJ, T32AJ, J3J, VK0IR, TO0R, C6AJR, K9AJ/VY0 (many IOTAs), CE8A, VP6DI, VP6AJ, V63J, BS7H, PW6C, T32MI, T32CI, T32VI, T32SI, K6VVA/KL7, H44AJ

73, and good DX.

Bob, K9RHY



WA3IHV 2nd Harmonics at Pacificon

SDDXC October 22, 2025 Meeting Program

The October 2025 Meeting Program will be presented by Jose Castillo, N4BAA and titled:

ALL Things CQ WAZ & Don Quixote & then some..

Jose Castillo – N4BAA

Born in Salamanca, Spain

First licensed at age 12 in 1978 as WD4LAH

DXCC as a novice

Extra Class at age 14 and proficient in CW at 40wpm

First CQ WAZ award (CW) at age 14.

Retired from 23 years of US Naval Service in 2007

ALL mode / band DXer – Zone chaser

Holder of over 40 CQ WAZ awards (80 in if you count technology awards)

World's BEST XYL (Nancy)

5 kids, 4 dogs, 50 chickens, 6 towers 22+ beverages, full time 70+ hour position with Trane Technologies as one of their Operational Excellence Leaders. ... so "I" CAN be busy!!!



Bud, AE6BH



Noel, AG6KA wins the grand prize at Pacificon in San Ramon



Bud N7CW, Jim K6ZH, Dave N6EEG, Dan N6ERD set new CQP record



YOU CAN HELP US CHANGE THE LEGAL RIGHTS OF AMERICAN HAMS

The ARRL is focused on reducing legal restraints on the ability of American Amateur Radio Operators to engage in the active practice and enjoyment of Amateur Radio.

One of the most insidious and increasing threats to the survival of Amateur Radio and our ability to serve our communities and Nation, as we are required to do by Federal regulation, is the proliferation of private land use restrictions that prohibit the installation of outdoor antennas and that sometimes actually deny Federally licensed Amateurs from operating any amateur radios, regardless of where their antennas are located — in their attics, hidden in trees, or mounted on their vehicles.

Federal law — since 1996 — has guaranteed to every American — except Amateur Radio Operators — the right to erect antennas outside or on their residences for the purpose of TV reception, satellite TV and internet access, wireless internet access and even wireless internet redistribution. But Amateur Radio operators are denied the equal right to erect comparable antennas.

Since 2005 Federal law has also guaranteed to every American the right to proudly display the American Flag by installing flagpoles in their yards. But, despite that right to install vertical poles in their yards — American Radio Amateurs are denied the right to use those vertical flagpoles as vertical antennas.

We believe the denial — to licensed Amateur Radio Operators — of the rights guaranteed to all non-Amateur Radio licensed American homeowners — the right to install antennas on the land they own — is without justification and should not be permitted to continue.

To eliminate these private land use restrictions, the ARRL has worked over the past several years with our elected officials to draft Congressional legislation — H.R. 1094 in the U.S. House of Representatives and S. 459 in the U.S. Senate — that when passed will extend to all Hams the right to operate from their homes and the right to install antennas on the land they own. We have bipartisan support for this legislation.

BUT, WE NEED YOUR HELP TO PASS THIS LEGISLATION!!!

How can you help? By sending a letter to your Representative and Senators asking that they co-sponsor and support H.R. 1094 and S. 459.

How can you send these letters? It is easy.

Go to — <https://send-a-letter.org/hoa/> — enter your call sign and click on “Send My Letters” and your letters will be delivered to our Washington legislative team for hand delivery to your Representative and Senators.

Does your individual letter matter? **YES.**

Your Representative and Senators need to know that the passage of this legislation is important to you.

Your letter could be the difference in whether we are able to pass H.R. 1094 and S. 459.

Go to — <https://send-a-letter.org/hoa/> — and help us by sending your letters to your Representative and Senators.

For ease of access to <https://send-a-letter.org/hoa/> , point your phones at:





Help Pass The HOA Legislation To Eliminate HOA Prohibitions on Amateur Radio Antennas!!! Free The Antenna!!!

HOW CAN I HELP?

By sending a letter to each of your Congressional Representatives and your Senators. Is my individual letter important? YES — Representatives and Senators rely on constituent input to decide which bills to support. *Your* voice counts.

BACKGROUND

The ARRL has successfully obtained Congressional support — both in the U.S. House of Representatives and the U.S. Senate — to introduce legislation that, if passed, will eliminate HOA/private land use restrictions that prohibit Amateur Radio operators from installing antennas at their residence.

WHAT ARE THE BILLS?

U.S. House: [H.R. 1094](#) Introduced by August Pfluger (R-TX) and Joe Courtney (D-CT)

U.S. Senate: [S. 459](#) Introduced by Roger Wicker (R-MS) and Richard Blumenthal (D-CT)

3Y0K DXpedition to Bouvet Island, February 2026

ClubLog #10 most wanted DXCC entity
Dependency of Norway in South Atlantic Ocean
Volcanic origin, 49 km², 93% covered by glacier

The most remote uninhabited island on Earth



LOC JD15pn
CQ ZONE 38
ITU ZONE 67

3Y0K

Bouvet 2026

IOTA AN-002 | POTA BV-0001 | WWFF LAFF-0044

The Most Remote Uninhabited Place on The Planet



• **[UPDATE]** –

We are pleased to announce that well known DXer and POTA Administrator KB2FMH, James Gallow has joined the 2026 Andaman Island DXpedition Team. His DX experience and POTA knowledge are important to the Team to improve the Andaman Dxpediton's QSO rate and activation of three rare POTA locations on Andaman Island.

The Andaman Island DXpedition is scheduled to begin transmitting on October 19, 2026. Then it will be entering the 2026 CQ WW SSB Contest representing India with a goal of first place for Asia. Three POTA locations, IN-0003, IN-0005, and IN-0007, will be activated between October 27-29. This will be the initial activation of all three locations

If you are interested in joining the 2026 Andaman Island DXpedition Team please contact Van Herridge, N4VGE, immediately at N4VGE@worlddxpedition.org.

Peter I Island Dxpediton 2026



Peter I Island DXpediton 2026 preparation has started!

Peter I is the #8 DXCC in ClubLog most wanted list.

We have secured a vessel, and we're now building a team of 19 operators that will go to Peter I Island in February 2026 and stay there for 14 days. The vessel is a proper Antarctica vessel with 2 helicopters, two Expedition leaders and with all permits needed.

We are working closely with the Norwegian Polar Institute to obtain the landing permit. A website has been created and additional information about Peter I Island DXpediton will be released shortly. Fundraising is expected to start 2024

Team leader Ken LA7GIA, Co-leader Adrian KO8SCA, Co-leader Cezar VE3LYC and Co-leader Dave WD5COV.

Media Officer: James Gallo KB2FMH.

Club Log DX Report for October, 2025

Most active bands

Band	QSOs	% DX	Graph
160M	7,532	33.88	
80M	39,235	26.73	
60M	20,000	47.85	
40M	166,492	25.82	
30M	82,008	50.08	
20M	216,329	45.70	
17M	88,559	65.00	
15M	141,077	73.53	
12M	40,078	73.51	
10M	73,355	81.56	
6M	7,940	28.90	

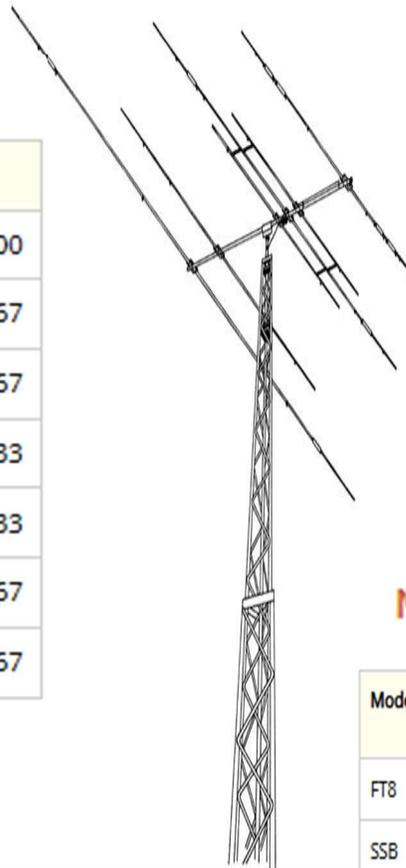
Rank	Prefix	Entity Name
1.	P5	DPRK (NORTH KOREA)
2.	BS7H	SCARBOROUGH REEF
3.	CE0X	SAN FELIX ISLANDS
4.	BV9P	PRATAS ISLAND
5.	KH7K	KURE ISLAND
6.	KH3	JOHNSTON ISLAND
7.	FT/G	GLORIOSO ISLAND
8.	3Y/P	PETER 1 ISLAND
9.	FT5/X	KERGUELEN ISLAND
10.	YV0	AVES ISLAND
11.	3Y/B	BOUVET ISLAND
12.	ZS8	PRINCE EDWARD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

Active expeditions

Callsign	DXCC	Last QSO	# QSOs
PJ6Y	SABA & ST EUSTATIUS	2025-10-20 14:25	18,696
VP2MAA	MONTSERRAT	2025-10-20 12:39	29,613
KP4/AB2RF	PUERTO RICO	2025-10-20 09:47	4,500
FW5K	WALLIS & FUTUNA ISLANDS	2025-10-20 07:04	4,355
5K0UA	SAN ANDRES ISLAND	2025-10-20 04:01	13,266
3D2Z	FIJI ISLANDS	2025-10-19 16:56	320
ZL7IO	CHATHAM ISLAND	2025-10-15 19:25	54,295
E51MWA	NORTH COOK ISLANDS	2025-10-14 16:59	20,290
VK9QO	NORFOLK ISLAND	2025-10-07 03:29	3,628
V6D	MICRONESIA	2025-10-06 15:25	92,666

Solar activity

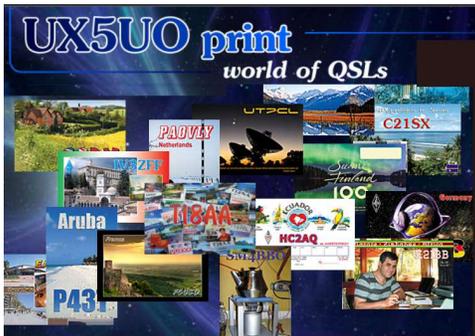
Date	SFI	A	K
2025-10-20	149	18	2.00
2025-10-19	156	36	2.67
2025-10-18	164	9	3.67
2025-10-17	161	4	3.33
2025-10-16	162	12	1.33
2025-10-15	154	8	2.67
2025-10-14	141	23	1.67



Most active modes

Mode	% Use	QSOs	Graph
FT8	60.92	683,630	
SSB	12.28	137,789	
CW	11.47	128,668	

Many Thanks to our Supporters, Friends and Sponsors
We are pleased to recognize the many businesses that help contribute to the success and vitality of the SDDXC



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