

Report to the RSGB Spectrum Committee Meeting - November 2011

1 General position

CDXC continues to grow and has attracted more overseas members through its website application process. It continues to be a major funder of rare DX-peditions and provided support of just under £5,000 in the year to March 2011. The 2011/12 number will be higher due to an increase in applications from worthy DX-peditioners.

Members continue to be active on the HF bands and up to 6m and our Club reflector is extremely active on DX, technical and operating topics - not to mention LoTW!

2 Spectrum abuse

Since December last year, CDXC has made the DX-code of conduct www.dx-code.org a condition of CDXC sponsorship for DX-peditions and we continually monitor DX-peditions for compliance. This is in recognition of the need for both ends of a DX-pedition to play their part in managing pile-ups and circumventing DQRM.

A growing trend, brought about by technology, is the linking of unmanned, Skimmer-equipped, stations to the DX-cluster. While this gives genuine stations a good indication of where they are being heard, it also multiplies the number of spots and gives precise frequency and callsign data to potential abusers. Of course this is only applies to CW, but a carrier is a carrier! Some DX stations are now using unequal spacing in their CQ calls to fool the skimmers so they are not registered in this manner. CDXC are considering our position, particularly with regard to one big USA contest station.

A new trend observed at T32C is for calling stations to use continuous CW transmit with break-in and stop transmitting only when their call is heard. This is a selfish and ridiculous behaviour that fortunately can be tackled because the perpetrator's callsign is known.

3 PLT and other interference

CDXC members, like all active HF'ers, are experiencing increasing levels of QRM from modern technology devices. We continue to press members not to live with this and to report matters to OFCOM. Two active and well respected members of the Club have recently had very good responses from OFCOM interventions. They have publicised these successes on our Club reflector.

4 New Band Plans

CDXC members will not be particularly affected by the proposed band plans and will thus support them.

It goes without saying that the usual wish list of 1,800 – 1,810; 3,800 – 4,000; 7,200 – 7,300 and an extension to all WARC bands, still exists. Long may we campaign – but please, no phone segment on 30m unless we gain additional spectrum.

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