

**DX Advisory Committee
Semi-Annual Report**

**For the American Radio Relay League
Board of Director's Meeting**

January 2022

**Chris Shalvoy, K2CS
Chairman, DXAC**

“Zoom” DXAC meeting report

14 November, 2021

In attendance

Coy, N5OK – West Gulf – Vice Chairman

Steve, N4JQQ - Delta

Rick , K8ZTT – Rocky Mountain

John, VE1JS - RAC

Dick, K5TF - Southeastern

Dave, K5UZ – Board Liaison

Rick, K5UR – President - ARRL

Dick, K7BTW - Northwestern

Chris, K2CS – Atlantic – Chairman

The session began at 21:07z

We began the session with a brief introduction by those in attendance, a bit of background, who you represent and anything else you deemed important.

Coy, N5OK and Mike, W7VO had submitted questions which were reviewed by the group.

1 – FT8 robot operation – It was determined that DXCC Rules, Section 1, Rule 6a should cover that concern stating in part “credit must include contemporaneous **DIRECT** initiation by the operator on both sides of the contact”...

This provision would seem to disallow robot type operation.

2 - “Pay to play” type contact verification – Discussion was had on the practices of the Rebel DX Group and VK9DX – the distinction between “paying” and being sent a QSL card as opposed to “paying” for a log to be uploaded to LOTW.

It was mentioned that some DXpeditions do charge for earlier confirmation but after a predetermined amount of time, upload their entire log to LOTW.

Since the LOTW system is financed and operated by the league, it was felt that “charging” for services that are not under direct control (such as mailing a card) is not within the spirit of the hobby.

Policing such activity or disallowing the contact would be difficult – the possibility of ham radio community “pressure” and the mention of the discussion of “action” may well stop the practice.

3 – Dick – K7BTW brought a situation to the group whereas a station had contacted the league before an operation was to have taken place ON A DOCK (not in the water vessel) and at the time, the operation was told it would be disallowed. The entire station (radio, operator, antenna) was to have been located on that structure. It was felt if the “dock” was an extension of land mass or on pillars secured to the water floor, the operation should have been allowed. A “floating” dock or vessel not near the land mass (in open water, such as a maritime mobile) would have correctly been disallowed.

4 – A document was received by Chris, K2CS from Mike, W7VO that outlined a revision of DXCC rules and considerations. This was written by Bob Locher, W9KNI around 2019. Several members in attendance had heard or seen the item before.

It was forwarded to all DXAC members before the meeting for their comment.

In review, it seems many of the questions and/or proposals would be considered by the “Awards Committee” and not really regarding the status of a country, etc.

It was suggested that if the proposal was to be revisited again, it may well be best forwarded to his director for reconsideration.

For all DXAC members, similar requests that you may deem not appropriate for DXAC review, you may consider forwarding to Sharon Taratula or Bart Jahnke, W9JJ (at the league) for their guidance and assistance.

The meeting was closed at 22:37z

Respectfully submitted,
Chris Shalvoy – K2CS

Update – DXAC activity (after “Zoom” meeting of 14 November, 2021)

Several correspondence have been received by myself or other members of the DXAC since our session in November.

Mainly, “award” based questions, not ones that would be covered by any DXAC intersession.

Additional requests seemed to revolve around items that had been discussed many years ago. It would seem to me that either a change in DXAC chairmanship or unfamiliarity with me particularity may be part of the renewed interest. Otherwise, we can't figure out while these items would have taken on renewed importance at this time.

After consultation with Vice Chairman Coy Day, N5OK, it was determined, at least in the case of the 4U1A request, those questions had been answered years ago and seemingly nothing had changed to reconsider the request.

Another correspondence involved the “Antarctic Treaty System” and once again involved items that were considered many years ago.

In each case, as Chairman, I immediately answered those individuals and gave advise to the best of my ability (given some of the issues were initially presented some 30 years ago).

If further review is needed, the DXAC is prepared to discuss the merits of the requests once being given a “task” as has been accustomed in the past.

My hope is to reconvene a “Zoom” session (similar to November) so that this and other items can be brought to the attention of the committee (as an “offline” discussion).

A date for that session will be determined in the next few weeks (given the unavailability of committee members due to illness) with a “face to face” session at Dayton (if hopefully held).

Best DX es 73, Chris Shalvoy, K2CS

Chairman, DX Advisory Committee

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January 2022

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