

SLOW CW QSO PARTY 2025

Rules

1. Purpose of the contest

Organized by the Marconi Club and managed by the ARI Section of Loano (SV), the "Slow CW qso Party" aims to help beginners "Novices" CW enthusiasts by introducing them to telegraphy in a calm and pleasant competition to learn and have fun and at the same time support them to the more experienced who thus have the opportunity to experience the thrill of their first QSOs and become mentors for new recruits.

CW Novices (beginners) thus have the opportunity to put their skills into practice, increasing them, motivating themselves and encouraging themselves not to lose enthusiasm but rather strengthening it.

The more experienced will instead have the opportunity to experience the emotions of the first CW QSOs by patiently adapting their speed to that of the corresponding beginners.

2. Participation.

OMs and SWLs from all over the world in possession of regular authorization are invited to participate. Membership in associations or clubs is not required.

3. Goal of the contest.

You need to connect/listen to as many OMs as possible. Section station participation is permitted and encouraged. The main goal is to encourage especially CW beginners and to make all other OMs curious about this beautiful and timeless operating mode.

4. Frequency.

The contest will take place in the 20, 40 and 80 meter bands and specifically in the following frequency range:

3540-3550

7028-7038

14040-14050

The use of different frequencies for the three bands, provided that they comply with the IARU Reg.1 band plan, do not preclude the score nor will they be subject to disqualification or penalties but the Marconi Club ARI Loano committee strongly recommends using the above-mentioned ranges in order not to saturate the entire CW band space, leaving space for those who do not participate in the contest.

5. Operating Mode

The contest involves the use of CW mode only. The use of keyboards and decoders is not permitted.

6. Data e orario.

The contest will take place on Sunday 2 February 2025 starting at 1.00 pm UTC and ending at 11.00 pm UTC.

7. Categories.

The following participation categories are foreseen for which separate rankings will be drawn up:

N - Novice (Beginners and all those who are not yet able to exceed 12 WPM);

OH - Old Hand (Expert Telegraphists);

HRD - SWL;

Each participant must specify the category they belong to in the log.

8. Special Stations.

All Marconi Club members will be valid as multipliers.

During the call they must not identify themselves as an MC station (avoiding making the call too long in terms of time since the main purpose of this contest is the QRS) but they will have to pass their "MC member number" during the QSO, communicating the signal report , progressive number and the MC number (Example **599 001 MC260**).

9. Scoring:

Each station can only be connected once per band.

Each regular QSO will be given the following score:

1 Point for each Novice or independent station (not belonging to the Marconi Club) connected

3 Points for each connected station belonging to the Marconi Club

A similar separate ranking will be dedicated to SWLs with scores calculated as follows:

1 Point for each Novice or independent station (not belonging to the Marconi Club) received

3 Points for each Station received belonging to the Marconi Club

10. Callsign:

Participating stations (fixed or portable), if they are outside their own QTH, have the right to use the callsign/call-area even if outside it. Participants are reminded that under no circumstances are they allowed to change their callsign during the race. It is obviously necessary to use the same callsign from the first QSO made until the end of the contest itself.

11. Explanatory notes:

a) A speed exceeding 12 WPM is not permitted

b) Participants are not permitted to transmit two signals simultaneously, regardless of the bands used.

c) Multi-operator categories are not permitted.

d) Alternate CQ on the same band is not permitted.

e) However, more than 1 QSO/HRD with the same station is allowed during the duration of the contest if each QSO/HRD is carried out in different bands.

f) The use of the PacketCluster is permitted to all participants with the exclusion of "SelfSpotting" operations, both direct and, evidently, carried out by other "accomplice" stations.

g) All operations must take place from a single operating site. Transmitters and receivers must all be located within a circle of 500 meters in diameter or within the limits of the property of the station owner, whatever the greatest limit. All antennas must be physically connected with wires to the transmitters and receivers used by the participant. In other words it absolutely is IT IS FORBIDDEN to transmit from different locations with the same callsign.

12. Reports:

The **RST + Progressive Number** will be passed and only for operators who are members of the MC-ARI Club also the MC-ARI membership number (e.g. **599 012 MC233** or for operators who are not members of the MC-ARI Club **599 016**).

13. Final score.

The final score is given by the sum of the points of each QSO/HRD.

Only QSOs that correctly report all the expected data will be considered valid for scoring purposes:

CALL + RST + NR + MC### (MC ARI operators only), or **CALL + RST + NR** for all others.

14. SWL.

The same rules that govern competition between OMs apply to SWLs. The same callsign cannot appear as a corresponding station more than 1 time per band.

15. LOG

We recommend using QARTest (version 14.8.1 or later) as an application for uploading logs; create the contest by selecting the DXPedition module.

By selecting the DXPedition form, in addition to the **CALL** and **RST** fields, two other fields will also be available, the first (Rcvd1) to enter the progressive number and the second (Rcvd2) for the Marconi Club number (**MCnnn**) or leave blank for the others operators.

Participants can use other types of applications to generate the Log as long as they allow the data indicated above to be entered in the order described and allow the generation of CABRILLO files.

a) Only LOGs in CABRILLO format will be accepted.

b) By saving the File in Cabrillo format before sending it for the ranking it is necessary to indicate the Name, Category and possible membership of the MC-ARI (for example by renaming the CABRILLO format log as follows: **IZ1CQD-N.log** or **IK1PFE-OH. log** or **IK1QAD-OH-MC.log** or **I/0123/TO-SWL.log**)

c) The LOGs must be sent ONLY through the page dedicated to uploading logs on the Marconi Club website at www.marconiclub.it

d) The LOGs must arrive no later than 8 days from the end date of the contest, i.e. by 11.59pm UTC on 10 February 2025. Anyone who has problems sending the log within the established times can contact the Contest Manager at the email address slowcw@marconiclub.it

e) The WEB-Uploader will send a confirmation of the correct upload of the LOG

f) A list of logs received will be immediately visible on the site.

h) The LOGs will be made public. Therefore, by sending their LOG, the participant implicitly consents to its publication

16. Ranking and prizes

- a) A ranking will be drawn up for each of the categories referred to in paragraph 7.
- b) The first classified in each category will be awarded prizes.
- c) All participants will be able to download the certificate of participation online in PDF format.

17. Penalties and disqualifications.

- a) All logs received will be carefully checked and any errors found may cause score reductions.
- b) Any unsportsmanlike behavior may cause disqualification. Such unsportsmanlike behavior may be found both from the LOGs and from any other source of data recorded available to the Committee. For greater clarity, it is specified that unsportsmanlike behavior is considered (the list is not exhaustive but is intended to provide only examples):
 - Autospot;
 - QSO at speeds greater than 12 WPM
 - Multiple simultaneous signals for Single Operator stations;
 - Multiple simultaneous signals on the same band for Multi-Operator stations;

18. Implied declaration.

By sending their LOG to the MARCONI CLUB SLOW CW QSO PARTY Committee, each participant declares that:

- a) has read and understood the Contest regulations and agrees to be bound by them;
- b) has operated according to the laws and regulations established for the Amateur Radio Service in its home country;
- c) your LOG can be made public;
- d) accepts that all actions and decisions of the MARCONI CLUB Contest Committee are final and unappealable.
- e) He has complied with this regulation to the letter in accordance with what was declared to LOG.