

DX Advisory Committee Report

July 2018

to the

**American Radio Relay League
Board of Directors
and Programs and Services Committee**

**Submitted by:
John C. Yodis, K2VV
Chairman, DX Advisory Committee**

To the Members of the PSC:

From: DXAC – Prepared and submitted by John C. Yodis, K2VV, Chairman

Date: July 12, 2018

Subject: July Report

First, I would like to acknowledge the service of Gary Jones, W5FI as chairman of the DXAC. His efforts are much appreciated and his need to step down for personal reasons is understandable.

The last issue discussed within DXAC was a task to review the criteria for defining DXCC entities. As detailed in Gary's December report to the Board, he felt that the 30-day timeline initially allocated for discussion was insufficient to address the issue. Gary solicited position papers from both Wayne Mills and Bill Kennemer, both past DXCC directors, and a white paper from Jim Fenstermacker to aid in a detailed review of the criteria. He concluded, however, that "machinery had been in motion to activate Kosovo and the PSC and the BOD were interested in modifying the entity requirements regardless of what recommendation the DXAC returned...the PSC and the BOD have again made a decision without a DXAC recommendation."

The recent changes to the DXCC status of Kosovo and Kingman Reef have put the members of the DXAC in an uncomfortable position. I, myself, as a DXAC representative had been asked at the local DX club meeting about the background on those decisions and had to explain that they were not based on DXAC involvement or input. One member has resigned from DXAC concluding that the committee's voice is not recognized in Newington and others are concerned about the DXAC's relevance.

I accepted the position of chairman from Rick Roderick with the acknowledgement that communication between HQ and DXAC needs improvement. The membership of DXAC represents centuries of experience on the air and a willingness to support the most prestigious award system in the hobby. There is no question that the ultimate decisions on DXCC belong with Newington and the BOD, but members of DXAC need reassurance that their input is important.

At this time, the issue of DXCC criteria is on hold in DXAC, as the rewording of the rules to allow addition of Kosovo appears to have settled the issue for the time being. The door may still creep open, however, for areas such as Catalonia and North Cyprus. DXAC is available to supply input on these, if requested.

The question of appropriate DXCC credit for FT8 contacts is on the mind of many committee members. It has prompted unsolicited comments from concerned amateurs to both ARRL directors and DXAC members. I understand that a task may be in the works to solicit DXAC opinions.

The DXAC remains available for any future task assignments from the PSC. I look forward to a rewarding tenure as chairman in service to the best hobby in the world.

Respectfully submitted: 73

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Midwest Division DXAC Representative / Chairman

DX ADVISORY COMMITTEE

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