

California QSO Party

2023 Changes

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NCCC

2023 Changes

Summary:

1. Canadian multiplier changes
2. Addition of M/2 Class
3. Clarification that live streaming is not allowed; Introducing the CQP 2023 Video Challenge
4. Award changes
5. No T-shirts in 2023

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Multiplier	Added	Deleted	Redefined	No Change
MR (Maritime)		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
NB (New Brunswick)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			
NL (Newfoundland and Labrador)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			
NS (Nova Scotia)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			
PE (Prince Edward Island)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			
NT (Northwest Territories)			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Was: VE8, VY1, VY0 Now: VE8	
YT (Yukon)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			
NU (Nunavut)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			
All other US/VE multipliers				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
All California county multipliers				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

2023 Multiplier Changes

Multipliers:

- 50 US States + 13 Canadian provinces/territories
- DX remains a copied QTH but does not add to mult total
- DC is not added as a multiplier

Out of 63 total multipliers:

- Score a maximum of 58 mults toward a participant's final score

2023 Canadian Multiplier Changes

Background:

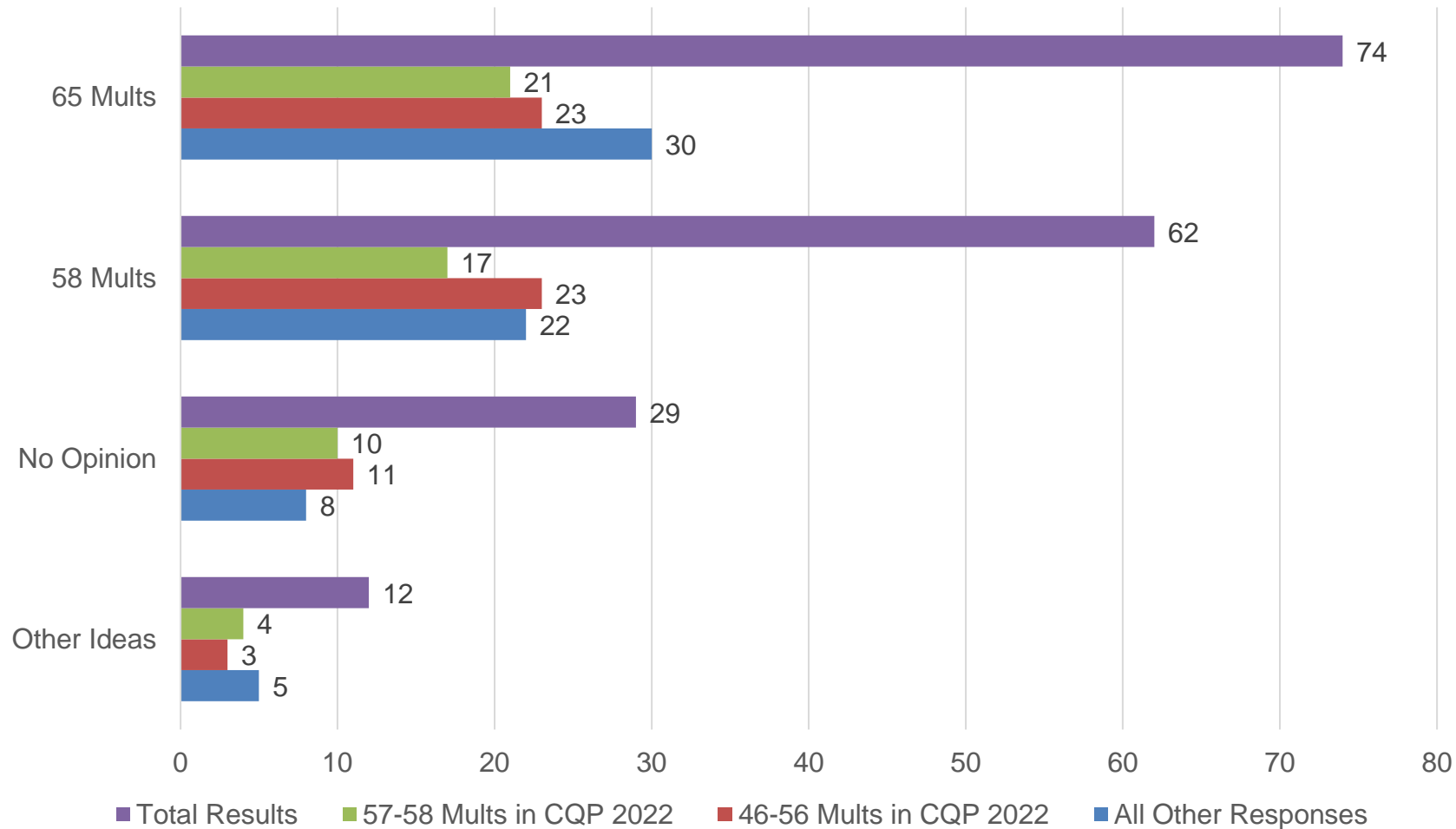
1. RAC (Radio Amateurs of Canada) eliminated the MAR (Maritime) section on January 1, 2023.
2. CQP is the only known contest that still uses Maritime as a Canadian multiplier. Contests either use all Canadian provinces & territories, or RAC sections.
3. CQP Chairman launched a survey starting on June 1, 2023. All CA log submitters that had at least three hours of contest on-time in CQP 2022 were invited in a personal email to fill out this survey. Operators of a Multi-Op were also welcome to participate in the survey.
4. Link to the survey was added to the top of the cqp.org home page for anyone else to fill out.

2023 Canadian Multiplier Changes

Survey Questions:

1. Your Callsign.
2. What should multipliers be in CQP 2023 for stations inside CA?
 - 65 mults. Allow DX to now count as one mult. Each Canadian province and territory count as their own mult (remove MR; add NB, NL, NS, PE, YT, NU; keep NT). Add DC as mult.
 - 58 mults. No changes to multiplier list.
 - No opinion.
 - Other Ideas (Please specify).

CQP 2023 Survey Results



Total Results:
65 Mults: 42%
58 Mults: 35%
No Opinion: 16%
Other Ideas: 7%

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Other Ideas

1. Keep existing 58 mults + add 58 mults for each CA county. Will increase 80 meter activity.
2. Make mults count once per band instead of once ever. Have every DXCC + every US state count as a mult for CA stations (in other words, VE is now 1 mult).
3. 65 mult option + count each DXCC entity other than HI and AK as a multiplier. This distinction will set the CA QP apart from the others.
4. Use all current ARRL sections as multipliers.
5. Same Canadian mults as ARRL Sweepstakes.
6. One mult per RAC section.

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Other Ideas

7. I like the idea of each Canadian province and territory count as their own mult, but do NOT think DC should count as their own mult, as they are not a state. If we count them as their own, then we should add American Virgin Islands, American Samoa and Guam. Nope, I don't think so.

8. 58 mults: add DX as the mult replacing MAR. Keep Ontario as one mult. If you go the provinces route, then 64. I'm in favor of adding DX as a mult, but not DC. DC is not a state and should be included as MD since it's aligned that way as a section.

9. Changing from 58 mults will mean that the old record scores will be easier to improve on without more QSOs. Old records versus New to be kept separate?

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Other Ideas

10. Whatever you do, the “magic” 58 number no longer makes sense and IMHO never did make sense.

11. I like the symmetry of 58 counties vs. 58 for CA stations, but I don't know that any such comparison is made. I can live with 65 mults for CA stations but wonder whether there are enough ops in some Canadian provinces to make a clean sweep meaningful if the 65 are adopted.

12. I like 65; however, it will be like ARRL DX. i.e. virtually impossible to have a sweep, so maybe there needs to be some definition of a sweep that is achievable for CA stations. Maybe 61 or 62.

2023 Canadian Multiplier Changes

Conclusions:

1. Great survey participation: 177 responses.
2. Split results clearly show a need for a middle ground solution.
3. Responses show there is an openness to expand Canadian mults.
4. There was apprehension regarding the fact that a mult sweep would be impossible to achieve, that adding DX, DC and sparsely represented Canadian mults would only favor the largest CA stations, and that records would be obsolete because a new multiplier baseline would be established.
5. Allowing a pool of 63 mults, while scoring a maximum of 58 toward a participant's final score, allows CA participants to have multiple paths to achieve a 58 mult sweep. Records continuity is also maintained with maximum scored mults remaining at 58.

Multi-Op Classes in CQP

CQP 2022 Statistics:

27 CA M/S stations

- 48% had 3 or more participating operators sharing 1 radio

12 CA M/M stations

- 67% had only 2 radios

Observations:

- 2/3 of M/M stations were actually M/2, but competed with true M/M stations for the same plaques.
- Many transmitting capable operators in M/S efforts were idle at any given time.
- Good solar conditions will result in more HF bands open at a time.

New M/2 Class

Reasons to consider operating in the M/2 class in CQP 2023:

1. M/S stations can move to M/2 to allow their operators more on-air radio time with the use of a 2nd antenna or a triplexer, and a 2nd radio.
2. 2-person M/M stations can move to M/2 and no longer be forced to compete with M/M stations that have 4+ simultaneous transmitters.
3. Existing SO2R stations are mostly ready for M/2. Invite a friend to your station or mentor a new contester. Both operators can have fun together while neither operator loses any radio time.
4. Any CA stations bored with entering the same class each year in CQP can try the new M/2 class and set a new county record.
5. CQP can be the California version of WRTC without all the selection requirements and new operating sites. Just team up with your friend at your station and compete with other M/2 teams for top CA bragging rights!

Live Streaming; CQP 2023 Video Challenge

1. Clarified in rules that “live streaming” is not allowed in any category.
 - a. It is self-spotting, as live streamers on the Internet often show their current operating frequency. Self-spotting is not allowed in CQP.
 - b. Live streamers also often show their current log. This can be used by participants to verify that they copied the exchange correctly and confirmed they are in the log. This can even be done with the live stream recording after the fact. We believe this behavior is unethical.
2. Introducing the CQP 2023 Video Challenge
 - a. We highly encourage CQP participants to take videos of themselves, their stations and their CQP operation, to post *after* the contest.
 - b. Send the CQP Chairman (cqp.chairman@gmail.com) a link to your video *after* CQP. Links to the best videos will be included as part of the CQP 2023 results package!

Award Changes

1. All 2nd place plaques eliminated.
2. Added M/2 plaques.
3. Redefined Multi-op plaques.
4. Total CQP 2023 plaques offered = 40. Aligns well with 40 bottles of wine that will continue to be awarded. Reduces total number of plaques to make CQP more manageable to run.

No T-shirts in 2023

1. CQP T-shirts will not be offered for purchase in 2023.
2. Reasons:
 - a. Too much volunteer work is required to manage T-shirts. Need to make CQP more manageable to run.
 - b. Only 47 T-shirts were ordered in 2022, less than the number of awards given in 2022!
 - c. Costs have increased, especially shipping.
 - d. Went significantly over budget in 2022. Can't expect T-shirt losses to be absorbed annually by sponsor NCCC.
 - e. Projection that we would have to charge \$35 per shirt to break even in 2023. It will be a certainty that fewer people will order at this price point. This calls into question why volunteer time should continue to be spent on T-shirts. We are open to alternative solutions in 2024.