

How do I?

An occasional series



This week: The Gamification of DXing and interfacing with N3FJP Software

Many amateur radio operators like to make contacts with countries beyond their own borders. This aspect of our hobby is so popular that we have created our own vocabulary to describe our accomplishments. A long-distance radio contact, typically involving contacting a fellow ham located in another country, is called DX. We have a coveted award that is granted for making verifiable two-way radio contacts with at least 100 other countries around the world. That award is called the DX Century Club, or DXCC.

And, we have specialized PC software to help manage the pursuit of those far-away radio contacts.

The American Radio Relay League (ARRL) <https://www.arrl.org/dxcc> has an entire page devoted to the DXCC Award, including application forms for the award and its various endorsements, the rules for claiming a QSO for credit for the award and assistance in finding an ARRL DXCC card checker such as Glenn K3SWZ to get paper QSL cards verified.

You can also use **Log Book of the World** (LOTW) to store electronically verified QSOs and apply for the award.

Logging software such as **Amateur Contact Log** from Scott Davis at Affirmatech <http://www.n3fjp.com/> can easily upload your contacts to LOTW.

But wait! The title of today's article talks about **Club Log**. What is that?

Club Log <https://clublog.org/> is an online community of amateur radio operators. It consists of a web site and a Groups.io reflector.

Excerpt from the **Club Log** site:

Club Log has a [Google groups reflector](#) where you can ask questions, discuss DXCC information and suggest ideas. Other help is available in the [documentation](#). You can ask for help from the volunteer team by using the [helpdesk](#).

I cannot imagine needing help as the site is very straight forward and intuitive to use.

The basic operation is very simple. You log a successfully completed QSO in your logging software, such as **Amateur Contact Log**,

Then click on the eLogs tab in the N3FJP **Amateur Contact Log**,

File Edit Settings Clear CallBook List Search Awards eLogs Recall Net View Help										
Find					Recent Contacts					
Rec#	Call	Date / Time	Bnd	Mode	Rec	Off	Country	ST	County	Name
670	WX1O	2022/03/26 20:04	40	SSB	59	20:04	USA	VT		Bruce
669	W1HK	2022/03/26 19:59	40	SSB	59	20:00	USA	MA		Marshall

Click on the **CLUB LOG** selection. Enter your email address and the password you used to register with Club Log, then click the upload button.

Club Log Uploader

Please enter your Club Log E-mail Address:

Please enter your Club Log Password:
☐ Display Password

Please enter your Club Log Call Sign:

When you upload records to Club Log, a 'B' (or which ever single character you choose) will be added to the Sent Confirmed By field of each record so that it is not duplicated on future uploads.

You may also mark the uploaded records as QSL Sent, but note that ARRL only recognizes LoTW and QSL card confirmations, so you may wish to leave that option unchecked.

Club Log Confirmed By letter to designate upload:

Upload

Selected Contacts from Main Form

All Contacts Not Uploaded

On upload, the Confirmed By character is added to the Sent Confirmed By field. You may also mark the QSO record as QSL sent on upload if you wish.

☐ Mark records as QSL Sent

☐ Enable Real Time Upload (batches of 10)

Done

dit Contact


Call	Date	Time On	Band	Mode	Power	RST Sent	RST Rec	Country
WX1O	2022/03/26	20:04:00	40	SSB	100	59	59	USA
Name Rec	State	County Rec	Frequency	Grid Rec	Other	Time Off	QSL Rec	QSL Sent
Bruce	VT					20:04:00	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Comments						Rec Conf By	Sent Conf By	
R Bruce Burgess - 1394 MUNGER STREET - MIDDLEBURY, VT 05753								
						More	Cancel	Done

The log software can autofill the **QSL Sent** box with a check mark and put a **B** in the **Sent Conf By** field. If you also uploaded to LOTW, there will be a **L** in the **Sent Conf By** field. If you sent a paper QSL card, there will be **C** in the **Sent Conf By** field.

If you are looking for ARRL DXCC credit, DO NOT allow the N3FJP software to mark records as **QSL Sent** when uploading to **Club Log**.

It is OK to allow **LOTW** uploads to mark the QSL as sent. You can either upload periodically or in real time. It looks like I last uploaded about 6 months ago. Enthusiastic power users will want to upload more often.

You can now visit your **Club Log** account. The initial page looks something like this:



Home | Settings | Upload | OQRS | Donate | Expeditions | Help

Your Log

DXCC Charts

Satellite Charts

Timelines

Grid Squares

QSL Charts

Zone Charts

Log Inspector

Log Matching

League Tables

DXCC Leagues

Satellite Leagues

Zone Leagues

Club Leagues

CDXC Challenges

Super League

Uniques League

Tools


DX Cluster

Log Search

You are logged in as **frankmellott@gmail.com (KB3PQT)** Logout

Please use the menus to update your account, upload logs or review your tables.

Club Log has a [Google groups reflector](#) where you can ask questions, discuss DXCC information and suggest ideas. Other help is available in the [documentation](#). You can ask for help from the volunteer team by using the [helpdesk](#).


[\[Change picture\]](#)










Latest callsigns to join Club Log

A warm welcome to the following new users:

- N7GX - *Stanford Douglas*
- PP6AAA - *Liga de amadores brasileiros de radio emissao-labre-se*
- N4WDL - *Willis D Lindsey*
- F4ISO - *Coti François*
- W8UFO - *Scott Irwin*
- F4ASJ - *Olivier CLOUX*
- J11KLH - *IYANAGA NOBUAKI*
- N5ABI - *Scott Marler*
- K4TEN - *Frankie Hunt*
- PA2PS - *Peter Schouten*
- KE0WW - *Mike Stapp*
- DO5FP - *Franz Pleyer*
- AF5IU - *Bryan William Novak*
- BX2AJF - *Xing-Hsiang Wang*
- OH6CGH - *Johannes Paasikivi*
- YC0BOY - *TEDDY SETIAWAN*
- JH1VUI - *NEGISHI Hiroshi*

Most active callsigns

For QSOs logged in the period 2022-03-26 to 2022-04-09

Callsign	DXCCs	QSOs
 CT1ILT ★	164	5,807
 CT3MD ★	163	2,934
 CT1GFK ★	151	1,082
 TO1Q	144	11,863
 ES5TTT	140	3,227
 N6AR	140	2,357
 VK2BY	140	1,129
 9K2GR ★	136	1,005
 LN8W ★	135	4,528

There. You have successfully uploaded to **Club Log**. What happens now?

New users will want to click on the **Log Matching** tab.

Log Matching

Club Log will match QSOs where both parties have uploaded their log to Club Log, with a tolerance of ± 15 minutes. This can help you QSL contacts and to stay informed about log uploads that are relevant to your DXing progress.

Filter by mode:	<input checked="" type="radio"/> All modes	<input type="radio"/> CW	<input type="radio"/> Phone	<input type="radio"/> Data
Filter by band:	All bands	Filter by DXCC:	All entities	
<input checked="" type="radio"/> All matches	<input type="radio"/> Bands	<input type="radio"/> Modes	<input type="radio"/> Slots	<input type="radio"/> DXCCs
Callsign:	KB3PQT	Submit		

Legend: New DXCC New band New mode New slot Tip: You can click on table headings to sort.

DX Call	Entity	QSO Date	Match Date	Band/Mode	Outcome
N3FWE	UNITED STATES OF AMERICA	2018-12-01 22:41:00	2022-03-27 13:36:10	40M Data	
N9KT	UNITED STATES OF AMERICA	2020-09-26 22:28:00	2022-02-18 04:12:56	40M Data	
8P6PE	BARBADOS	2020-10-19 08:37:00	2021-12-11 00:00:54	40M Data	DXCC 40M Data 40M Data
VE2GCE	CANADA	2019-06-16 01:13:00	2021-11-01 11:56:41	20M Data	20M 20M Data
KN1B	UNITED STATES OF AMERICA	2021-05-23 22:23:00	2021-10-26 10:28:16	15M Data	
NI0P	UNITED STATES OF AMERICA	2020-04-04 15:30:00	2021-10-05 12:37:33	20M Data	
K6JO	UNITED STATES OF AMERICA	2019-07-25 01:05:00	2021-09-22 04:09:27	20M Data	
GJ0KYZ	JERSEY	2020-12-13 14:42:00	2021-09-19 11:41:19	15M Data	DXCC 15M Data 15M Data
W1AM	UNITED STATES OF AMERICA	2020-02-16 02:24:00	2021-09-09 21:20:26	80M Data	
CO8RCP	CUBA	2020-10-19 09:00:00	2021-09-08 15:39:43	40M Data	
CO8RCP	CUBA	2020-12-13 14:30:30	2021-09-08 15:39:01	15M Data	
K2PS	UNITED STATES OF AMERICA	2020-02-29 12:08:00	2021-09-07 02:18:00	40M Data	
EA5FSJ	SPAIN	2018-12-01 22:13:00	2021-09-04 20:41:00	40M Data	40M 40M Data

The QSO information you uploaded is shown and **If it matches** a previously uploaded log, the awards that QSO could be applied to will be shown in the **Outcome** column on the right.

In this example I have 8P6PE from Barbados in my log. The QSO was made 10/19/2020. 8P6PE uploaded his log to Club Log at some point, as did I. On 12/11/2021 both logs had been uploaded and a match was made. We can use this QSO for credit towards DXCC, a 40 meter endorsement, a data endorsement or a 40M data endorsement. Pay attention to the rules! Generally speaking, most awards will not allow this QSO to count more than once. If I was looking for DXCC credit, I could use this QSO. If I had a DXCC award and was looking for an endorsement for 100 entities worked on 40 meters, or 40 meter data or data regardless of band, I could not.

My QSO with VE2GCE from Canada also has a match. This time it was on 20 meter Data. **Club Log** has identified I have a previous QSO confirmed with Canada, so it is suggesting that this QSO helps me only if I was looking for a 20 meter or 20 meter data endorsement.

The next most used function is probably **Log Inspector**. Simply fill in the appropriate search fields as shown below, using your call and whatever date range you are looking for.

Log Inspector

This tool allows you to search through your own log, and check for DXCC mappings which disagree with Club Log. You can use this tool to help update your logs or find discrepancies.

In the form below, all of the filtering options can be used together, or left blank.

Call sign:	KB3PQT		
DX call sign, prefix or QSO ID:			
Start date:	Y 2007	M 1	D 1
	Reset		
End date:	Y 2022	M 4	D 9
	Equalise		
Between hours:	00	:00:00	23 :59:59
Exact matches	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Filter by zone:	All zones		
Filter by band:	All bands		
Filter by entity:	All entities		
Show extra log info	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Start search:	Search		

Here is a partial view of my search results. The entries shaded yellow with a red **W** were not found in Club Log. The entries shaded green were found in Club Log and the C means they are confirmed.

VA3KGB	2021-07-04 15:07:00	40M Data (FT8)	CANADA	W	4	X
AB9B	2021-07-04 14:26:00	17M Data (FT8)	UNITED STATES OF AMERICA	W	4	X
WX5OU	2021-07-04 13:54:00	20M Data (FT8)	UNITED STATES OF AMERICA	C	4	X
AA8IA	2021-07-04 12:17:00	40M Data (FT8)	UNITED STATES OF AMERICA	C	4	X
W4CSA	2021-07-03 23:30:00	80M PH (SSB)	UNITED STATES OF AMERICA	W	5	X
KD9TWA	2021-07-03 22:49:00	40M Data (FT8)	UNITED STATES OF AMERICA	W	4	X
KB2IBZ	2021-07-03 21:28:00	80M Data (FT8)	UNITED STATES OF AMERICA	W	5	X
KN4WDF	2021-07-03 20:00:00	80M PH (SSB)	UNITED STATES OF AMERICA	W	5	X

Let's say I really wanted a QSL for the VA3KGB contact in Canada. At this point the user has not uploaded to **Club Log**. If I do not have a LOTW confirmation in Amateur Contact Log, I probably have to mail a paper QSL card and hope for a reply.

My personal favorite is the data I can glean using the DXCC timeline. One click and I can see stats by year. For example, in 2021 It shows I worked 9 DXCC entities and made 531 QSOs. 88% of those QSOs were made on phone and 12% were made using data modes such as PSK31, Olivia, Domino, FT8, etc. I probably have not yet uploaded a full year's worth of 2021 data to Club Log. As a result, those numbers appear smaller than I expected to see.

2020 is probably more representative. 22 DXCC entities. 866 QSOs, 69% phone, 31% data

DXCC Timeline

timelines for KB3PQT (frank mellott)



four callsigns:

KB3PQT

Submit

QSOs by Year

Graphs

First Worked Dates

Needed DXCCs

Least Worked

QSOs by Year

Year	Number of DXCCs	Number of QSOs	QSOs as Percent
2021	9	531	CW: 0.00% Phone: 88.14% Data: 11.86%
2020	22	866	CW: 0.00% Phone: 69.17% Data: 30.83%
2019	19	613	CW: 0.00% Phone: 63.78% Data: 36.22%
2018	10	347	CW: 0.00% Phone: 80.98% Data: 19.02%

The **QSL Charts** tab is very cool. Again I simply used the preset options and clicked submit.

Mode and QSL Charts

Filter by band: **All bands** ☒ Show all QSL states ☐ Confirmed, not verified

☒ No Date Filter ☐ 2022 ☐ 2021 ☐ Last 12 months

Callsign: **KB3PQT**

☒ Verified (Awarded) ☒ Confirmed ☒ Worked ☐ Not worked *Click these symbols in the chart to run the QSO wizard*

Entity	Phone	CW	Data	QSL suggestions
ALASKA	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
ARGENTINA	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
AUSTRALIA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	VK2ZM [20M Phone]
AZORES	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
BARBADOS	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
BELGIUM	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
BELIZE	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
BULGARIA	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
CANADA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
CANARY ISLANDS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	
COSTA RICA	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
CUBA	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
CURACAO	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
CZECH REPUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	

Again, green is confirmed and yellow is worked but not confirmed. VK2ZM is my only Australia QSO, so if I want credit for Australia, at this point I need to send him a paper QSL.

The QSO shown below has been uploaded to Club log and matches, but G3UAS has never uploaded to LOTW and I have never recorded a QSL card exchanged, so while it is a matched contact, neither can use as credit for a DXCC award. If I cannot get a QSL from him, and want it, I need to send a paper card.

ENGLAND	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	G3UAS [20M Data] <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Matched Log search
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To really stir up the competition, take a look at the **Club Leagues** tab. When you register with Club Log you can enter a club with which you are affiliated. Until recently, my only club was the American Radio Relay League (ARRL). This week a new ad hoc organization was created - **OLIVIA DIGITAL MODE DXers CLUB**. This is a completely free, world wide organization of amateurs interested in the Olivia Digital Mode. Olivia is a robust, HF keyboard exchange conversational mode, like PSK31 but more tolerant of poor band conditions. The group needed 10 members to be created in Club Log and 15 to show in the standings, so I signed up. I was already a **Club Log** user, so all I had to do was log in, go to my profile and

add a club. The caveat is that you can only apply for one club at a time. So If I clicked “join” for the **ODMD** club. I decided that if I wanted to also apply for the Frankford Radio Club league, I would have to wait until my Olivia membership request was approved.



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Your Log	Club DX League				
DXCC Charts	The league below is based on all of the QSOs in active members' logs. Only the primary callsigns of members are considered. The data should be interpreted with care if the number of members in a club is much less than the full membership expected.				
Satellite Charts	Clubs having fewer than 15 members are not included. Updated once every 7 days. Last updated: Sat, 02 Apr 2022 16:13:31 +0000.				
Timelines	Tip: You can click the headings to sort the table.				
Grid Squares					
QSL Charts	Position	Club Name	Members*	Years QRV	DXCCs
Zone Charts	1	CDXA - Carolina DX Association	53	42	316
Log Inspector	2	LACC - LA Contest Club	16	29	310
Log Matching	3	LSDXA - Lone Star DX Association	28	38	309
League Tables	4	KCDX - Kansas City DX Club	22	41	308
DXCC Leagues	5	NIDXA - Northern Illinois DX Association	33	37	306
Satellite Leagues	6	GPDX - Grupo Português DX	27	32	306
Zone Leagues	7	TCDXA - Twin City DX Association	45	39	304
Club Leagues	8	FOC - First Class CW Operators' Club	118	39	301
CDXC Challenges	9	REDXA - Redwood Empire DX Association	15	37	297
Super League	10	GDXF - German DX Foundation	165	29	295
Uniques League	11	599DXA - 599 DX Association	16	31	295
Tools	12	CDXC - Clipperton DX Club	112	26	294
DX Cluster	13	SCDXC - Southern California DX Club	42	39	290
	14	YODXC - YO DX Club	26	25	290
	15	SPDXC - SP DX Club	76	29	289

The above screen shows the Carolina DX Association has 53 members with a combined 316 unique DXCC entities. If I click on the club name, I can see the Top 10 members, the DXCC entities each has by band, the total number of unique DXCC entities each has and the number of years over which they have uploaded logs. The junior person in the Top 10 in this club has 34 years!

If I keep scrolling down, the junior member, number 54, has 3 years of logs. Second from the bottom as a multi-way tie at 11 years!

Editor's Note: Don't ask why the CDXA has a Member Number 54 when their Member Count is 53.

League for CDXA - Carolina DX Association

Rank	Callsign	160	80	60	40	30	20	17	15	12	10	6	DXCC ▼	Slots	Range
1	K4CIA	297	329	162	338	337	339	338	338	337	339	132	340	3286	66 yrs
2	K4XP+1	258	315	163	332	330	339	332	334	326	328	135	340	3192	59 yrs
3	AA4V	254	310	88	334	305	337	327	334	310	325	122	340	3046	53 yrs
4	K4MQG	197	332	0	338	337	339	337	336	332	338	136	340	3022	67 yrs
5	N2TU+2 ★	133	250	20	321	313	340	336	339	333	332	132	340	2849	41 yrs
6	N4PQX	205	320	4	325	307	339	333	335	313	327	38	340	2846	34 yrs
7	N4TL+3 ★	117	196	142	276	297	337	312	325	273	293	121	340	2689	56 yrs
8	KZ2I+3	137	249	0	313	296	337	319	332	287	307	108	340	2685	57 yrs
9	K4ZO+2	133	230	0	302	267	332	282	317	217	287	41	340	2408	49 yrs
10	K4MK+2	131	283	27	300	191	327	277	309	241	270	7	340	2363	65 yrs


Club Name CARC is used by the Crawley Amateur Radio Club. This CARC Club League has only 15 members (the minimum to be listed).

Rank	Callsign	160	80	60	40	30	20	17	15	12	10	6	DXCC ▼	Slots	Range
1	G3VKW	71	259	4	307	304	339	325	333	320	324	128	340	2714	56 yrs
2	GX3WSC+3	24	99	73	177	188	246	230	224	183	180	110	299	1734	14 yrs
3	G4PEO	2	67	0	114	23	201	29	207	72	216	72	292	1003	40 yrs
4	G3YSX+2	47	120	56	150	139	218	166	168	93	132	54	242	1343	36 yrs
5	M0TZZ+2	35	54	52	117	114	194	193	189	138	145	77	233	1308	9 yrs
6	G7WJW	45	85	88	106	114	101	99	87	74	60	30	149	889	13 yrs
7	M0KGW	2	26	1	64	15	120	29	75	8	42	23	148	405	4 yrs
8	M0JGH	1	54	5	97	25	106	41	61	6	20	0	143	416	11 yrs
9	M7RJS	30	62	0	88	63	105	90	65	54	54	23	136	634	3 yrs
10	G0KAD+1	0	2	1	26	26	92	61	34	6	19	11	132	278	35 yrs
		160	80	60	40	30	20	17	15	12	10	6			
11	G3ZIY	10	40	40	65	50	61	96	31	35	60	31	124	519	21 yrs
12	2E0KXV+1	0	0	0	40	1	84	23	25	5	30	0	86	208	3 yrs
13	M1YAP	0	2	0	27	10	58	30	33	1	1	17	74	179	19 yrs
14	G8PQH+1	14	19	21	30	10	31	11	6	0	6	3	59	151	20 yrs
15	2E0EJJ+1	0	6	0	35	40	30	28	17	13	9	1	47	179	5 yrs

Editor's Note: If our club, The Cumberland Amateur Radio Club, wanted to create a Club League we would need to construct a different name. Perhaps we could be CARC-PA, or CARC-2. We will cross that bridge when (or if) we come to it.

The **Grid Square Map** is a Beta product. To begin my search I accepted the Grid Square Map presets as they were shown. Click Submit. The search output consists of a world map. The grids with which you have a confirmed QSO are highlighted in green.

A section of my map is below. Grid Squares are fun!



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Zone Leagues

Club Leagues

CDXC Challenges

Super League

Grid Squares Map [BETA]

Bands: ☒ 160 ☒ 80 ☒ 60 ☒ 40 ☒ 30 ☒ 20 ☒ 17 ☒ 15 ☒ 12 ☒ 10 ☒ 6 ☒ 4 ☒ 2 ☒ 70 ☒ 23 ☒ 13 ☒ SAT

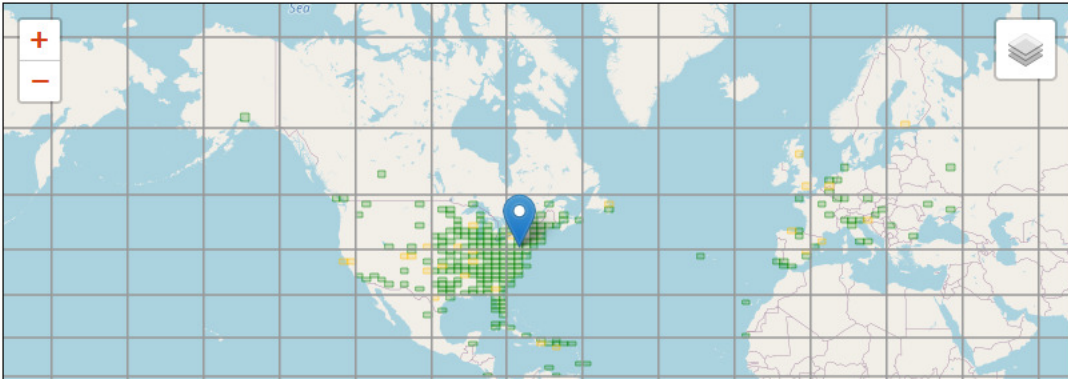
☒ No Mode Filter ☐ CW ☐ Phone ☐ Data

Quick links:

Callsign:

+

-



Finally there are a variety of user tools to enhance your radio play time. There are lists of wanted DXCC entities (some of these entities are only on the air every few decades), and spots of DX entities on the air.

DX Spots for Needed DXCCs

Using this tool, you can search the DX Cluster for spots related to DXCCs that you have not yet worked.

Choose your call:

Filter style:

Filter mode:

EA7FC	7140.0	EA9AZ	semana santa alicante	CEUTA & MELILLA	2022-04-09 16:32	Prop.
NF4A	21088.0	XT2MAX	f/h	BURKINA FASO LoTW	2022-04-09 16:30	Prop.
RV0APH	14080.0	Z56JHN	ft4	REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA LoTW	2022-04-09 16:30	Prop.
PU3YST	28502.0	CE6CGX	gracias carlos, 73 usb	CHILE LoTW	2022-04-09 16:29	Prop.
DL9IU	28182.5	CX4AD	ft4 tnx qso	URUGUAY LoTW	2022-04-09 16:29	Prop.
W3LPL	10119.5	OX3XR	heard in ma	GREENLAND LoTW	2022-04-09 16:29	Prop.
RV0APH	14080.0	Z56PVT	ft4	REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA LoTW	2022-04-09 16:29	Prop.
PU8MGB	24955.0	CN8ZG	cq cd dx	MOROCCO	2022-04-09 16:28	Prop.
I28NVV	28180.0	CX4AD	tnx ft4 qso	URUGUAY LoTW	2022-04-09 16:28	Prop.
S55BA	7169.4	OM3CDN		SLOVAK REPUBLIC	2022-04-09 16:28	Prop.
PE1EWR	7178.1	OM5WW	Isb	SLOVAK REPUBLIC	2022-04-09 16:27	Prop.

If you do not use a logging program such as the N3FJP products, you can upload your QSO data to LOTW through the Club Log site.

You can also find propagation reporting tools which can help you determine if the wanted DXCC entity you saw spotted is actually reachable from your QTH.