

# IOTA SWL CONTEST FAQ

## Can I participate in Contest without an official SWL callsign ?

Yes. Your call in the score will be X-SWL, where X is the prefix of the country, followed by your name.

## I am a HAM, can I participate in Contest ?

Yes, you are welcome.

## Can I put in the log non-island stations in Contest ?

Yes. Also if the Contest title is IOTA, entrants can heard anyone in Contest, island or non-island. These are the rules of the IOTA Contest since the very first edition.

## Is the use of DX Summit and DX Cluster allowed ?

Yes, it is allowed. There is no more distinction between "Assisted" or "Not assisted", as in previous editions of the IOTA Contest, SWL category.

## If I heard both sides of a QSO, can I put in the log both the stations ?

Yes, If both sides of a QSO are heard, including exchange digits, they are both valid for points but must be logged in two separate rows. If SWL\_DQR\_Log software is used, you can put both the stations on the same row, but do not forget to cross the box "Split SWL Report into two lines" in the Cabrillo Header window.

## The RS(T) to put in the log is my report to the station heard ?

No, it is the RS(T) sent in Contest by the station heard.

## Can I put in the "Station heard"/ "Call 1" column the same call two or more times ?

Yes, but only on a different mode (if the category is mixed) or on a different band.

## Can I put in the "Correspondent station"/ "Call 2" column the same call two or more times ?

Yes, but the correspondent's rule must be observed, i.e. the 'callsign of station being worked' may not appear more than three consecutive times. There must be at least one other QSO before a series of one to three callsigns is repeated.

Example of log not compliant with the "rule of correspondents":

```

QSO: 14000 CW 2002-07-27 1500 EA5BM           599 0011 ----- G3XTT
QSO: 14000 CW 2002-07-27 1501 PY1NX          599 0025 ----- G3XTT
QSO: 14000 CW 2002-07-27 1502 M6T           599 0043 EU-005 G3XTT
QSO: 14000 CW 2002-07-27 1513 9A7P          599 0013 ----- G3XTT (*)
QSO: 14000 CW 2002-07-27 1517 9M6A          599 0027 OC-088 G3XTT (*)
(*) These QSO will not count for the final score
  
```

## In the 12-hour category, operation need to be for one continuous 12-hour period ?

No, but, once operation has commenced, off periods must be a minimum of 60 minutes.

Example 1: 1200 to 1600 GMT Saturday, 1900 to 2300 GMT Saturday and 0600 to 1000 GMT Sunday.

Example 2: 1200 GMT Saturday to 0000 GMT Sunday.

## If I operated for less than 12 hours, can I declare 24-hour category instead of 12-hour ?

Yes, it is your choice. The checking software will check only the operating time of entries in 12-hour category and will mark with zero points all the QSOs heard over 12 hours of operation.

## Can I have an example on how is calculated the total score ?

The score is the total of multipliers multiplied by the total of points for each band added together.

Example:

Multipliers				No of QSO with			Total points
Band	CW	SSB	Total	3p. SWL	15p. SWL	for each Band	
80M	25	6	31	43	42	759	
40M	19	13	32	31	42	723	
20M	39	28	67	72	86	1506	
15M	20	16	36	28	46	774	
10M	12	9	21	11	24	393	
<b>Score</b>							
Total	115	72	187	185	240	4155	
						<b>776985</b>	

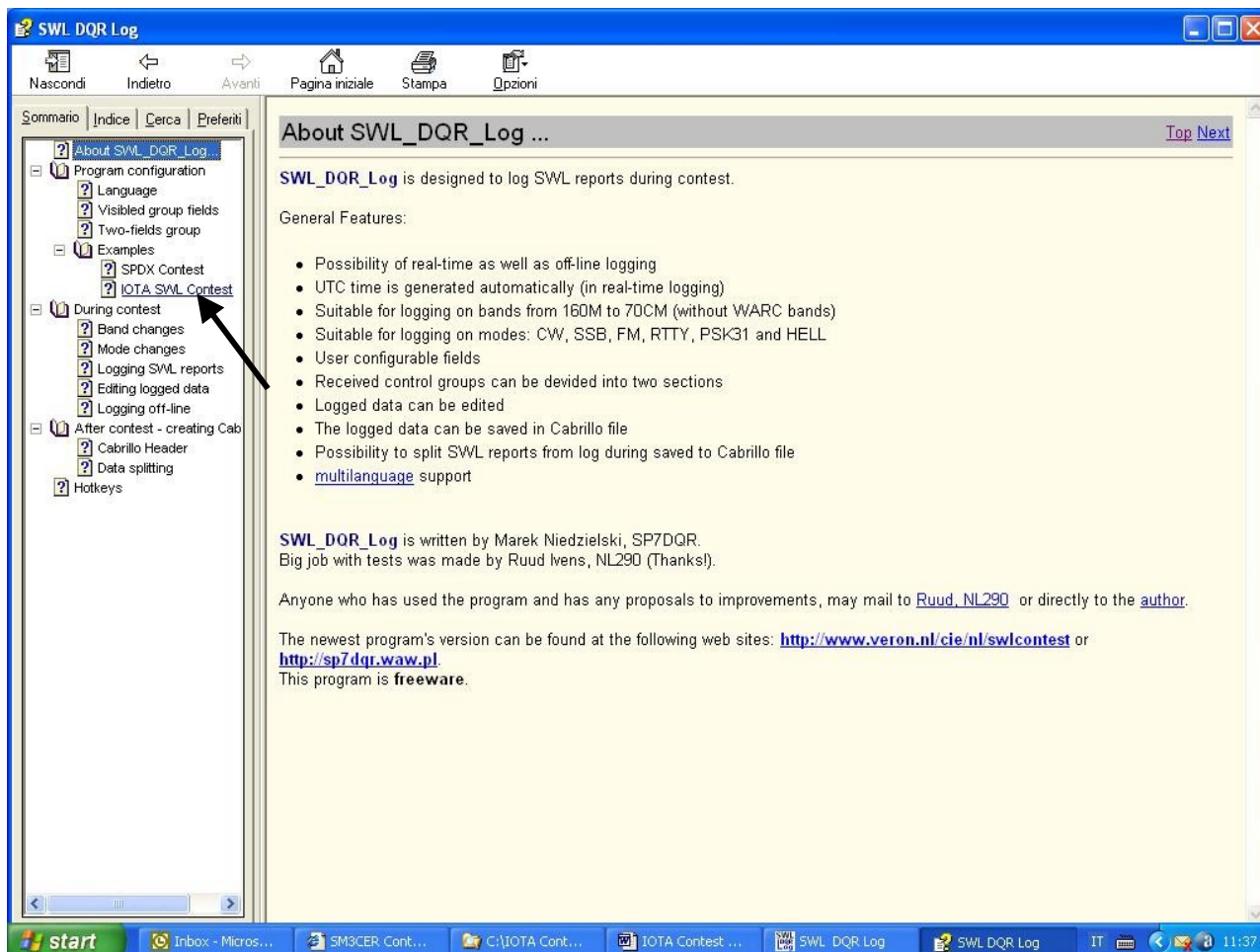
### The logs must be separated for each band ?

No. Please ensure you send a single log in chronological order. Do not send separate logs for each band.

### Why do you recommend the Cabrillo format ?

Because the cross-checking software works only on Cabrillo format and the HAM logs are also in Cabrillo format. To generate Cabrillo a splendid computer program is "SWL DQR Log", made by our friend Marek, SP7DQR. This program is freeware and is downloadable from

[http://hamradio.nikhef.nl/cie/nl/SWL\\_Consoft.html](http://hamradio.nikhef.nl/cie/nl/SWL_Consoft.html) . Before logging read carefully the help pages which include also a very useful logging example for the IOTA SWL Contest.



### Is TEXT format (not Cabrillo) acceptable?

Yes, but please use plain text log file with columns separated by spaces (not tabs).

### I have to delete the dupes from the log?

It is not necessary. Dupes can be leaved in the log. The log checking software will find the dupes. In general it will mark them with zero points, but if the first QSO logged is invalid, the second QSO could be valid for points.

### I have to write a summary sheet with a declaration ?

If you use cabrillo, it is not necessary anymore.

### Can I send the log via mail ?

Yes, but we do prefer an e-mail with the log as an attachment (NOT zipped please). Write your call in the subject and name the log with your call, e.g. 3V4-002.cbr or 3V4-002.xls. And, please, take a moment to check your log via a text editor before sending it, to avoid potential problems.

### Can I send my log pasted into the e-mail ?

Yes, but we do prefer the log as an attachment.

### How I will be sure that you received my log via e-mail?

You will receive an acknowledgement within 48 hours.

### What I have to do if my e-mail sent to [iotaswl@mdxc.org](mailto:iotaswl@mdxc.org) bounces back ?

You can try to send the log to [iw1qla@tin.it](mailto:iw1qla@tin.it)

### When the online results will be available ?

To get the final score the SWL logs will be cross-checked against the HAM logs. So, the SWL results usually will be available a bit later than the HAM results of the IOTA Contest. The Contest results will be published in the MDXC/SWL web site <http://www.mdxc.org/swl>.

### Where can I find other information on the IOTA Programme ?

Copies of the IOTA Directory with all the information on the IOTA Programme can be purchased from RSGB at [www.rsgbshop.org](http://www.rsgbshop.org). A full list of IOTA islands, the annual SWL Listings and other useful information can be found in the RSGB IOTA Web Page at [www.rsgbiota.org](http://www.rsgbiota.org) and in the G3KMA, IOTA Manager's Website at <http://www.g3kma.dsl.pipex.com>

## APPENDIX 1 - Example of Cabrillo log.

### Header section:

```

START-OF-LOG: 2.0
CONTEST: RSGB-IOTA
CALLSIGN: 3V4-002
CATEGORY: SWL SINGLE-OP MIXED
CATEGORY-TIME: 12-HOUR
IOTA-REFERENCE-NUMBER: AF-073
CLUB: MDXC/SWL
CLAIMED-SCORE: 186381
NAME: ACHRAF CHAABANE
ADDRESS: N°92 CP3032
ADDRESS: SFAX
ADDRESS: TUNISIA
ADDRESS:
OPERATORS:
SOAPBOX: EMAIL: 3V4-002@mdxc.org
SOAPBOX: GREAT CONTEST AND GREAT PROPAGATION

```

### QSO section:

```

-----station heard----- correspondent
QSO: freq mo date time call rst ex1 ex2 call
QSO: ***** ** yyyy-mm-dd nnnn ***** nnn nnnn aa-nnn *****
QSO: 14000 PH 2002-07-28 0659 HC8N 59 0901 SA-004 G3XTT
QSO: 14000 PH 2002-07-28 0659 PY1NX 59 0025 ----- HA1AG
QSO: 28000 CW 2002-07-28 0700 EA5BM 599 0011 ----- G3XTT
END-OF-LOG:
00000000011111111122222222233333333334444444445555555556666666667777
1234567890123456789012345678901234567890123456789012345678901234567890123

```

## APPENDIX 2 - Example of log in EXCEL

(Note: the file must include an header section with all the informations shown in Cabrillo header)

	Freq.	Mode	Date	GMT	Callsign	RST	Ser.No.	IOTA Ref.	Stn wkd
QSO:	14000	PH	2002-07-28	0659	HC8N	59	0901	SA-004	G3XTT
QSO:	14000	PH	2002-07-28	0659	PY1NX	59	0025		HA1AG
QSO:	28000	CW	2002-07-28	0700	EA5BM	599	0011		G3XTT