

FCC Notice of Proposed Rulemaking WT Docket 98-143

I support:

1. eliminating the Novice and Technician Plus Classes.
2. reducing General Class code requirement to 5 wpm.
3. reduce the Advanced Class code requirement to 5 wpm.
4. reduce the Extra Class code requirement to 13 wpm.
5. eliminate RACES licensing.
6. support revocation or cease-and-desist order for amateurs either continuously interfering or violating FCC rules, such as obscene language.
7. authorizing Advanced Class amateurs to administer General Class tests.

Morse code requirement: use of Morse code in amateur radio is not as prevalent or applicable as in the past. Consequently, Morse code skills for amateur licenses should be reduced. Neither commercial or military communication use Morse anymore; thus, amateurs should not have to demonstrate a high proficiency in this diminishing method of communication.

Applicants could pass code tests by either:

1. Passing a multiple-choice test.
2. 5-minute code test with 1-minute of understandable copy.

Written theory test for all classes should NOT change.

Jim Liston
Radio Amateur KC6SXH, Technician Plus