

Dear Sirs:

I have been an Amateur licensee since 1965, and an Amateur Extra Class for more than 25 years.

I agree with the concept of removing Element 1, the Morse Code requirement for the General Class license.

I believe that the current Novice/Technician and Advanced HF sub-bands should be abolished, and refarmed for additional voice, CW, and data communications. In exchange, Novices and Technicians should be granted CW priveleges in all existing HF CW sub-bands.

Technicians should retain voice access to the 28.3 to 28.5 Mhz. sub-band currently reserved for Novices and Technicians with code.

Current computer technology will make it practical for Technicians to communicate via CW on these HF bands. In this way, I believe new licensees will be voluntarily exposed to the advantages of CW, and will choose to adopt this mode. Those that want to become truly competitive will learn to read Morse by ear. Those who do not wish to learn CW will find many others of like mind on the band, using their computers. And, amateurs who are already proficient at CW will be able to communicate with these newcomers, as well. It might be a good idea to set a speed limit for these machine-generated Morse stations, in order to maintain compatibility with those who copy Morse by ear.

I also believe that the commission should impose an HF power limit of 50 watts output on Novice and Technician licensees. The current power limit was put in place as a result of concerns over the efficiency of tube-type amplifiers operating at far below their power ratings. This is not an issue with modern solid-state equipment, where power output levels are readily adjusted. This power limitation will provide substantial incentive to upgrade.

Those who do not wish to experiment with Morse Code at all should be able to simply pass the General written examination to upgrade to voice and higher power priveleges.

I have submitted more detailed comments on RM-10781 and RM-10782.

Respectfully,  
William F. Osler K0RGR