

Dear, Sir

I ask that you consider the following before a rule is made.

1. I am not opposed to manual Morse code operation. But Morse code is just another mode and should not be afforded any special priority over others. It is available to those who wish to use it. Morse proficiency should not be required for those who do not wish to use the mode.

2. Manual radiotelegraphy communications has been superceded by more modern, reliable, accurate, faster and efficient means of communication.

3. Requiring manual telegraphy proficiency is not compatible with the radio amateur's mandated objective of contributing to the advancement of the radio art.

4. No evidence exists that Morse proficiency is an indicator of a desirable, motivated or better qualified operator.

5. The Morse code requirement serves as an advancement barrier to many otherwise qualified individuals.

6. The value of Morse code communications in the Amateur Service is primarily recreational in nature and manual telegraphy proficiency should no longer be a compulsory licensing requirement for any class of Amateur Radio license.

7. The most challenging problem is our attitude towards newcomers and our focus on the HF experience as the defining characteristic of Amateur Radio. If you do not operate HF, or if you are not proficient with a telegraph, then you are not a real ham radio operator.

8. I do not have good ideas on how to change people's attitudes. I wish I did because I believe our CW attitude is the Achilles Heel of the Amateur Radio Service.

9. Changing our attitude towards change is a key part of growing Amateur radio in the future.