

Gentlemen:

I am not in favor of totally eliminating the Morse Code testing requirement for access to all Radio Amateur HF privileges.

I would be in favor of removal of Morse code testing to promote limited HF access for certain Amateur license classes, (e.g. Technician and General), however, Morse code testing should be retained for the Amateur Extra.

The Extra Class license should be a symbol of individual pride; owners of this license should be "technical radio experts" that are skilled in radio theory, and possess operating skills in both modern and historical radio procedures. Written testing is obviously important in this regard, however, I also believe that testing in radio mode proficiency is also required for any individual candidate worthy of the Extra Class. Morse Code Proficiency demonstrates this ability and serves as a foundation for one of the elements of radio excellence.

Thus, I propose a "compromise" offering where all Radio Amateurs are offered limited HF access without Morse Code testing, however, the top license class would still require a demonstration of Morse code proficiency for total access.

Sincerely,

Michael J. Kozma      WY2U