

AWARDS

BY STEVE MOLO,* KI4KWR

DX Awards from Ecuador

This month I give you a set of awards from a great group of operators, the Ecuador DX Club. These folks were introduced to me at the Orlando Hamcation and what a great group. If you have worked them and have not claimed any of these awards... why are you still waiting??

They provided the following information about the club's award program:

Since 2017, the Ecuador DX Club has been developing multiple activities related to amateur radio that have been unique in our environment, although very common in other latitudes. We are convinced that although amateur radio is an eminently technical activity, it is possible to combine it with knowledge of other cultures, as well as world history and geography. The intention of this initiative is that through amateur radio, people from all over the world can get to know Ecuador, its natural resources and tourist attractions, using prizes, certificates or diplomas for this purpose.

We have organized several activations on important commemorative dates for Ecuador, where thousands of certificates have been delivered free of charge to radio amateurs all over the world and can be downloaded automatically from our website at <<https://ecuadordxclub.org>>.

Currently, we offer four awards with delivery of diplomas in JPG format without any cost for applicants. The instructions for each of them are clearly described in English and Spanish on our website in the Diplomas (Awards) section. Many colleagues worldwide already have our diplomas in their collections and we have received in all cases the best comments.

All activation contacts are valid for DXCC and registered through LoTW and QRZ.com.

Ecuador DX Club Award

This award is available for hams and SWLs who have made contacts with stations in Ecuador with the prefix HC or HD. The award has three categories: GOLD, SILVER & BRONZE, according to the number of unique contacts realized. Is not required to send any QSLs, only the logbook data for the respective contacts, to <awards@ecuadordxclub.org>. In no more than a few days, you will receive the diploma in the corresponding digital format. The Ecuador DX Club Award (Photo A) contains the image of the Chimborazo volcano, the highest volcano in Ecuador, located in the center of the country in the Andes mountain region, with the snowy summit of 6,264 meters (20,546 feet), having the highest altitude in the world, taken from the center of the Earth.

Galapagos Islands Award

The Galapagos Islands, declared a Natural World Heritage Site by UNESCO in 1978, is one of the 24 provinces that constitute the Republic of Ecuador. They are located in the Pacific Ocean, 1,000 kilometers (620 miles) off the coast of the Ecuadorian mainland and crossed by the Equator. This volcanic archipelago of more than 100 islands and islets was the inspiration for Charles Darwin's theories and represents the biggest tourist attraction in Ecuador. It is also



Photo A. The Ecuador DX Club Award, earned by contacting a specified number of stations with an HC or HD prefix.

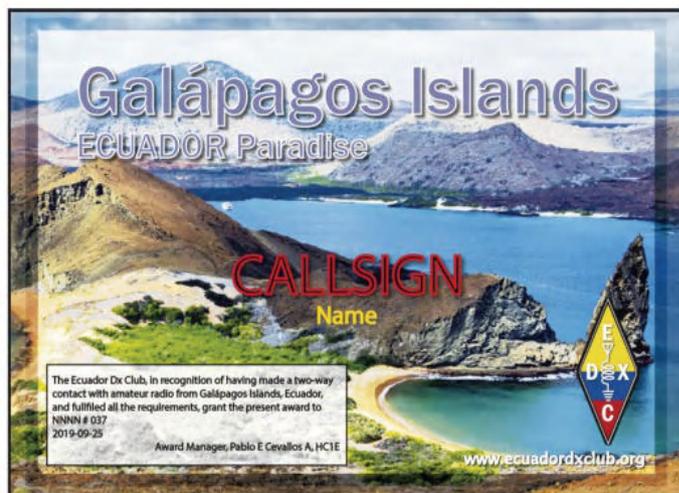


Photo B. This award for working the Galapagos Islands requires making only one contact with an HC8 or HD8 station.

one of the largest and most important ecological reserves on the planet.

To obtain this diploma (Photo B), it is only required that any radio amateur in the world or SWL, has made at least one contact with a radio amateur HC8 or HD8 in any mode or frequency, without any limitation of date. Like the other awards, you must send to the email indicated, the data of the corresponding contact.

Ecuador FT8 Award

In the era of digital amateur radio, the FT8 and FT4 modes have gained enormous importance since they have been permitting the possibility to continue making radio contacts with relative ease and in minimum infrastructure requirements, in spite of the very bad propagation conditions, especially for the Southern Hemisphere due to the beginning of the recent solar cycle.

*Email: <KI4KWR@cq-amateur-radio.com>

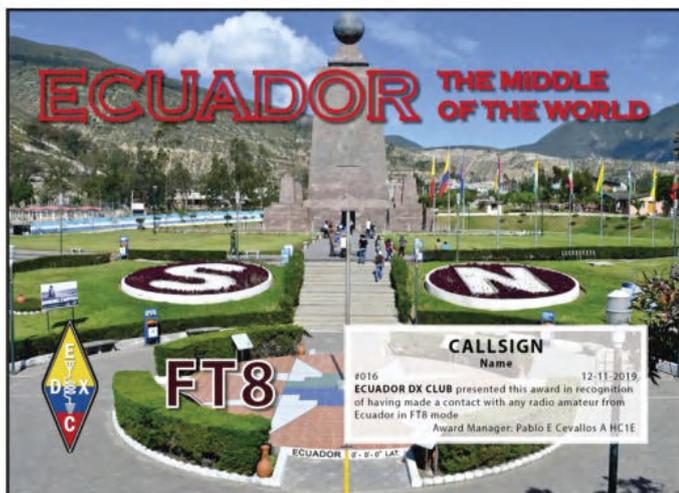


Photo C. The EDXC FT8 Award requires just one FT8 or FT4 contact with an Ecuadorian station. The certificate shows a park along the Equator in the capital city of Quito.

The image of this diploma (Photo C) shows the tourist attraction known as “Middle of the World” a few minutes from the center of the city of Quito, capital of the Republic of Ecuador, which shows the crossing of the parallel of zero latitude that marks the middle of our planet in the northern and southern hemisphere.

To obtain this diploma, like the previous one, it is only required to send by e-mail the contact log data in FT8 mode, in any authorized band and with the prefixes HC1/HD1 to HC8/HD8.

WAHC Award

Ecuador is a mega-diverse country and the image of the Worked All Ecuador (WAHC) award (Photo D) tries to present the different natural regions of the country. The Andes Mountains have divided the region and the territory into important zones with geography, climate, natural resources and people with particular characteristics in each case.

~ In the Pacific Ocean is located the Galapagos Archipelago, constituting the insular region, which is full of ecological wealth and considered one of the most important reserves of marine fauna in the world.

~ The Coastal region with its tropical climate and the main resources of fishing and agriculture for export.

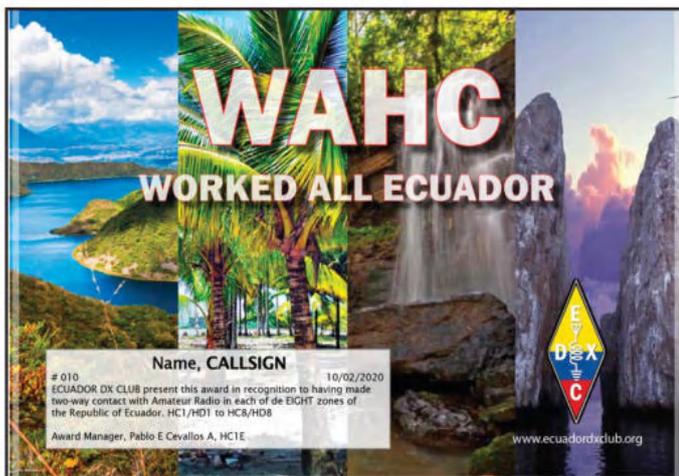


Photo D. The WAHC, or Worked All Ecuador, award is earned by contacting at least one station in each of Ecuador's eight call areas.

~ The Ecuadorian Sierra, with great agricultural wealth and great tourist potential, is home to the largest number of active volcanoes in the world.

~ And no less important is the Amazon region, an area of Amazonian jungle with a wealth of fauna and flora reserves, part of the Amazon River basin and a great exotic tourist potential, which also contains great natural resources, mineral and oil reserves that are currently the basis of the Ecuadorian economy.

This award reminds us that Ecuador is divided into eight different districts for the operation of amateur radio, some of them: numbers 1, 2 and 5 which include the largest cities of Ecuador and where the largest number of radio amateurs are located. However, stations in districts 7 and 8 are very attractive due to the few colleagues operating from those latitudes. We pose the challenge of getting at least one contact from each of the 8 districts on any date, mode, or frequency authorized, like the other awards, you must send the data of the respective log by email to receive the certificate in high quality digital JPG format.

For the members of the Ecuador DX Club, it is and has been very pleasant to contribute with an incentive to stimulate world amateur radio activity so that, during the last two years related to the world pandemic, the requests for awards have had an unusual demand which has allowed us to award hundreds of diplomas, especially for Europe and in particular for Germany. Our main objective in the short and medium term is to continue offering these types of incentives, which are appreciated by important associations around the world and reflecting that amateur radio is not just a hobby, it's our way of life.

Thank you to the members of the EDXC for their informative introduction to the club's award program. - KI4KWR

DITS and DAHS

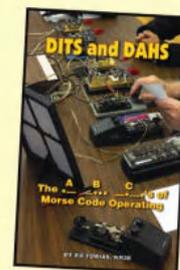
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