

# **THE INTERNATIONAL SHORT WAVE LEAGUE**

## **INTRODUCTORY NOTES**

The International Short Wave League was formed in 1946, to allow all shortwave enthusiasts, the chance to maximise and enjoy their hobby. Whether they are Licenced Operators, Constructors, or Listeners of both Amateur and Broadcast band transmissions.

Our SWL membership comprises of Amateur band, Broadcast band and Air band enthusiasts.

Unlike most other radio societies, the League offers facilities to ALL Radio Amateurs, Short Wave Listeners, and other hobbyists on an equal basis.

Since our inauguration, the League has provided the facilities enabling all Members to enjoy their hobby to the advantage of themselves and fellow enthusiasts.

The hobby has progressed over the years, resulting in many changes to the Amateur Transmitting Licence examinations. As a result, the League has an active international transmitting membership.

## **AFFILIATE MEMBERSHIP**

Following enquiries from Amateur Radio Clubs and Societies etc., about Affiliate Membership of the ISWL, the League's Council has approved such membership. Clubs and Radio organisations are very welcome to join us.

This leaflet has been prepared to outline what the ISWL has to offer, to both Individual members and Affiliated Clubs and Societies.

## **MONITOR**

This is the title of the MONTHLY League Journal issued FREE to members of the ISWL.

Affiliated Clubs/Societies/Colleges will receive a single copy of Monitor.

Sections include Amateur Bands Review; Broadcast Bands and Logs; Cliff's Corner covering news from around the world; the ISWL Contests and Awards; Club Call Corner reporting on the nets and club call activities; DX and IOTA News announcing the stations to lookout for, plus QSL Managers information and QSL Addresses for many DX stations; Rallies during the following month and Transmitting Topics; 'Members Soapbox' where members can have their say, and free of charge, 'Members Adverts', only available to members, covering Sales; Wants and Exchanges.

## **ELECTRONIC MEMBERSHIP**

Due to the rising price of Paper, Ink and Postage etc, we have introduced an "Electronic membership". Membership rates for this class of member are shown on the application form. The monthly "Monitor" magazine is sent out to your email address in PDF format. By applying for electronic membership, you are agreeing NOT to post the magazine on webpages, or to circulate it to non-members without prior permission.

## **CONTESTS**

The Contests and Awards Manager organizes Monthly Contests throughout the year for individual members.

All members receive annually a Contest Booklet outlining details of all arranged contests between 1st January to 31st December.

Certificates are awarded to the winners of each contest and trophies awarded to the members, with the highest number of points at the conclusion of the contests annual programme.

An active All Year Challenge is also a major feature of our contesting programme, with trophies being awarded in each Tx and Rx category.

To encourage our individual amateur radio station members to participate, Council decided that contests and challenges are NOT at this present time open to Affiliated Clubs / Societies, etc. Individual members of your Club / Society wishing to partake in the League Contests, would be required to pay the subscription to become a paid-up member.

## **AWARDS**

The League has several awards issued FREE to members. Non-members are able to apply for any of the awards except the 'Monitor Award' for a small charge.

As an Affiliate Member, the awards are available to the club or society named as the member. Individual members of your Club / Society wishing to apply for any award, would have to pay for the award as a non-member, or alternatively pay the subscription to become a paid up ISWL member.

### **The Awards include:-**

Century Club Award

Commonwealth Award

Continental Award

European Award

Monitor Award – only available to members

Pacific Ocean Award

States Award

Zone Award

5 Band DXCC award

Short Wave Broadcast Bands DX Award (Classes 1; 2; 3 and 4)

Most of the Awards are available for either Amateur or Broadcast Bands, but not mixed. New awards are added from time to time.

## QSL BUREAU

The ISWL operates a most efficient QSL Bureau, to handle QSL's for all of the Club's calls and ISWL Special event stations.

All Logbooks for the Club and Special callsigns are automatically uploaded to eQSL.cc.

Incoming QSL's are only answered on a "QSLR" basis. Cards can only be returned direct, if adequate return postage is enclosed.

Otherwise return cards are sent out via the Bureau.

**(Note: IRCs are no longer valid in the UK).**

The League also continues to handle the exchange of cards between current ISWL members.

Members wishing to receive cards, should submit a SAE to the Bureau. So that incoming cards can be promptly dispatched.

Members who do not wish to receive incoming QSL's, can Notify the Bureau, so that cards are not stored for them.

Our QSL Bureau has been subject to changes recently. Partly due to the ever increasing Postal costs and also, because many national Bureaus globally, have changed their terms of acceptance of incoming cards. Many Bureaus are now only accepting cards for Hams and SWL's, who are members of their national society.

The ISWL Bureau has also ceased to accept "outgoing" cards, destined for non members around the world. This was a very regrettable decision, but postal costs have increased so much, that we were unable to maintain a viable world-wide service.

## ISWL NETS

Regular weekly nets take place.

For the current Net times and frequencies, visit:

<https://www.iswl.org.uk/nettimes.htm>

Additional nets may be added from time to time. The Web page always has the "Current" information, so please see <http://www.iswl.org.uk>

[All Net times are UK clock time, and frequencies ± QRM](#)

**[Non ISWL Members are always very welcome to join us on our nets](#)**

The ISWL club calls GX4BJC/A, GX4BJC/P, MX1SWL/A and MX1SWL/P, or UK regional variations can be heard on many of the nets.

Members with a Full UK Callsign can be allocated the club calls on a rota basis for a period of one month. Additionally, Callsigns may occasionally be used on the nets without the "X" or regional club variations.

Everyone is assured of a warm welcome on any net, whether a member or not.

## ISWL ADDRESSES

[www.iswl.org.uk](http://www.iswl.org.uk)

### ISWL Headquarters ( Hon Secretary )

Peter G. Whiffing G-13102 / M0PGW  
38 Green Close, Stannington, Morpeth,  
Northumberland, NE61 6PE England

### Membership Secretary ( & New Memberships )

Ron Satterthwaite G-16345 / G6BMY  
47 Aberford Road, Baguley,  
Manchester, M23 1JY England

### ISWL Hon Treasurer & QSL Bureau Manager

Richard King G-14167 / M5DIK  
10 Bucks Avenue  
Oxhey, Watford  
Herts., WD19 4AS England

### Contests and Awards Manager

Richard King G-14167 / M5DIK  
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### JOIN US NOW !!

Download and Complete an Application Form  
and send together with your remittance to:

[The Membership Secretary](#)

Subscription rates are shown on the Application Form

### INTERNET

When joining, please supply your e-mail address.  
**This is essential if your Monitor magazine is to  
be delivered in PDF format.**

( Updated 17<sup>th</sup> September 2022 )