

How to claim "no-QSL" IOTA credit from the IOTA SWL Contest

The SWLs participants in the IOTA SWL Contest can claim "no-QSL" credit based on Contest QSO/HRDs for all the IOTA awards.

The procedure is basically easy and the following steps must be made:

- make a list of Contest HRD/QSOs claimed credits
- check the callsigns in the published (Ham) Contest results and **add the ISLAND NAME**
- send the list to the IOTA SWL Contest Manager
- wait for an e-mail confirmation
- apply online at the IOTA website

Anyway a bit of attention must be paid. In particular to the following requirements:

- Only the callsigns listed in the published Contest results can be claimed for credit.
- Only the QSO/HRDs judged OK from the Contest check software are allowed.
- A maximum of **50 Contest credits** can be claimed but see below.
- Credits can be claimed for the IOTA Contests of the following years: **2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010 and 2011.**
- The application can be submitted **online only**.
- **No combined paper QSL and contest QSO applications are allowed.** This means two applications if the target is the IOTA 100 (and the Annual IOTA Listings). In this case also at least 50 other paper QSLs must have been previously submitted.

Note that

- a claim for credit in future IOTA contests should be submitted only after an announcement on the RSGB IOTA website that credits for that contest are available. This will normally be some 8 months after the contest has taken place and two months after the results are published.
- this procedure, if made with two applications in quick succession, will be charged at the same cost as a single online application (actually GBP 10 for a first application and GBP 5 for an update).
- errors in the entering of details online, particularly with the island name, will result in the credit being denied by IOTA Centre.
- this arrangement is subject to an initial 6 month trial period and may be changed at any time before or after. It involves a process of manual checking which takes far more time than the automated arrangement for licensed amateurs. Because of this it should NOT be regarded as an easy way of getting into IOTA. Seeking paper QSLs should continue to be the normal practice: this arrangement should perhaps be kept for QSOs that are difficult to get confirmed in a reasonable timeframe.
- Any queries on how to proceed should be raised with the IOTA SWL Contest Manager and not with Checkpoints since they will not be very familiar with this procedure as agreed here.

STEP ONE

Make a list of Contest HRD/QSOs claimed for credit.

The list can be in text format, by using the original Cabrillo log format or (better) in Excel format. The Excel file should be as follows.

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	L
QSO:	21000	CW	26/07/2009	0816	SE2T	599	57	-----	DL6DH
QSO:	21000	CW	26/07/2009	0818	OH0X	599	1670	EU-002	RU4M
QSO:	21000	CW	26/07/2009	0820	OY1CT	599	1215	EU-018	PA0MBB
QSO:	21000	CW	26/07/2009	0827	G3BJ	599	1908	EU-005	OK1HX
QSO:	21000	CW	26/07/2009	0829	GM4SID	599	681	EU-005	RW1AI
QSO:	28000	CW	26/07/2009	0837	IS0/OM8A	599	2895	EU-024	G0IBM
QSO:	28000	CW	26/07/2009	0840	GM3POI	599	1706	EU-009	DF6FG
QSO:	28000	CW	26/07/2009	0842	IS0B	599	2004	EU-024	G3LHF
QSO:	21000	CW	26/07/2009	0844	OH0Z	599	2347	EU-002	DL3QJ/P
QSO:	21000	CW	26/07/2009	0849	M0CNP	599	148	EU-005	SX8M
QSO:	21000	CW	26/07/2009	0854	AM1S	599	2317	EU-080	OK1AVV
QSO:	21000	CW	26/07/2009	0859	F5PAL	599	365	-----	OM3REU

Sort by column "I" (IOTA Ref.), delete the rows without IOTA and the rows with the IOTA already confirmed by QSL and not claimed for Contest credit.

By example, If you don't want to claim EU-005, the file sorted becomes.

QSO:	21000	CW	26/07/2009	0818	OH0X	599	1670	EU-002	RU4M
QSO:	21000	CW	26/07/2009	0844	OH0Z	599	2347	EU-002	DL3QJ/P
QSO:	28000	CW	26/07/2009	0840	GM3POI	599	1706	EU-009	DF6FG
QSO:	21000	CW	26/07/2009	0820	OY1CT	599	1215	EU-018	PA0MBB
QSO:	28000	CW	26/07/2009	0837	IS0/OM8A	599	2895	EU-024	G0IBM
QSO:	28000	CW	26/07/2009	0842	IS0B	599	2004	EU-024	G3LHF
QSO:	21000	CW	26/07/2009	0854	AM1S	599	2317	EU-080	OK1AVV

Note that only the HRD/QSOs judged OK by the cross-checking software will be credited. If you have more than one QSO from the same island to be claimed, to be sure, leave in the file all the QSOs from the same IOTA (e.g. EU-002 and EU-024 in the above example)

STEP TWO

Check the callsigns claimed for credit and add the ISLAND NAME.

The island name can be found in the IOTA Contest results published at <http://www.rsgbcc.org/hf/iota.shtml>

If you don't find the island name, that IOTA cannot be claimed for credit and you have to delete it from your list.

Insert the corresponding island name in a new column of your log.

The Excel file becomes:

QSO:	21000	CW	26/07/2009	818	OH0X	599	1670	EU-002	RF4M	Brando
QSO:	21000	CW	26/07/2009	844	OH0Z	599	2347	EU-002	DL3QQ/P	Maarianhamina Mariehamn
QSO:	28000	CW	26/07/2009	840	GM3POI	599	1706	EU-009	DF6FR	Mainland
QSO:	21000	CW	26/07/2009	820	OY1CT	599	1215	EU-018	PA0MBD	Strey moy
QSO:	28000	CW	26/07/2009	837	IS0/OM8A	599	2895	EU-024	G0IBN	Sardinia
QSO:	28000	CW	26/07/2009	842	IS0B	599	2004	EU-024	G3LHJ	Sardinia
QSO:	21000	CW	26/07/2009	854	AM1S	599	2317	EU-080	OK1AVY	Ons

Go back to step one for other Contest years if claimed for credit and make another list (one list per year, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010 and 2011).

STEP THREE

Send your lists with island names to the IOTA SWL Contest Manager iw1qla@tin.it.

STEP FOUR

Wait for an e-mail confirmation.

The e-mail will confirm the IOTAs you can claim for credit.

STEP FIVE

Register, if not yet registered, your SWL callsign at <http://www.rsgbiota.org/>

In case of first application, read before the help files. Note that these aids are available in different languages.

STEP SIX

Delete, if already claimed in your online application, all the QSOs to be confirmed by paper QSL pending

No combined paper QSL and contest QSO applications are allowed.

STEP SEVEN

*Submit your online application with the **Contest QSO/HRDs** only.*

Use the same link as above “View or add QSOs to your current update” (not the link “Claim QSOs from an IOTA Contest Log”, which is not yet available to SWLs).

Add your Contest QSO/HRDs one at a time.

The island name must be the same as the island name in the list sent to the IOTA SWL Contest Manager. Any guessing of island names would involve immediate rejection of credit.

Send a note to your IOTA checkpoint explaining that your application is based on Contest QSO/HRDs.