

The 2026 NJARC BCB DX Contest – 16-25 Jan 2026

In the 1920's and 1930's some radio listeners would compete with each other for the reception of the most distant stations using the same receivers that that we now restore and cherish. We can recapture some of the excitement that the early DX'ers experienced in our own contest.

Official Contest Rules

THE OBJECT: To use vintage radios receivers to receive broadcast-band signals from the greatest possible distance. Performance will be judged by the total mileage for your ten best loggings during a 24-hour session. You will be competing against competitors using similar receivers.

ELIGIBILITY: The contest is open only to members, in good standing, of the New Jersey Antique Radio Club.

CONTEST PERIOD: The contest period will be from 12:00 Noon, local time at the receiving location, Friday, January 16, 2025 through 12:00 Noon, Sunday, January 25, 2026.

SESSIONS: Contestants may submit logs for any two 24-consecutive-hour sessions (noon to noon) during the contest period. You may use only one receiver during a session. That means you may not "bird dog" the simple radio with a more complex radio. You may submit logs for two different receivers. They need not be in the same category.

FREQUENCIES: The Broadcast Band, as defined for the contest, will be from 530 to 1600 kilocycles. No stations on the new extended band, 1610 to 1710 kilocycles, will be counted since many early radios did not cover those frequencies.

RECEIVER CATEGORIES:

CATEGORY	NAME	DEFINITION
A	Crystal Radios	Passive Receivers (No amplification)
B	Primitive	Tube or transistor receivers (factory or homebrew) 1 or 2 tubes or transistors, plus power supply.
C	1920's Battery Sets	(factory or homebrew) Batteries or modern power supply are OK.
D	Tuned-Radio-Frequency	"TRF" (non-superheterodyne) radios introduced before 1940
E	Other Tube Radios	Sold for home entertainment.
F	Tube-Type Comm RX	Amateur, commercial, or military communications receivers
G	Ultralight	"Shirt-pocket" radios, maximum volume 20 cubic inches, original retail not more than \$100.
H	AA4/5/6	4, 5, or 6-tube AC/DC radios, using heater-type tubes, sold for home entertainment
J	Classic Transistor Radios	Solid State (IC's ok) home entertainment, analog readout only.
K	Open	Any radio of your choosing.

SPECIAL AWARDS will be given for the best performances by first-time contestants.

ANTENNAS: Anything you like.

LOGS: Submit a log for each of your contest sessions (maximum of two). Each log header should include contestant's name, address, e-mail address, if applicable, phone number, category, and description of receiver and antenna. Please include your listening address if it is different from your mailing address.

Make a log entry for each station you claim to have heard. Stations must be positively identified. (This is being done on the honor system and is a somewhat variable concept. If you hear Boston weather on what you know is 1030KC, then go ahead and log WBZ. However, just because you heard a signal on 1160KHz doesn't mean you heard KSL in Salt Lake City.) The contest committee reserves the right to disallow what it feels are outrageous claims. Each entry should include time, frequency, call letters, location, and optional comments. Although we're only judging your ten most distant loggings, submit as complete a log as possible. The committee may make special awards for most stations, most interesting log, etc. as it sees fit.

A log sheet has been provided for convenience. You may reproduce it or generate a similar one of your own.

Logs must be postmarked not later than midnight Monday, February 2, 2026.

Submit logs to: ark@ar88.net (Email highly recommended) or Al Klase, 110 Gifford Ave., Jersey City, NJ 07304

Questions: Al Klase - 908-892-5465 - ark@ar88.net,

SCORING: Distances to stations will be calculated by the committee and will be based on great-circle distances from Freehold, New Jersey for listening posts within a 100-mile radius of Freehold. We will calculate mileage for other entries based on actual listening location. In all cases, please indicate your ten best loggings to make our job easier. All scoring will be in Statute miles, 5280 ft.

Special Rule #1: A contestant may claim only one of the Cuban time stations, Radio Reloj, regardless of how many are actually heard. All will be scored as 1279 miles (Havana).