Caribbean Cruise CW Contest - Introduction and Basic Rules

1	The contest is open to all licensed amateur radio operators. It is an exercise in accuracy, traffic handling, log filling and dedication to a task over an extended period. Lives may depend on being able to call upon operators with exactly these abilities.
2	CCCWC consists of 14 passages (legs), each passage being a mini-contest, each with its own winner. Aggregation of points will reveal the contest's grand winner. Individual Class winners will also receive certificates, making 18 certificates up for grabs.
3	Classes of Operation: 1. Listener Class (default); 2. Radio Operator (RO) Class; 3. Coast Station (CS) Class (two levels). All three classes of operator need to fill in log sheets for checking and to be collated to allow the organizer to determine final scores.
4	All entrants are in default Listener Class, except when on duty as an RO, or have accepted responsibility as a temporary Coast Station.
5	For each of the 14 mini-contests, RO and CS classes are counted as Listener class and not diifferentiated, otherwise the only winners of these Legs would be RO stations.
6	Points are earned in proportion to the work put in and the accuracy of data entered in the log sheets. See the CCC Points Table.
7	For each SitRep sent or received, a station may claim points for only one class of operation.
8	To qualify for full points, the preamble and each item of data must be correctly entered into the participant's log sheet. One point will be deducted for each error by the examiner. Audio recordings may be used by all parties to eliminate doubt.
9	When each passage has been completed, the winner and entrants' scores will be announced by QNC and on the website.
10	On completion of all 14 passages, each participant's points in the three classes will be aggregated to find the overall winner.
11	Only one Radio Operator (RO) will be onboard the vessel for each passage. He is encouraged to use his imagination around logistics, use of instrumentation and crew personalities to paint an ever-changing picture of life on board.
12	The RO's duty is to send a daily SitRep in the form of a standardized QNC to NZ Net. If indisposed the RO will arrange for a Coast Station to take his place, each able to claim points according to the work each is required to put in.
13	Status reports in Radiogram format (QNC) from ROs will be transmitted on the NZ CW Net at 2100 NZT week nights (3.535 MHz)
14	ROs are encouraged to use imagination for creating interesting scenarios. The vessel shall not be totally lost under any circumstances. Although the vessel may be held hostage by pirates, radio comms lost for up to 72 hours, or otherwise is notionally missing, the RO will contact a coast station by (say) the onboard satellite phone, to ensure one SitRep is sent on every day of each passage.
15	To compile a SitRep, the RO will collate data on the vessel's current course true, DMG, current position, weather, sea conditions and (optionally) onboard events. Once per passage, or more in case of emergency, the number of persons on board will be reported.
16	The entire contest is estimated to run for no fewer than 15 weeks, and due to many variables has no specified end date.
17	The duration of each passage will depend on REAL weather and sea conditions, plus the unpredictability of each RO's imagination. Instructions for the simplest way to find weather and sea information can be found in the 'WX and SEA Reporting' document.
18	An application form is provided for prospective ROs to fill in and email to the contest organizer.
19	The important role of 'Coast Station' may be flled by any operator willing to compose and/or relay a QNC in Radiogram format on behalf of an indisposed RO. Volunteers earn special points for CS operations and may register on the RO Application Form.
20	Multiple passages for ROs will be allocated only after all single-passage applications have been filled, or if there are cancellations.
21	Each entrant accepts responsibility for ensuring his log sheet is in the hands of the CCC organizer within 14 days of the completion of each passage. No reminders will be issued.
22	No correspondence will be entered into unless errors, unfair practices or questionable behavior can be demonstrated. Every instance brought to the attention of the CCC organizer will be dealt with according to the circumstances. Consistent with lateral thinking, suggestions for improvements and innovative traffic handling opportunities for the future are welcome.
23	! No distress or navigational hazard calls such as SOS, PAN PAN PAN or SECURITE are to be transmitted !