



## BOS! Belgium Outdoor Shack

### ACTIVATOR GUIDE



# BOS! I.W.I. - Activator Guide

Inland Water Islands • How to make a valid I.W.I. activation

MINIMUM QSOS

**25 valid QSOs**

LOG DEADLINE

**within 14 days**

LOG MANAGER

**ON5MA •  
on5ma@uba.be**

Choose an I.W.I. reference → Check BOS! Maps → Access the island → Keep your complete station inside the reference → Make 25 valid QSOs → Record GPS & photo → Send your log to ON5MA.

**I.W.I. - Inland Water Islands.** All I.W.I. references are available on the BOS! Maps.

## 1 Choose a Valid I.W.I. Reference

Only official I.W.I. references are valid. Before your activation, select the reference on the BOS! Maps, check the exact reference area and verify that you can legally access the island.

 Do not activate an unofficial or self-created reference.

## 2 Your Complete Station Must Be Inside the Reference

This is one of the most important I.W.I. requirements. Your complete station must be located within the boundaries of the relevant I.W.I. reference area, including the transceiver, antenna(s), power supply, cables and other station equipment. It is not sufficient for only part of the station to be inside the boundary.

## 3 Mobile Operation Is Allowed

Operation from a motor vehicle is permitted for I.W.I. The complete station must nevertheless comply with the requirement that it is located within the boundaries of the relevant I.W.I. reference area.

## 4 Prepare Your Station

Transceiver, antenna, power source, coaxial cable, logging device, smartphone/GPS and camera. There is no restriction on the type of power source used during an I.W.I. activation — green power is preferred.

## 5 Start Your I.W.I. Activation

Once you are inside the valid reference area and your station is ready, call CQ and clearly identify the I.W.I. reference. Mention the reference regularly so hunters know which island you are activating.

## 6 Make at Least 25 Valid QSOs

To qualify as an I.W.I. Activator, you must make a minimum of **25 valid QSOs**. A valid contact includes an exchange of the activator and hunter callsigns, a signal report and, wherever possible, the I.W.I. reference number. Accurate signal reports are encouraged rather than automatically giving 59.

## 7 Invalid Contacts

Contacts via repeaters, IRLP or EchoLink do not count. Contacts via remote stations are not allowed. Callsigns and signal reports may not be relayed by other stations. Satellite communication, including QO-100, is accepted.

## 8 Frequencies and Modes

I.W.I. operation may use the amateur frequencies permitted by your licence: HF 1.8, 3.5, 5, 7, 10, 14, 18, 21, 24 and 28 MHz; VHF 50, 70 and 144 MHz; UHF 430 and 1215 MHz; SHF 2300, 3400, 5650, 10000 and 24000 MHz. Always stay within the frequencies and power limits of your licence.

## 9 Take GPS and Photographic Evidence

For an I.W.I. activation, provide GPS evidence and a photograph of the island. Make sure the evidence clearly supports the claimed activation.

## 10 Log Your Activation

Keep an accurate log of all QSOs: date, UTC time, callsign, frequency/band, mode, signal report and I.W.I. reference. Use an electronic logging programme capable of exporting ADIF.

## 11 Log File Naming

Electronic logs are to be named according to the I.W.I. format: `Callsign@referenceDDMMYYYY`.

## 12 Submit Your Log Within 14 Days

After the activation, send your ADIF log to the I.W.I. Award Manager: **ON5MA** — [on5ma@uba.be](mailto:on5ma@uba.be). The log must be submitted within 14 days, so the stations worked can be included in the I.W.I. records and Logsearch.

## 13 QSL Cards Are Not Required

There is no requirement to exchange QSL cards for I.W.I. Valid QSOs between activators and hunters are displayed in Logsearch.

## 14 No Time Limit

There is no specified minimum or maximum operating time for an I.W.I. activation. Other national or associated programmes may apply additional requirements before accepting the same activity.

## 15 Keep Your Overs Short

A valid exchange of callsign, signal report and, whenever possible, the I.W.I. reference is all that is required. Keep overs short and efficient, especially when the activator is working towards the 25-QSO requirement in outdoor conditions.

## 16 Respect the Environment

Respect the island and its environment, follow access restrictions and local regulations, leave no rubbish behind, and operate safely. You are representing the amateur radio community during your activation.



### The 7 Golden I.W.I. Rules

- 1 OFFICIAL REFERENCE – Use only a valid I.W.I. reference. All I.W.I. references are available on the BOS! Maps.
- 2 STAY WITHIN THE BOUNDARIES – Your complete station, including antenna and power supply, must be inside the reference area.
- 3 25 VALID QSOs – Make at least 25 valid QSOs for activator credit.
- 4 VALID EXCHANGE – Exchange callsigns and signal reports and, where possible, the I.W.I. reference.
- 5 NO REPEATERS – Repeater, IRLP, EchoLink and remote-station contacts do not count.
- 6 DOCUMENT YOUR ACTIVATION – Provide GPS evidence and a photograph of the island.
- 7 SUBMIT YOUR LOG – Send the ADIF log to ON5MA at [on5ma@uba.be](mailto:on5ma@uba.be) within 14 days.

Choose an I.W.I. reference → Check BOS! Maps → Access the island → Keep your complete station inside the reference → Make 25 valid QSOs → Record GPS & photo → Export ADIF → Send your log to ON5MA.

Log submission: ON5MA · [on5ma@uba.be](mailto:on5ma@uba.be) — Deadline: within 14 days of the activation.

## Quick Activation Checklist

### Before Departure

- ☐ Valid I.W.I. reference selected
- ☐ Reference checked on BOS! Maps
- ☐ Access checked
- ☐ GPS available
- ☐ Radio and antenna ready
- ☐ Logging software ready
- ☐ Camera/smartphone ready

### On the Island

- ☐ Inside correct reference area
- ☐ Entire station inside boundaries
- ☐ GPS position recorded
- ☐ Island photograph taken
- ☐ Correct I.W.I. reference in log