

Baden Castle Award (Badisches Burgendiplom)

The German Amateur Radio Club (DARC), section Kraichgau (DOK A22) issues the "Badisches Burgendiplom" which can be applied by radio amateurs and SWLs.

1 Award rules

1.1 General rules

The award can be worked by "castle hunters" (i.e. radio amateurs at any location who try to establish connections to amateur radio stations operated from castles) as well as by "castle activators" (i.e. radio amateurs who visit a castle or palace for radio operation).

All QSOs after 1st January 2008 by/with stations fulfilling the conditions listed in 1.3 are valid.

Every castle or palace has a "Baden Castle Number" (BBN). This number and/or the WCA* reference has to be mentioned by the activator during the QSO and must be indicated on the QSL card (if handwritten or printed does not matter).

An up-to-date list with all valid castles and palaces and their BBN numbers can be downloaded from the [Web site of the DARC section Kraichgau](#).

Every single BBN can be worked by castle hunters and activated by activators multiple times but counts only once.

There are no limitations on amateur radio bands. All modes, except Packet Radio and Echolink, are allowed, as well as QSOs over repeaters.

The award is issued in three different classes (Bronze, Silver, Gold) and has a A4 form factor. Every class has its own subject (Steinsberg Castle, Ortenberg Palace, Heidelberg Palace).

For applying the award the following evidences are necessary:

different BBN numbers:

Class	DL stations	European stations	DX stations
Bronze	8	4	3
Silver	15	8	6
Gold	30	15	12

1.2 Castle hunters

Every QSO with an activator station fulfilling the conditions in 1.3 counts 1 point.

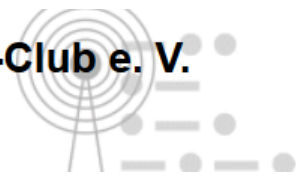
For the verification of the QSOs a listing of received QSL cards (GCR list) has to be submitted to the award manager (see 2).

1.3 Castle activators

Conditions for accepted activations:

- Located within a radius of 500 meters around the castle or palace during the activation.
- Activator points can only be achieved as portable stations.
- The BBN and/or WCA* number must be mentioned during each QSO.
- Activators must send QSL cards with the BBN and/or WCA* number for each QSO (otherwise the hunters would not have the chance to get the necessary confirmations).
- Operation from base stations within the allowed radius does not count for activator points but is accepted for hunter points as long as the other conditions are fulfilled.

*) WCA = World Castles Award (see www.wcagroup.org)



Every portable operation of different BBN numbers with a minimum of 10 QSOs counts 1 point.

Activations of Baden castles/palaces by foreign radio amateurs with CEPT or guest license are accepted as well. Depending on their home country (Europe/DX) the same minimal points as for hunters are required (see 1.1).

For the verification of the QSOs a log excerpt with the minimal data

BBN number, date, time, call of QSO partner, report given/received, band, mode

and at least one photograph showing the castle/palace and the activator station has to be submitted to the award manager. If it is not possible to show the castle/palace and the activator station in one picture at least two photographs taken at the same activation have to be submitted.

The log excerpts can be submitted as ADIF or XLS files (XLS template on the [A22 Website](#)) for each activation or as a collection for a specific award class.

Preferably this should be done in digital form by e-mail.

Please indicate if the persons shown on the photographs agree to publish them by DARC section Kraichgau (A22) for public relations purposes or not.

2 Award application

Hunter and activator points count equally and can be mixed in an award application.

The award application including the GCR list (hunters) and/or log excerpts and photographs (activators) has to be submitted together with the fee of EUR 7.00 (DL stations), EUR 10.00 or USD 13.00 (EU/DX stations) to the award manager:

Thorsten Gnida-Cink (DL3BC)
Gerhart-Hauptmann-Str. 9
76275 Ettlingen
Germany
[thorsten\(at\)dl3bc.de](mailto:thorsten(at)dl3bc.de)

If you would like to apply for the next higher award class only the additional QSL cards need to be listed in the GCR list or only the log excerpts and photographs of the new activations need to be submitted. The award fee has to be paid for every application.

You can also transfer the award fee to the bank account of the DARC section Kraichgau:

DARC e.V., OV Kraichgau (A22)
Postbank, Konto Nr. 989760608, BLZ 500 100 60
IBAN: DE93 5001 0060 0989 7606 08, BIC: PBNKDEFF

If the bank account is used the award name, your call and name have to be indicated in the remarks field.