

## EuCW Snakes and Ladders Summary

Four (4) active grid squares with lowest activity recorded (the treasure squares!) are selected from the data set of the operating period concerned. These grid squares are nominated as ladders or ladder squares. If more than four squares with recorded activity tie for lowest activity, they all become ladder squares for that period.

Similarly, three (3) squares with most recorded activity (the easy squares!) are designated snakes or snake squares. If more than three (3) squares tie in any combination, then they are all combined to create three groups of snake squares.

Square locators can only become snake once every three months, i.e. once a square is snake, it cannot become snake in the succeeding two periods of activity. The next squares qualifying for snake will then be considered.

Active square locators that are neither ladder square nor snake square, are referred to as normal locator squares, or just normal squares.

Anyone claiming a contact in a ladder square will climb the ladder by being awarded twenty-five (25) points for a first ladder square, and five (5) additional points for the second and third, wherein the three squares need to be different. Only up to three (3) unique ladder squares will count per period of activity.

Those landing on a snake by claiming a contact in that square will slide down the snake: the highest level by fifteen (15) points, the next by ten (10) points, the lowest by five (5) points, wherein the highest level relates to the square with highest activity. Per period of activity, only one (the highest ranking) snake can bite, and only if directly before a ladder was climbed. It can also not bite if in the current period a ladder is climbed.

For the first fifteen (15) normal squares, five (5) points are given for each three (3) unique squares.

The number of contacts made in any square is irrelevant.

The 1° by 2° squares are represented by a four-character reference, two alpha-characters and two numerics (e.g. JN58 for Munich area). Please visit one of the many sources for Maidenhead Locator information for specific information or other sources to identify European sovereign states.

Recommended areas of activity are the upper 10 kHz of the dedicated CW portion of all bands from 160m to 2m, 60m and 4m excluded. These 10kHz regions have been chosen, because they lie outside of the recommended areas for contests. But obviously the whole CW-band may be used for making contacts, the recommended areas are not binding.

Entries must be received by the Activity Manager by email ([SL\(at\)eucw.org](mailto:SL(at)eucw.org)) **before** the eighth day of the month that follows the period of operation being recorded. Late entries must and will be excluded, see also the table above.

Entries may be submitted for each operating period. There are twelve (12) operating periods of a calendar month each, beginning on the first day of the calendar month and ending on the last day of that month. All times shall be in Universal Time Coordinated or ZULU time.