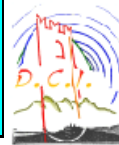


D.C.I. (Diploma dei Castelli d'Italia) - (Diploma Castles of Italy) **D.C.P.C. (Diploma Castelli Provincia Cuneo) - (Diploma Castles Province of Cuneo)** **Rule**



Updated 14 September 2026.

- 1) The **Diploma Castles of Italy (D.C.I.)** is issued by **Section A.R.I. of Mondovì** (Cuneo) for O.M. and S.W.L. in order to raise awareness of the Castles built in the different points of the Italian geography and to valorise their historical and architectural heritage.
- 2) For obtain the Award, which will be issued in only one category, the applicant must demonstrate that he has contacted the following number of Castles:
 - Italian stations: **30 Castles of Italy located in at least 5 different Regions** for the HF bands.
 - Italian stations: **10 Castles of Italy located in at least 2 different Regions** for the VHF bands (50MHz and above).
 - Foreign stations: **20 Castles of Italy located in at least 5 different Regions**.In any case it will be mandatory to contact **at least ONE castle of the Province of Cuneo** for the HF band.
- 3) Contacts can be made on all amateur radio bands, from 2 to 160 meters, and in the SSB, CW and digital modes.
- 4) Contacts with stations operating from the Castles starting from **1 January 2001** are valid.
- 5) The **D.C.I.** Award is issued to each O.M. or S.W.L. which he will present to the **Award Manager (Betty Sciolla, IK1QFM)** or to the **Technical Award Manager (Massimo Balsamo, IK1GPG)** of the A.R.I. of Mondovì C/o Segreteria, Via Torino 89, I-12084 Mondovì (Cuneo) Italy, the following:
 - 5.1) Compiled **"Online" request form** from the home page of the site <https://www.dcia.it>
 - 5.2) **QSLs** are not necessary because all QSOs are registered in the portal <https://www.diplomaradio.it>
 - 5.3) **The Cost of the Award is 13 Euro** for shipments in Europe and **15 Euro** for shipments outside Europe). It is possible to use PayPal.
- 6) Owners of D.C.I. Award may use the **DCI logo** on their QSLs, correspondence and Web Sites.
- 7) The **Diploma Castles Province of Cuneo (D.C.P.C.)** is issued free of charge in **PDF** format for who have at least **10 different Castles** contacted of this Province and who have already the the Diploma of the Castles of Italy D.C.I.
- 8) The **D.C.I.** award consist of a customized coloured parchment measuring 297x420mm.
- 9) The **D.C.P.C.** award consist of a customized coloured parchment measuring 297x420mm
- 10) The **endorsements** consist in an adhesive colour sticker of the 20 Italian Regions to be applied on the DCI Award and will be issued to those who have worked at least **3 Castles for each Region**. The cost is **4 Euro** for shipments to Europe and **5 Euro** for shipments outside Europe).
- 11) The **list of Castles** is available on the website: <https://www.dcia.it>
- 12) The O.M. that has activated at least **3 Castles** is entitled to the **D.C.I. Operator Award** with the rules point 5.3.
- 13) Those who provide information concerning Castles not listed in the directory will be mentioned on the website <https://www.dcia.it> in the area dedicated to "Contributors".
- 14) The participants will be able to consult and download their QSOs, update in real time, using the portal <https://www.diplomaradio.it>

Section Activators

- 15) An activation, for the Award, will considered valid only if will be respected following rules:
 - 15.1) The radio station (including antenna and power supply) must be located at a maximum distance from the DCI reference of **1.000 meters**. The **"activation radius"** can be consulted on the website <https://www.diplomaradio.it>
15.1a) In the event that the safety conditions or the proven impossibility to respect the "activation radius" exist, a derogation will be granted for a reasonable distance.
 - 15.2) For activations of references that have never been activated or already validated, at least **50 QSOs** on HF or **15 QSOs** on VHF must be made and more than 30 minutes.
 - 15.3) An **exemption will be granted**, with clear justification, if a quorum is not reached and the activity more than 1 hour.
 - 15.4) Multi-operator activations must comply with the following rules:
 - 15.4a)** For activations with the use of a **Radio Club or Special Call**, the reference will be credited, both to the owner and to all the operators who participated in it (including special or Radio Club calls), upon reaching **50 QSOs** in at least two bands.
 - 15.4b)** For activations with the use of **personal Callsign (on the same day)** once the **1st OM** has complied with the point 15.2 or 15.3, from the **2nd OM** onwards, to obtain accreditation, at least **20 more QSOs** must be made with your own Callsign, without time limit.
 - 15.5) **Activations declared QRP** are permitted only under the conditions of reaching a QSO quorum.
 - 15.6) It is not possible to activate **more than 1 reference at the same time**. The duration of each activation **must exceed 30 minutes** and, in addition to the **40 Meter band**, the **20 Meter band** must be used.
 - 15.7) The documentation must be sent **within 7 days** of activation through the portal <https://www.diplomaradio.it>
 - a) **The Log** exclusively in the **ADIF** format (according to the instructions indicated in the FAQ pages);
 - b) **At least 2 photographs** of the reference in JPG format, **one of them geo-referenced**;
 - c) **At least 3 photographs** proving the activation of which **2 are geo-referenced** (one at the beginning and one at the end of the operation);
For the residents, photos (possibly geo-referenced) of the shack and the antennas of the house are needed. It is highly recommended to use the App **DiplomaRadio2**, that can be downloaded for free for Android and iPhone.
 - d) The **accreditation request form** which **must be generated** through the portal <https://www.diplomaradio.it>
 - e) **N. 2 files .kmz** generated by the **Google Earth** program (according to the instructions indicated in the FAQ pages)
 - f) Short movie of the activation in AVI, MOV, MP4, MPEG or others format (NOT mandatory).
necessary to determine the distance between the transmission site and the DCI reference:
 - transmission place

- DCI Reference location
- f) **Short movie of the activation** in AVI, MOV, MP4, MPEG or others format (NOT mandatory).
- g) Any permits or authorizations for distance exceptions (point 15.1a).
- 15.8) **Resident activators** are always obliged to send logs to allow Hunters automatic accreditation.
- 15.9) At the activator is recommended to send the QSLs. **The final courtesy of a QSO is always the QSL card.**
- 15.10) The activator must necessarily finish an activation before starting another one.
In the event that it is impossible to complete it, it will be archived in the **NON-Validations list**.
- 15.11) **The DCI Award** was born on **04 October 1999** from an idea of IK1GPG Massimo and IK1QFM Betty and was established on **01 January 2001**, the starting date of QSO validity.
The DCI Diploma is partnership with the **International WCA Award (World Castles Award)**, that has been authorized to use the Directory DCI (Opera Inedita Depositata presso la Società Italiana degli Autori ed Editori - SIAE Sezione OLAF).
It is **mandatory** to activate a DCI reference combined with the respective WCA reference.
It is also **forbidden** to activate a WCA reference without joining the corresponding DCI.
After validation, the DCI Award Manager will send the Logs directly to the **DCI-WCA e-Log Entry Manager, IZ5GST Stefano Tolari**, available at https://qth.cz/wcagroup/export/log_eng.php
That said, **starting from 01/10/2022**, DCI activities can be combined simultaneously with references belonging to other Diplomas of Worldwide relevance (**DCI-WCA, IFF-WWFF, IIA-IOTA, WAIL-ARLHS**) or of Historical relevance, the **DLI** (Italian Lakes Diploma of 2003) and the **DAI** (Italian Abbeys Diploma of 2007).
Starting from 15/09/2025, the **POTA** (Parks on the Air 2017) can also be combined.
Starting from 14/09/2026, the **DTMBA** (Diploma Theaters Museums and Fine Arts) can also be combined, **but only if the activations will be in a portable setting**.
Therefore, joint operations with references from **other Diplomas** cannot take place, under penalty of non-validation of the activity.
- 15.12) To the activator who behaves differently from the Regulations or commits other improprieties, at the unquestionable judgment of the Award Manager and of the President of the Section ARI of Mondovì holder of the Diploma, having heard the opinion of the Technical Award Manager, and after having been informed by letter (also in electronic form), the following sanctions may be imposed:
 - a) warning
 - b) suspension from activations for a period of not less than 1 month and up to a maximum of 24 months
 - c) definitive and irrevocable disqualification as DCI activator
- 15.13) Once the log has been sent, **after three months** from the date of activation, additions are not permitted with the exception of the correction of clearly incorrectly typed names; therefore, the activator is asked to carefully check the log with the help of the <https://www.diplomaradio.it> portal which reports errors before sending.
- 15.14) **During the Meeting DCI**, which takes place on the 3rd weekend of September, **activations will not be possible**.
- 15.15) The Radio Amateurs (activators and hunters), who participate in this Award, must follow an exemplary conduct in compliance with the International Radio Amateur Code of Ethics.
 - a) The practices listed below are totally illegal and penalize the activities; consequently, both the activator, responsible for his own way of conducting operations which risks the deduction of all QSOs thus made, and the hunter who risks the cancellation of the QSO:
 - through "compliant stations";
 - with operators who carry out the contact using different identifiers than their own and therefore for third parties;
 - made with voice recordings, by telephone, via Skype, Google-talk or similar programs.
 - b) Furthermore, no contact with the Radio Club call sign is permitted if the operator is not in the QTH of the same Radio Club, otherwise the call sign must always be used followed by the /P
 - c) It may lead to disqualification if intentional irregular practices, using foul language or ethically improper behavior in any aspect of participation in this Diploma are noted. The disqualification leads to the non-validation of the activation for the activator and consequently he will not be allowed to make other DCI activations, while for the hunter the elimination from the rankings and the warning to participate in any DCI activity.
 - d) It is good practice to announce any operation using the portal <https://www.diplomaradio.it> and/or the specially prepared "group" dc-iffa_news-group@googlegroups.com, where all members of the expedition can advertise the activations that they intend to perform. In order to promote the use of these tools, if other activators decide to operate from a reference that has been previously announced by another activator, this second operation will not be validated, provided that between the first activation announcement and the execution of the same has not passed more than a month.
 - e) The announcement of the expected date of activity must not be more than 1 month old.
If the announced activation cannot take place for various reasons, the activator has the moral obligation to communicate that the activation will not take place and that it will therefore be rescheduled, effectively releasing the reservation of the reference.
- 15.16) The activators are invited to respect the current HF Band Plan of the IARU Region 1 which can be consulted at the following address: <https://www.iaru-r1.org>
- 15.17) **Resident OMs** will be able to activate DCI references within their **own Municipality** on condition that they have already activated them in the past both with their personal and Section or Special names (derogating point 15.1),
In this case it will not be possible to activate more than one reference per day.
- 16) The references are considered valid if reported in the "Repertorio Generale dei Castelli e dei luoghi Fortificati d'Italia" or if assigned following a clearly documented census.
- 17) The references will receive a reference number composed as follows: **DCI-CN001** (DCI-Province and progressive number).

Requests for new references must be submitted to the D.C.I. Technical and Historical Consulting Manager **IK8SHL Antonio Massimino** ik8shl@alice.it and in copy to info@dcia.it and, following a favorable technical opinion, will be assigned by the Technical Award Manager.

The request form available on the website <https://www.dcia.it> must necessarily be accompanied by historical sources taken from books, reliable websites or municipal declarations.

The time set for the paternity of the new references is 15 days from the date of officialisation.

Activation by other activators during the authorship period will not be validated.

- 18) The **DCI Technical Staff** is listed on the website <https://www.dcia.it> in the dedicated "About Us" area and is available to help with the use the website <https://www.diplomaradio.it>.

- 19) References DCI already registered, even if activated, if the state of conservation is such that they are no longer considered acceptable, must necessarily be cancelled using the appropriate form available on the website <https://www.dcia.it>

- 20) **Definition of Castle.** The following structures can be included:

castello, rocca, torre, bastione, casaforte, casatorre, cassero, città o borgo murato, cinta muraria, città bastionata, città fortificata, cittadella bastionata, fortezza, forte, ricetto, porta civica o di borgo fortificato come residuo isolato di cinta muraria non censita o nel caso presenti almeno alcuni elementi specifici (battenti, cardini o resti di essi, caditoie, merlature, tracce laterali di ponti levatoi), porta monumentale, torre-porta, palazzo reale, palazzi nobiliari fortificati, villa castello, villa imperiale, villa reale, edificio religioso fortificato, edificio agricolo fortificato, masseria fortificata, residenza fortificata and anything else related to the fortified architecture born and built for defensive needs starting from the Middle Ages and up to the year 1900.

When there are documents showing the different name of artefacts less than 50 meters away, it will be possible to register the references separately.

Palazzi Baronali will not be surveyed unless clearly fortified and the artifacts of the so-called "**neo castellana**" architecture which have never been used for military or defense purposes.

- 21) Deleted.

Acknowledgment for Activators and Hunters

- 22) The **Honor Roll D.C.I. Hunters** is available for those who have confirmed **1.000 references**.

It consists of a personalized hand-decorated ceramic plate measuring 280 mm.

The cost is equal to **40 Euro** for shipments in Europe and **50 Euro** for shipments outside Europe).

- 23) The **Honor Roll D.C.I. Operator** is available for those who have activated at least **25 different references**.

It consists of a personalized hand-decorated ceramic plate measuring 280 mm.

The cost is equal to **40 Euro** for shipments in Europe and **50 Euro** for shipments outside Europe).

- 24) The **Top Honor Roll D.C.I. Hunters** is available for those who have confirmed **2.000 references** and already hold the Honour Roll.

It consists of a personalized hand-decorated ceramic plate measuring 280 mm.

The cost is equal to **40 Euro** for shipments in Europe and **50 Euro** for shipments outside Europe).

- 25) The **Top Honor Roll D.C.I. Operator** is available for those who have activated at least **100 different references** and already hold the Honour Roll.

It consists of a personalized hand-decorated ceramic plate measuring 280 mm and the **plate is free**.

- 26) **N.14 Awards Porta-Stickers Avanzamento Attivatori** are provided free of charge and in **PDF format**:

- #01:** from 0050 to 0800 (with a series of **16 stickers** for **50** activations)
- #02:** from 0850 to 1000 (with a series of **15 stickers** for **10** activations) and **1 sticker** for **50** activations
- #03:** from 1010 to 1160 (with a series of **16 stickers** for **10** activations)
- #04:** from 1170 to 1320 (with a series of **16 stickers** for **10** activations)
- #05:** from 1330 to 1480 (with a series of **16 stickers** for **10** activations)
- #06:** from 1490 to 1640 (with a series of **16 stickers** for **10** activations)
- #07:** from 1650 to 1800 (with a series of **16 stickers** for **10** activations)
- #08:** from 1810 to 1960 (with a series of **16 stickers** for **10** activations)
- #09:** from 1970 to 2120 (with a series of **16 stickers** for **10** activations)
- #10:** from 2130 to 2280 (with a series of **16 stickers** for **10** activations)
- #11:** from 2290 to 2440 (with a series of **16 stickers** for **10** activations)
- #12:** from 2450 to 2600 (with a series of **16 stickers** for **10** activations)
- #13:** from 2610 to 2760 (with a series of **16 stickers** for **10** activations)
- #14:** from 2770 to 2920 (with a series of **16 stickers** for **10** activations)

- 27) The **Diploma Porta-Stickers Avanzamento Hunters** is available free of charge and in **PDF format** with a series of **14 Stickers: 1.000, 2.000, 3.000, 4.000, 5.000, 6.000, 7.000, 8.000, 9.000, 10.000, 11.000, 12.000, 13.000, 14.000** references

- 28) During the DCI Meeting, at the discretion of the A.R.I. of Mondovì, special prizes not included in these Regulations may be awarded.

- 29) The **Fame DCI Operator** for the OM or Radio Club/Special Callsign (only the owner) that will have activated the **highest number of references from 1 August to 31 July** and already hold the **Top Honour Roll DCI Operator**.

It consists in a personalized acknowledgment. For the first 5 classified, the Diploma will be sent in **PDF format**.

- 30) The **Fame DCI Hunter** for the OM or Radio Club/Special Callsign (only the owner) that will have contacted the **highest number of references from 1 August to 31 July** and already hold the **Honour Roll DCI Hunters**,

It consists in a personalized acknowledgment. For the first 5 classified, the Diploma will be sent in **PDF format**.



Update by Managers in date 14/09/2026.