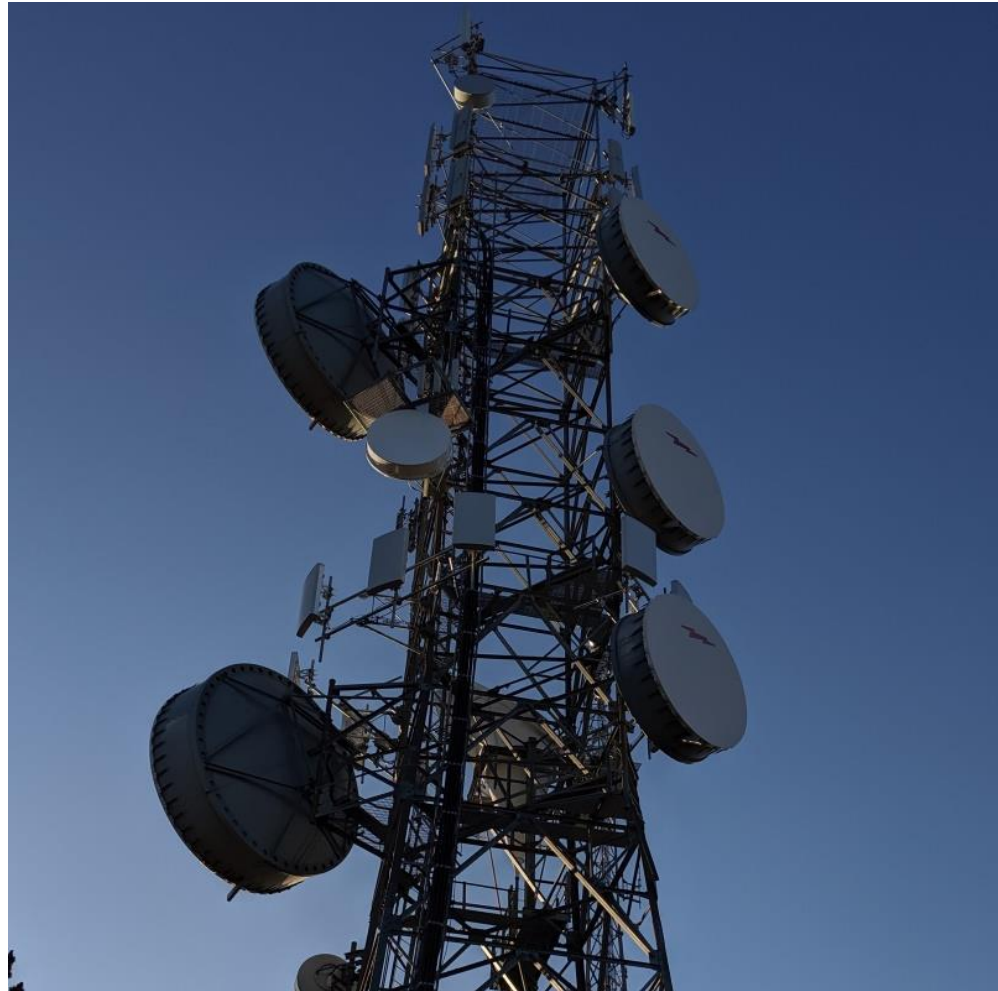


Mountain Amateur Radio Club

Programs Survey

PREPARED BY:
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REVISED:
14 DECEMBER 2020



Background

We wanted to find out what sort of programs members would like. Two groups of questions:

- Rank members' interest in programs suggested by presenters
- Open ended question: What other sorts of programs would you like?

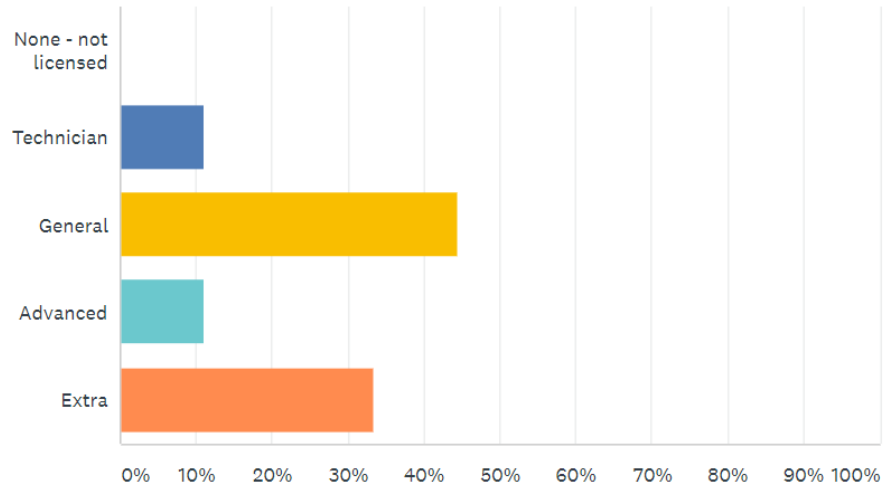
MARC created a survey on 18 Nov 2020 and distributed it to all members on file at the time (30 people).

Demographic or member-background questions were also asked (how long have you been a ham, what are your favorite bands, etc.)

Eighteen people responded to the survey (60% of those invited to reply).

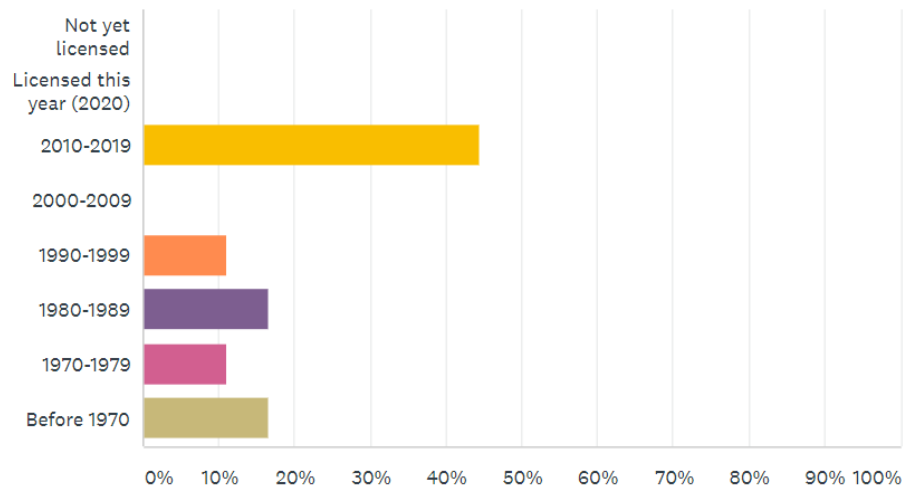
What class of license do you currently hold?

Answered: 18 Skipped: 0



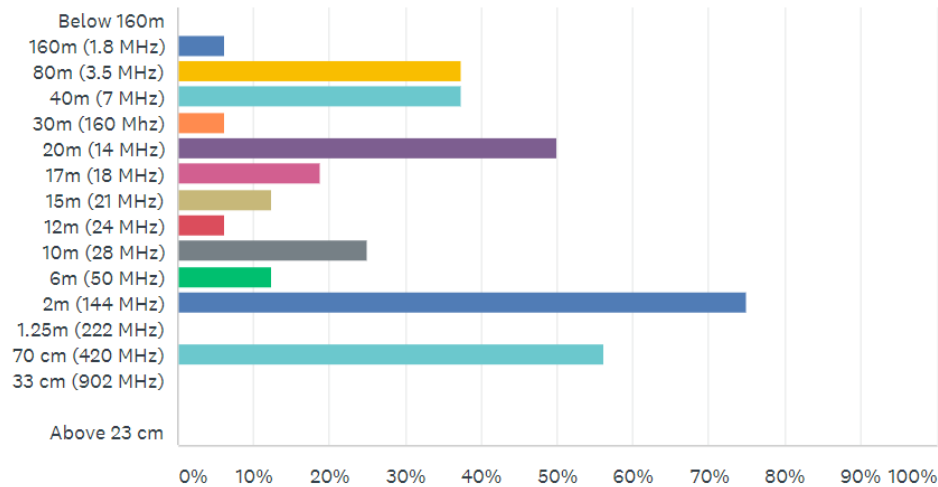
When were you first licensed?

Answered: 18 Skipped: 0



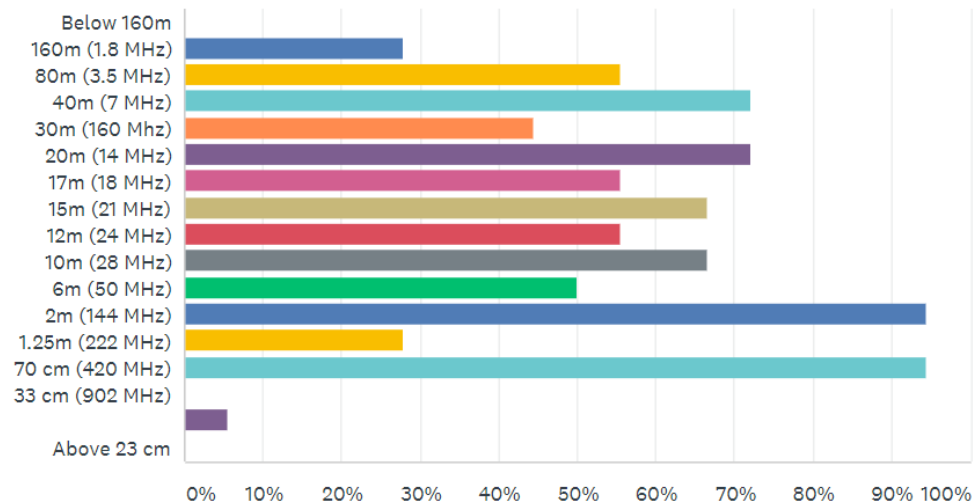
Which are your favorite bands?

Answered: 16 Skipped: 2

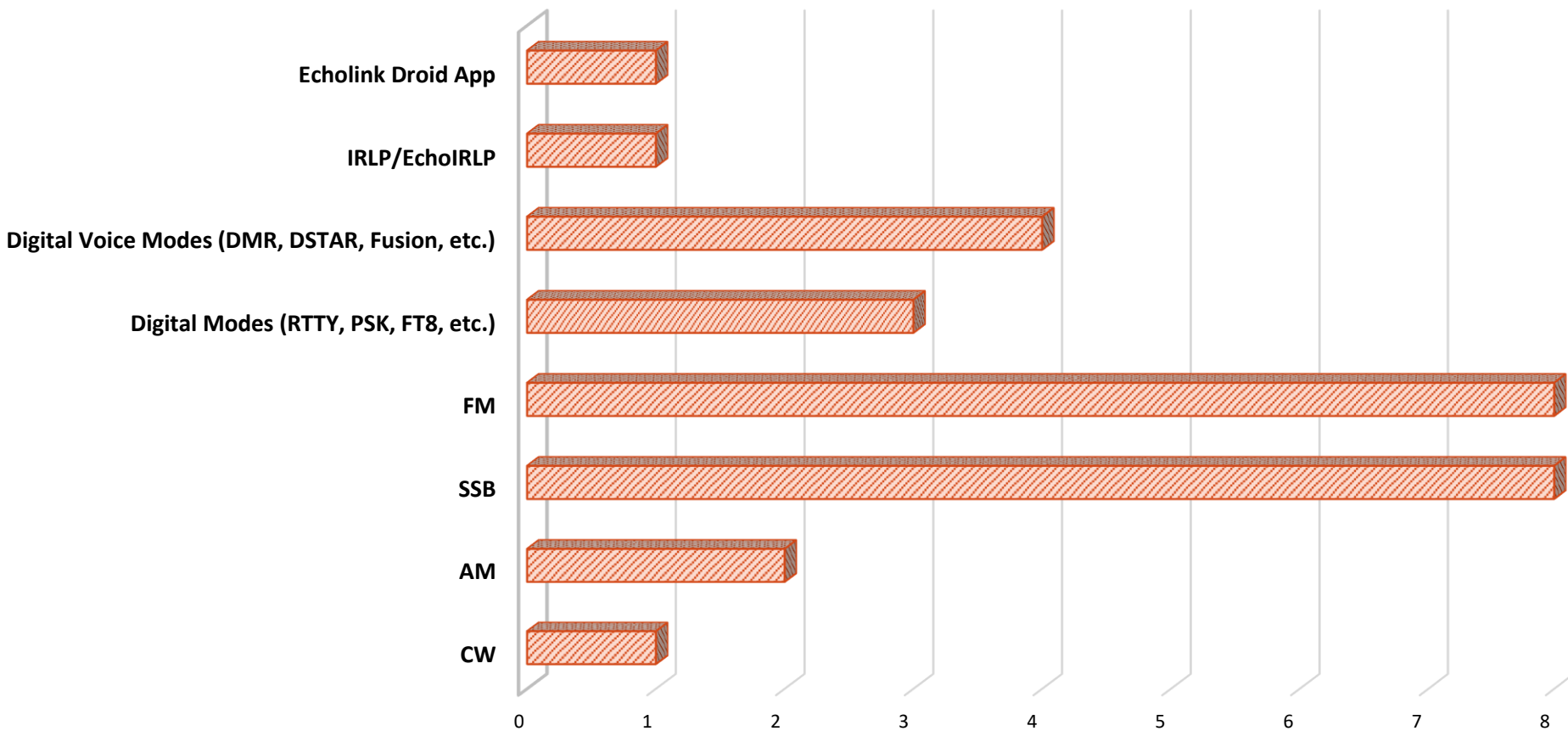


What bands do you have a working radio and antenna for?

Answered: 18 Skipped: 0



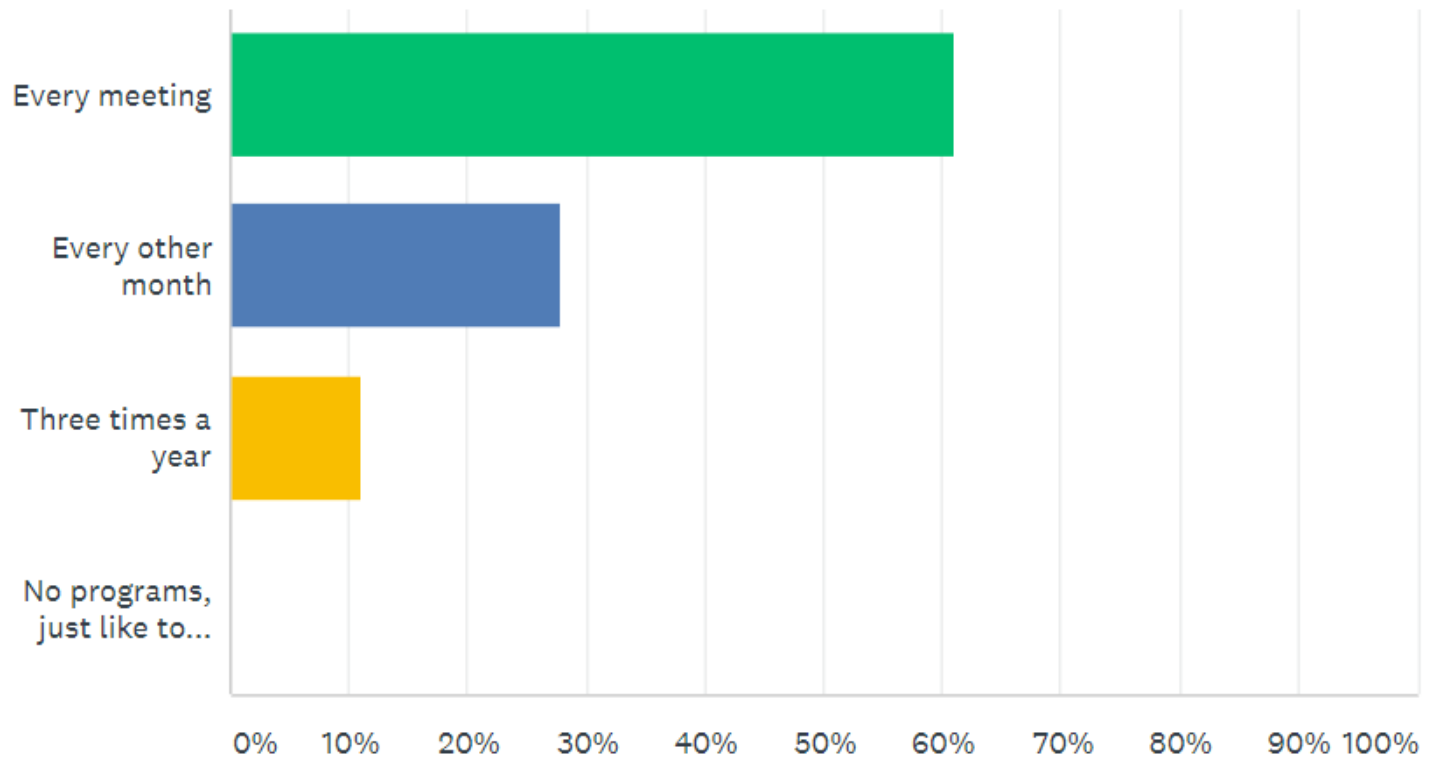
PREFERRED OPERATING MODES



Program Frequency

How frequently would you like to have a program?

Answered: 18 Skipped: 0



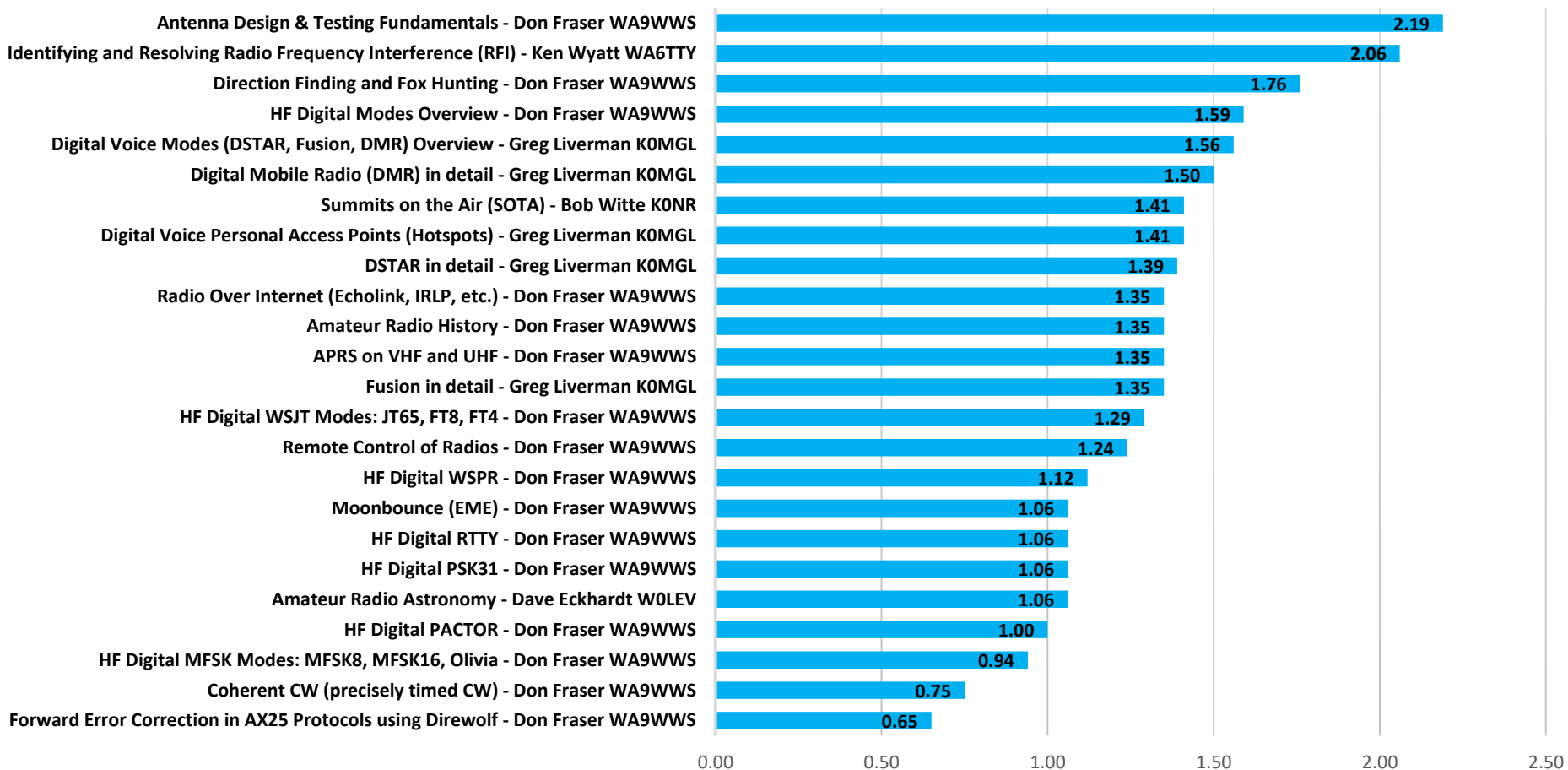
Survey Methodology

List of program topics suggested by members

Asked each respondent to rank each topic. The answers were weighted in a geometric progression to accentuate the spread:

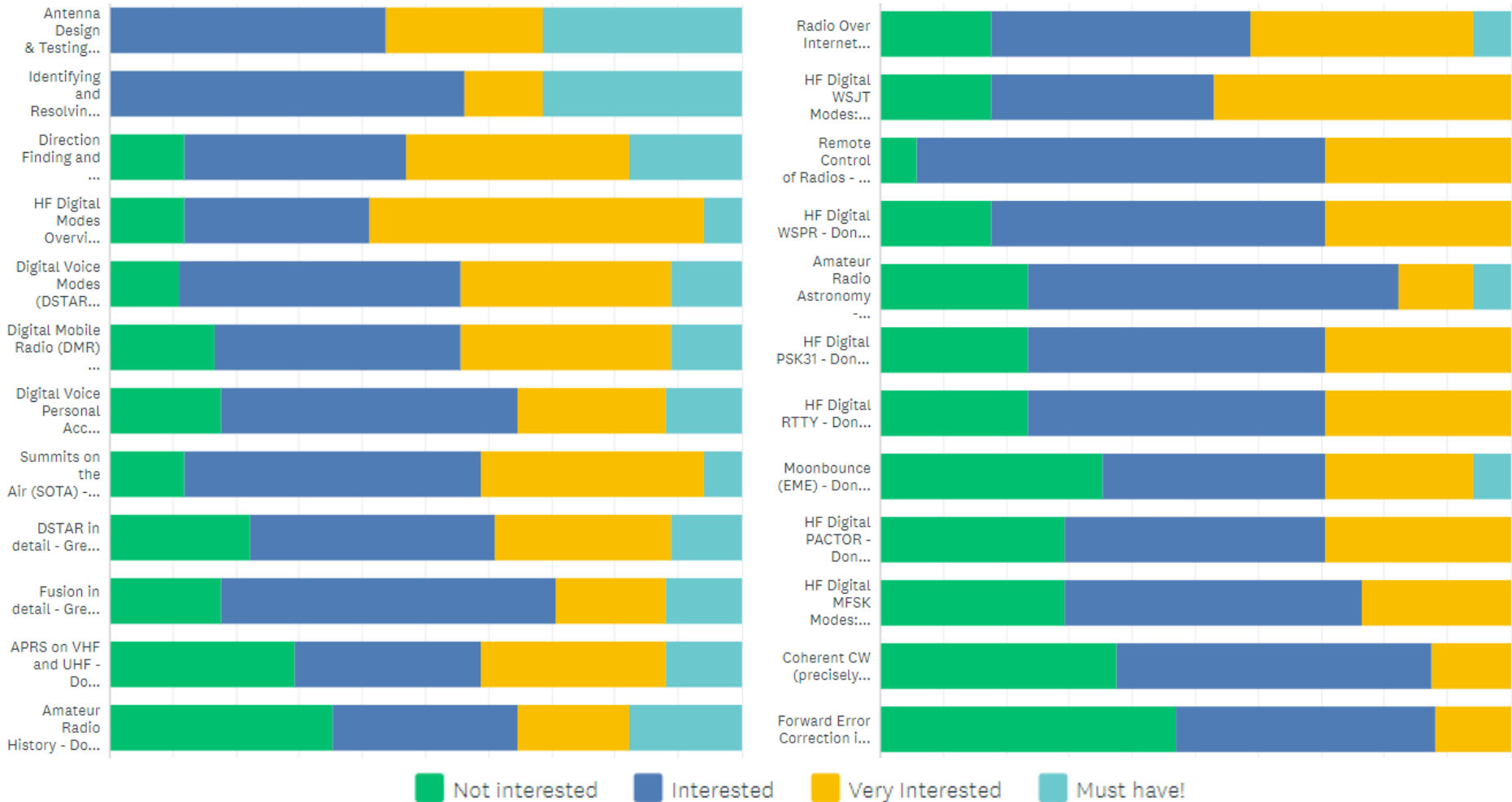
- Not Interested (0 points)
- Interested (1 point)
- Very Interested (2 points)
- Must Have! (4 points)

PROGRAM TOPIC WEIGHTED SCORE



- Each topic received between 16 and 18 responses: essentially everyone voted on each topic.
- The geometric progression of points was designed to accentuate the spread of scores

Distribution of Scores for Each Topic



Commentary

The top two topics had no “Not interested” votes. The bottom four had no “Must Have!” votes.

The middle range of topics show some that are very popular (good positive scores and few negative “Not interested” scores) were ranked lower than some with larger negative scores.

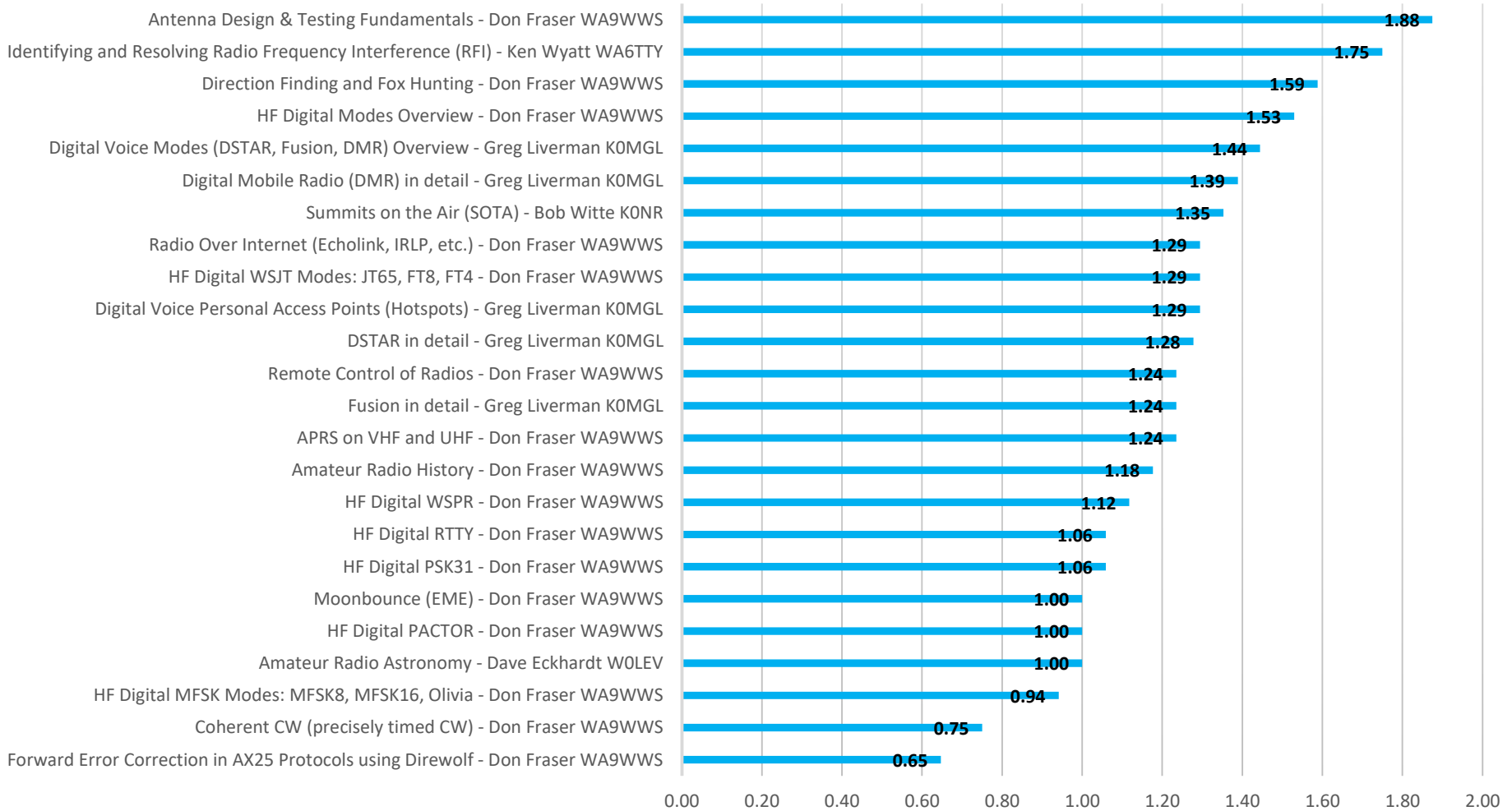
This suggests that the geometric progression was overly aggressive in promoting topics with larger negative scores.

I re-weighted the results in a linear ranking:

- Not Interested (0 points)
- Interested (1 point)
- Very Interested (2 points)
- Must Have! (3 points)

This gives more importance to larger “Not Interested” scores relative to “Must Have!”. The top and bottom ranked topics do not change, but the middle range is reordered somewhat

RE-WEIGHTED SCORES



- Reweighted Scores with a linear progression: 0, 1, 2, 3
- Tops and bottom do not change, middle group moves some up as “Not interested” gets more weight

Commentary

These rankings are meant to give program planners some guidance as to the sentiment of the MARC membership (or at least the ones who replied to the survey). They should not be considered absolute or immutable

Other factors should be considered. For example, if a goal is to provide MARC members an understanding of HF digital modes (pros/cons, best modes for each band, effect of band conditions, etc.) over several lectures, the first lecture may be one that is not highly ranked because it provides introductory material needed for the topic as a whole

Please tell us other topics in which you are interested:

A topic on repeaters, how they are set up and used.

Higher frequency systems. Ham Net style setups. Latest QST has interesting ARES application article

Suggestions from the Convoluted Brian of KOMGL

Here are some other ideas – targeted at new hams and those expanding their understanding of amateur radio. These would be relative short and perhaps scheduled on a different day from the meeting – maybe on a Saturday afternoon after the VE session or on alternate months from the VE session:

- Getting Started with HF – operations, radios, antennas
- Getting Started with VHF/UHF Simplex and Repeater Operations
- Bow-Funky Programming – How do I program my new radio? A hands on tutorial with a little theory and Elmers to help you.
- What is ARES?
- Survey of the Weird and Wonderful: Talking to Satellites, Bouncing off the Moon, Microwave Mesh IP Networks, SOTA (you name it – whatever fits in an hour)
- Amateur Radio – What's It All About? (a public lecture – about an hour, to be delivered as part of a lecture series hosted by the local library or similar)

Anything else you'd like to comment on or suggestions you'd like to make?

If there is interest for an occasional longer meeting drop one or two of the monthly

I have purchased 2 new radios and an antenna. Working on getting it all put together. Hopefully soon.

I'd like to see more board participation in our Tuesday Night Nets. We have board members I've never heard on the Net, which in my opinion is our primary outreach to the community.

Thank You!