CLA Reports Style Guide

Version: 0.86.5-Beta Date: 2025-09-15

--- Revision History ---

[0.86.5-Beta] - 2025-09-15

Changed

- Updated the Report Titles section to allow for a more flexible

three-line format, aligning the guide with the actual codebase.

[0.54.0-Beta] - 2025-08-28

Changed

- Updated Section 3.1 (Table Formatting) to recommend `prettytable`

for complex reports, aligning it with Protocol 5.4.

[0.52.14-Beta] - 2025-08-26

Changed

- Revised and standardized the report title format to a new,

mandatory two-line structure for all report types.

[0.51.0-Beta] - 2025-08-26

Added

- Initial release of the official CLA Reports Style Guide.

- Added standards for report titles, text reports (tabulate), and

HTML reports (Tailwind CSS, borders, centering).

1. Introduction

This document is the single source of truth for the visual and formatting standards of all report outputs generated by the Contest Log Analyzer. Its purpose is to ensure that all reports, regardless of type, have a consistent, clean, and professional appearance. All new reports must adhere to these guidelines.

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2. Report Titles

All generated reports, regardless of their output format (text, plot, chart, animation, or HTML), must use the standard **two-line** title format. This creates a consistent and professional header for all user-facing documents. A third line may be added for reports requiring additional context (e.g., a list of callsigns in a multi-log comparison).

- **Line 1**: The report's official `report_name` as defined in its Python class.
- **Line 2**: A consolidated string containing the contest context, formatted as `YYYY ContestName EventID`. The `EventID` is only included if defined for the contest.
- **Line 3 (Optional)**: A string containing the callsign(s) or other specific report context (e.g., animation frame number).

Examples:

- **Single Log (No EventID):**

    Score Summary 2025 CQ World Wide DX CW - K1ABC

- **Comparative Plot (With EventID):**

    Comparative Rate Sheet 2025 NAQP CW AUG - K1ABC vs W1XYZ

- **Comparative HTML Report (Three Lines):**

    HTML QSO Comparison Report 2025 WAE CW K1ABC vs W1XYZ

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3. Text Reports (`.txt`)

This section defines the standards for all plain-text reports.

3.1. Table Formatting

The creation of text-based tables is governed by the following two-tool approach to ensure both simplicity for basic reports and robust control for complex layouts.

- **For Complex Reports, Use `prettytable`**: For any report that requires a fixed-width layout, precise column alignment, or the alignment and "stitching" of multiple tables, the **prettytable** library is the required standard. It offers direct, programmatic control over column widths, which is essential for complex layouts.
- **For Simple Reports, Use `tabulate`**: For reports that require only a single, standalone table where complex alignment with other elements is not a concern, the simpler **tabulate** library is a suitable alternative.

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4. HTML Reports (`.html`)

This section defines the standards for all web-based reports. The goal is to create modern, responsive, and visually appealing documents.

4.1. Styling Framework

All styling for HTML reports must be implemented using **Tailwind CSS**. No custom CSS in `<style>` blocks should be used unless absolutely necessary for a feature that Tailwind cannot support.

4.2. Table Styling

HTML tables should be styled to be clean, readable, and visually hierarchical.

- **Centering**: All tables must be centered horizontally on the page.
- **Border Hierarchy**: A two-level border system must be used to structure the data visually:
    - **Dark Lines** (`border-gray-500`): Used for the main outline of the table and for major vertical divisions between logical data groups.
    - **Medium Lines** (`border-gray-400`): Used for all internal grid lines, both horizontal and vertical.