

DB2000 List of Custom Features

DB2000 only runs on Windows-based systems or on a Mac with a Virtual Machine.

The program was designed as a convenient tool to help members manage their USPS duties and interests. Its primary purpose is to keep users up to date with changes made by National and to keep National informed of changes to member biological profiles.

Changes made exclusively by National include rank, grade, educational courses passed, years of membership, merit marks, certificate numbers etc.

Changes made by squadrons include address, phone number, email, spousal status, nickname, birthday, boat owner, boat name, boat type etc.

DB2000 can be used to file changes to members holding office listed in the OD-1/2 form.

In addition to the annual OD-1/2 and History Report the use of DB2000 is mandatory for submitting merit mark recommendations. The result of the submission can be imported directly into DB2000 to update it.

DB2000 data is protected with passwords.

User password: This is freely available to all users and allows downloading roster updates.

Updater password: This is used to upload member changes to national. It is usually made available by the squadron commander to the member(s) responsible for maintaining the database.

Master password: This is available to just the squadron commander and allows changes to the user and updater passwords if tampering is suspected.

MM password: Used for uploading merit mark recommendations.

It is intended that DB2000 users maintain their own database. This allows it to be customized for their individual needs. DB2000 allows a very flexible database structure to be built.

Squadrons that elect to distribute a periodic database update to their squadron members defeat this purpose because their update overwrites whatever customization the user may have done.

Custom Features:

- a. **Creating user defined fields** for any purpose. These can be pre-formatted as Text with defined lengths, number, Boolean (yes/no), date, currency, phone or memo (up to 64Kbyte).
 1. User defined fields can be used to keep lists of chosen members, bridge officers, committee members, just friends or whatever and send email to them directly from DB2000. DB2000 will open their Windows default email client with a blank message already addressed to those in the list.
 2. User defined fields can be used for printing mail address labels on Avery 5160 stock.
 3. User defined fields can be filled with data from other database columns. For example names formatted in many ways with grade and rank. To this user specified data can be added as needed.
 4. User defined fields can be exported and imported by other members to share the data.
- b. **Make and save custom report layouts** for the user's individual needs. This could be the annual membership directory for example

- c. **Keep deceased and previous members** in the database if needed. These disappear from the national database and may be necessary for posthumous merit mark recommendations.
- d. **Add affiliated members**, guest members from other squadrons. This feature can be also be used to include vendors, cleaning services or whatever is important to the squadron. The other DB2000 features can be used to communicate with them.
- e. **Fill in the complete squadron organization**, not just the offices listed in the OD-2. The OD-2 offices are entered into the organization grid whenever the roster is updated. Other offices can be added including squadron specific Ad Hoc Committees. The organization chart can be printed and used as part of a squadron directory.
- f. **Keep two addresses for members** with summer / winter homes. The National database does not support this which means they have to be updated multiple times per year. The ability to keep both in the DB2000 database saves you having to remember the data.
- g. **Make private databases**. Just add folk as affiliated member's, delete everything else and save as whatever. I keep my Christmas card list this way and use it to print the mailing labels.
- h. **Boat Statistics**. For those that like to publish the features of member's boats. Columns are included for OAL, Beam, Draft, Power, Fuel Capacity, Berths etc. This is particularly handy for cruise captains in planning marina stops.
- i. **Make comma separated value, CSV, files**. These can be used to make spreadsheets for Excel for whatever purpose the user has in mind.
- j. **Make HQ-102 form changes**. This form is used to report deaths and name changes, such as changing the last name of a member in a new spousal relationship. The downloadable form version of HQ-102 also handles resignations, but a well known member of ITCom tested it on himself and had one hell of a time getting reinstated. So the resignation feature was removed from the DB2000 version because it was too dangerous!
- k. **Querying the Roster**. (What is the point of having a database that can't be queried?) A query is used to extract specific information from the database. The feature has many field check boxes to assist in constructing the query to which can be added user defined criteria. The SQL result is shown for user edification. The query can be saved for future use if needed.
- l. **Historian Report**. A companion program to DB2000 it can extract useful information used as part of the annual report including Squadron officers; members serving in district and national positions; members that were awarded their 25th merit mark and achieved Life Member status; members completing new grade levels, operational training or Elective Courses and members teaching public boating courses.
- m. **Printing Roster Based Reports**. DB2000 can print the complete roster or data extracted from it. It has two utilities that accomplish this.
 1. A built in report writer of somewhat limited capability which nonetheless allows the design of a variety of report layouts. There are **YouTube** tutorials explaining its use in some detail.
 2. A much more capable utility named "Report Wizard" Operation of this outside program is available in the help documentation.
- n. **Comprehensive, Contextual Help Documentation**. Pressing the **F1** key will open the help file at the point explaining how the screen currently in use works. DB2000 also has tutorials to assist in understanding how things work.
 1. How to install DB2000 and MQ Series Client
 2. How to prepare merit mark submissions.

3. How to use “Report Wizard”.

These are available as downloadable PDF files accessed via the DB2000 Help tab.

DB2000 is used for both squadrons and districts. Only squadrons can upload member changes, so district use is limited to informational purposes and making local reports such as organization and directories. Also, the district database is used to submit district merit mark recommendations.

Implementing these features in the National central database would be very difficult to accomplish via the National website. DB2000 allows an independent database configuration for each user containing his own information, lists and notes in addition to the basic roster info.