



International Amateur Radio Union Region 1

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Subject	Contest rules to be moved to IARU Region 1 web page		
Society	ZRS	Country:	Slovenia
Committee:	C5	Paper number:	LA17_C5_33
Author:	Robert Vilhar, S53WW		

In alignment with the decision brought during 2016 C5 Interim Meeting in Vienna to review and re-edit the VHF Managers Handbook it is proposed to remove VHF and up contest rules from the VHF Manager's Handbook completely. The rules shall then be published on the IARU Region 1 web page in a modern style and clear form (including FAQ page with detailed description of some "complicated" rules). Actually, all relevant information regarding VHF and up contest shall be reachable from that page and be available in HTML format.

The proposed rewriting of the rules (complete Chapter 5.3 of current VHF Manager's Handbook) for the web page can be viewed at http://iaruwiki.oevsv.at/index.php?title=RULES_IARU_R1_50/70_MHz,_145_MHz_and_UHF/MICROWAVES_CONTESTS

Note: the most significant change is set of definitions while all other rules were either copied or slightly edited without changing the meaning of the rule.

In case decision to move the contest rules to the web page will not be brought, it is proposed to replace current 5.4 Chapter writing in the VHF Managers Handbook with the below updated format.

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What follows is copy-paste from the web page:

RULES IARU Region 1 50/70 MHz, 145 MHz and UHF/MICROWAVES CONTESTS

1 Definitions

- **Station:** set of antennas, transmitters and receivers used during the contest on each frequency band (i.e. multiband setups are composed of multiple stations).
- **Location:** geographical area with diameter of no more than 500 meters where the station resides during the contest.
- **Call Sign:** identification of the station during the contest. Added prefix and/or suffix do not generate different call sign (i.e. S50AAA/p or DL/S50AAA are the same call sign as S50AAA).
- **Operator:** an individual that operates the station during the contest using the station's call sign. Operator may reside inside (local operator) or outside (remote operator) the location. During the contest an operator may operate only stations that form one entry.
- **Entries:**
 - **Multi operator:** stations from the same location, operated by more than one operator and using one callsign on all bands.

- **Single operator:** stations from the same location, operated by a single operator and using one callsign on all bands, with no operational assistance of another person during the contest.
- **6 HOURS section time rule:** The 6-hour time segment can be divided into maximum two periods. The time of the first QSO sets the start time of the first period. When operating in two periods, the pause between the periods must be longer than 2 hours. The first-time difference of 2 hours or more between two consecutive QSOs marks the pause segment. Only the QSOs that fall into the combined 6-hour time segment will be counted for points. Participants are welcome to operate longer than 6 hours and in such case, they shall send their complete log (the contest robot will automatically extract the 6 hours' part from the log, while the rest of the log entries will be used for cross-checking purposes).

2 Eligible entrants

All licensed radio amateurs in Region 1 may participate in the contest.

The entrants must operate within the letter and spirit of the contest and at no greater power than permitted in the ordinary license of their country. Stations operating under special high power license can only entry as check logs.

3 Date of contests

- The **50/70 MHz** contest will begin on the third Saturday of **June**.
- The **145 MHz** contest will start on the first Saturday of **September**.
- The **UHF/Microwaves** contest will start on the first Saturday of **October**.

The contest will commence at 1400 hours UTC on the Saturday and end at 1400 hours UTC on the Sunday.

4 Contest sections

The contests shall comprise the following sections for each band from 50 MHz to 10 GHz and for the Millimeter group (the combined group of amateur bands above 10 GHz):

- **SINGLE (SO):** single operator entries.
- **MULTI (MO):** multi operator entries.
- **SINGLE 6 HOURS (SO-6H):** single operator entries (144 MHz and 432 MHz only).
- **MULTI 6 HOURS (MO-6H):** multi operator entries (144 MHz and 432 MHz only).
- **SINGLE with MGM (SO-MGM):** single operator entries (50 MHz and 70 MHz only).
- **MULTI with MGM (MO-MGM):** multi operator entries (50 MHz and 70 MHz only).

5 Operating

Only one signal on the band is allowed at any time.

Station must operate from the same location throughout the contest time.

6 Contacts

Each station may only be worked once per band. If a station is worked again on the same band, only one contact may count for points. Any duplicate contacts should be logged without claim for points and clearly marked as duplicates.

Contacts made via active repeaters and EME contacts do not count for points.

Self-spotting (advertising its own frequency and call sign) on any other communication means, like DX Cluster, chat rooms, etc. shall not be used during the contest.

Competitors are obliged to follow the common definition for a valid QSO (as defined in the VHF Managers Handbook and rewritten in the definitions section). The contest exchange (call, report, QSO number and locator) shall be sent and confirmed on the band where the contact started and only during the contact.

No attempt should be made during the QSO to obtain any part of the required exchange information via other communication methods such as the Internet chat channel, DX Cluster, talk-back on another amateur band, telephone etc. Such a secondary method invalidates the contest QSO.

Acceptable examples when using a secondary method:

- "Shall we make a sked on 144.388?"
- "I have QRM, let's move to 144.218 kHz and start again"
- "Nothing received, please try again" and the QSO starts again
- "Thank you for a nice QSO" - Note: Only after the QSO has completed on the radio!

Unacceptable examples when using a secondary method:

- "I need your serial number"
- "Please repeat all information"
- "Please confirm <report>, <serial number>, <locator> etc."

7 Type of emission

Contacts may be made in **A1A**(CW), **J3E**(SSB) or **F3E**(FM) (**G3E**(PM)).

MGM (**M**achine **G**enerated **M**ode) mode is allowed during the 50/70 MHz contest.

8 Contest exchanges

Code numbers exchanged during each contact shall consist of the RS, RST or RSQ (MGM mode) report, followed by a serial number commencing with 001 for the first contact on each band and increasing by one for each successive contact on that band. This exchange must immediately be followed by the complete locator of the sending station (examples: 59003 JO20DB or 579123 IN55CC).

All times must be logged in UTC.

Call signs logged must be the same as those exchanged over the air by the entrants during the QSO.

Correction of logged exchanges after the contest, by use of any database, recordings, email or other method, is not allowed.

For contacts on 50 MHz, outside of Region 1, the received locator can be 4 digits and “MM” will be added as 5th and 6th digit.

9 Scoring

For the amateur bands up to 10 GHz inclusive, points will be scored on the basis of one point per kilometre, i.e. the calculated distance in kilometres will be truncated to an integer value and 1 km will be added. The centre of each locator square is used for distance calculations. In order to make contest scores comparable, for the conversion from degrees to kilometres a factor of 111.2 should be used when calculating distances with the aid of the spherical geometry equation.

All QSOs including those with unique stations shall count for points (unique station is a station that appears in the log of only one contest entrant).

For the combined higher bands (Millimetre group) the score will be the sum of the points scored on each of the bands, using the following multiplication factors for the number of kilometres scored on each band:

- 24 GHz 1 x
- 47 GHz 2 x
- 76 GHz 3 x
- 122 GHz 4 x
- 134 GHz 8 x
- 245 GHz 10 x

10 Entries

The entries must be set out in EDI digital/electronic form (refer to ~~chapter 5.7 in the VHF Managers Handbook~~) separately for each frequency band.

Logs shall be sent no later than the second Monday following the contest weekend. Late entries will be accepted as check logs.

By submitting the contest or check log, an entrant agrees that he / she has:

- understood the contest rules and agrees to be bound by them,
- operated according to all the rules and regulations that pertain to his and/or station license,
- agreed the cross-checked log may be made open to the public, except for the personal data in PAdr1, PAdr2, RName, RAdr1, RAdr2, RPoCo, RCity, RCoun, RPhon and RHBBS lines of EDI file format,
- agrees the contest organizer can score, amend, publish, republish, print, and otherwise distribute (by any means including paper or electronic) the entry either in its original format, in any other suitable format with or without modifications or combined with the entries from other contestants for entry into the specific contest, other contests, or for other reasons including training, development and advancement of amateur radio,
- accepts all decisions of the organizing society (contest organizer) as final.

11 Judging of entries

All logs are checked using custom software and human judgement.

The claimed contact shall be disqualified for any error in the information logged by the entrant.

Entrants deliberately contravening any of these rules, attempting fraud or flagrantly disregarding the IARU Region 1 band plans shall be disqualified.

12 Awards

- **Section winners:**

Certificates will be issued by the organising society to the winners of the sections on each band up to 10 GHz and for the Millimetre group.

- **Overall winners for UHF/Microwave contest:**

For each section an overall winner of the IARU Region 1 UHF/Microwaves contest will be declared.

For this competition, the scores of the entrants on the following bands will be combined, using an adaptive multiplier system:

- 435 MHz
- 1.3 GHz
- 2.4 GHz
- 5.7 GHz
- 10 GHz
- Millimetre group

The multipliers to be used for the determination of the overall scores in each section are found as follows:

- The multiplier is equal to the ratio between the highest number of points scored by any participating station on the 435 MHz band for that section and the highest number of points scored by any participating station on the band for that section for which the multiplier is being determined.
- For the millimetre group the scores as determined according to rule 9 are used for the determination of this group's multiplier.

As the 3.4 GHz band is not yet available in all countries within Region 1, the 3.4 GHz results will not be taken into account when determining the overall winners of the sections in the October IARU Region 1 UHF/Microwaves contest.