



# International Amateur Radio Union Region 1

2017 General Conference – Landshut, Germany

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Subject	<b>Devolution of all IARU VHF/Microwave Contests</b>		
Society	<b>RSGB</b>	Country:	<b>United Kingdom</b>
Committee	<b>C5</b>	Paper Number	<b>LA17_C5_41</b>
Author	<b>Murray Niman G6JYB</b>		

## 1. Introduction

Restructuring of C5 is proposed whereby:

- C5 will be able to focus more on amateur radio development and protection
- Almost all Contest matters will be devolved to a separate working group
- Contest related items would be separated from the VHF Managers Handbook
- Contest organisers will be freer to organise and update contests and related procedures

## 2. Background

Once upon a time Region 1 had a separate VHF Contests sub-committee. This is no longer the case and in recent years it has come clear that:

- C5 has a much heavier workload than C4 (and now we have WRC-19 as well). Spectrum and technology developments and threats are occurring across the entire C5 remit from 50 MHz to beyond 250 GHz
- Much of C5s workload is on contest matters including very detailed items related to rules, robot, scoring, etc.
- Many IARU Region 1 contest matters could be better dealt with by contest managers acting as a coordinated working group
- More broadly, it is important for Region 1 to focus its activities. So, this proposal aligns with that view, which will be considered in C2/3.

## 3. Key Points and Proposal

Devolve all contest matters (including ATV) in order to make both that activity and C5 more efficient.

The contest group would need to:

- a) Abide by IARU band plans
- b) Just provide a report to C5 meetings
- c) Would retain IARU Region 1 endorsement
- d) Would maintain an appropriate 'VHF Contesters Handbook'
- e) Would be encouraged to engage contesters both electronically, and at major events such as Friedrichshafen where an annual forum and awards ceremony might occur

- f) In case of serious problems (or strategic issues), C5/EC would continue to be the arbiter

These changes should not undermine the valuable contribution that contests make to VHF/UHF/Microwave activity, skills and spectrum occupancy

The prime objective is to make both C5 and Contest matters more efficient and responsive. Indeed, it is also hoped that this will enable measures that will attract new entrants and increase activity.

#### **4. Recommendations**

- Devolve VHF Contests as per this paper to a coordinator / working group
- Split and restructure the VHF Managers Handbook to facilitate this