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Subject	SO2R category in contest		
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Introduction

Many single operators use SO2R technique (Single Operator 2 Radios) in contests.

Background

SO2R technique allows a single operator to call CQ and to operate on one frequency and to search another band for new stations or to work specific DX cluster spots (S&P).

It has been realized that more and more often SO2R technique in conjunction with high operator skills is being used to establish virtually two running frequencies. Calling CQ intermittently on 2 different frequencies does not violate the current rule "Transmission of only one signal permitted at any time", but from the point of fairness and keeping in mind that the resource of frequencies is limited, such a practice is not desirable and should be prevented by appropriate contest rules.

Key Point and Proposal

Covering virtually two running frequencies by a single operator is not desirable and should be prevented.

Recommendation

That within the "Guidelines for HF Contests" chapter 7.1.2 of the IARU Region 1 HF Manager's Handbook, the category SO should be reworded as follows: "A SO station is a station manned by one individual operator transmitting not more than one signal on one running frequency at any time."