International Amateur Radio Union Region 1

Europe, Middle East, Africa and Northern Asia Founded 1950

General Conference, Davos, 11 to 16 September 2005

SUBJECT	Contest rules		
Society	ZRS	Country:	Slovenia
Committee:	C5	Paper number:	37
Contact:	Robert Vilhar, S53WW	e-mail:	s53ww@hamradio.si

Introduction:

This paper proposes some changes to the current rules of “IARU REGION 1 145MHz SEPTEMBER CONTEST”, “IARU REGION 1 UHF/MICROWAVES OCTOBER CONTEST”, “IARU REGION 1 50MHz JUNE CONTEST” and “PROCEDURE FOR ORGANISING IARU REGION 1 VHF/UHF/MICROWAVES CONTESTS”.

Background:

IARU Region 1 has organised official international contests on the VHF/UHF/Microwaves bands since 1956.

As the VHF&up contest operating practice and skills as well as the technical improvements are being constantly improved, rules that cover the organization and realization of those contests should be adapted from time to time. Taking into account that electronic logging of the contest contacts is a common practice and that internet offers great possibilities in organising VHF&up contests, the current rules should be updated.

Key points and proposal:

All three contests have some common items. The following changes are proposed to those items:

- <u>2. Contest sections:</u>

The contest will comprise the following sections :

i. Stations operated by a single operator, with no operational assistance during the contest.
ii. All other entrants.

No more than one transmitter may be in use at any one time. All the equipment of the station (transmitters, receivers and antennas, etc) must be located within a single circle of no greater than 500 meters diameter.

A participating station must operate from the same location throughout the event.

In addition, the rule of Item 2. for October contest the following text should follow the above rule:

For 432 MHz and for the higher frequency amateur bands till 10 GHz inclusive there will be two sections, as defined above. Furthermore, there will be two sections, as

defined above for the combined group of amateur bands above 10 GHz, the so-called millimeter group[2]).

Comment: in subitem i.) more exact wording is used for description of the unallowable assistance to the operator in the single operator section – the emphasis is on the operational assistance. The sentence describing the ownership of the equipment is deleted as in the final instance the ownership of the equipment is more or less private.

- 5. Contacts:

The last sentence, reading as:

Any telephony contacts made with stations transmitting in the telegraphy subband shall not count for points.

should be deleted.

Comment: the purpose of the contest rules is not to regulate the proper use of frequency spectrum and proper bandplan usage is already taken into account in item 10.

- 6. Type of emission:

Contacts may be made in A1A, J3E or F3E(G3E).

The following sentence should be added for October contest:
F2A may be used above 1 GHz.

Comment: in the current rules some obsolete emissions are specified (R3A, A3E) and SSB (J3E) is not included.

- 9. Entries:

The entries must be set out in digital/electronic form fulfilling the requirements under rule 12. Multi-operator stations shall be clearly marked as such. A copy of the logs must be sent to the national VHF Manager or the national Contest Committee via electonic mail or on electronic data carrier via post not later than the second Monday following the contest weekend. Late entries will not be accepted. The submission of the logs implies that the entrant accepts the contest rules.

Comment: submission of electronic logs only.

- 10. Judging of entries:

The final judging of the entries shall be the responsibility of the organising society, whose decision shall be final. Entrants deliberately contravening any of these rules or disregarding the IARU Region 1 bandplans shall be disqualified.
The claimed contact will be disqualified for any error in the information logged by the station or a time error of more than 10 minutes.
Claiming points for a duplicate contact will be penalized by deducting ten times the number of points claimed for that duplicate contact from the score.
The contest entrants will not be penalized for the failure of non-entrants to comply with the rules.

Comment: just small clean-up of the current text.

- 12. Logs:

The logs shall be sent in the digital format only as defined in Section IIIh.

Comment: submission of electronic logs only.

The following changes are proposed for the “PROCEDURE FOR ORGANISING IARU REGION 1 VHF/UHF/MICROWAVES CONTESTS”:

D. … deleted

Comment: item D. deals with national results that are not relevant for the international results as the final checking is to be completely automatic..

G. The organising society will publish the results based on the claimed scores not later than thirteenth Sunday after the contest on the their web site. The organising society will perform full computer/automatic cross check on all the received logs and will publish the preliminary results not later than fourteenth Sunday after the contest on the their web site. The list of results should include at least the following data: call sign, UL, score, number of QSO’s, number of deleted QSO’s, percentage of deleted points, ODX call sign, ODX UL and ODX QRB. The organising society will judge the contest and publish the official results on their web site and send the results to the operator of the IARU … (the rest of the current text).

Comment: international results are to be obtained by full cross check of all the logs. The claimed and preliminary results are to be published on the web as soon as possible.

H. … deleted

Comment: preliminary results are covered in item G.

In the Appendix, the full cleared-up text of all four above mentioned documents is given (rules _september_145MHz.doc, rules _october_UHF.doc, rules _june_50MHz.doc and procedure_for_organising_contests.doc).

Recommendations:

Rules of “IARU REGION 1 145MHz SEPTEMBER CONTEST”, “IARU REGION 1 UHF/MICROWAVES OCTOBER CONTEST”, “IARU REGION 1 50MHz JUNE CONTEST” and “PROCEDURE FOR ORGANISING IARU REGION 1 VHF/UHF/MICROWAVES CONTESTS” should be updated as indicated in the Appendix.

RULES IARU REGION 1 145 MHz SEPTEMBER CONTEST

1.Eligible entrants

All licensed radio amateurs in Region 1 can participate in the contest. Multiple operator entries will be accepted, provided only one callsign is used during the contest. The contestants must operate within the letter and spirit of the contest and at no greater power than permitted in the ordinary licenses of their country. Stations operating under special high power licenses do so "hors concours"and cannot be placed in the contest proper.
Stations operating temporarily outside their “home-country” are for the purpose of the contest participating as stations in the country where they operate and their logs will have to be submitted to the VHF-Manager/Contest Committee of that country. Logs sent to the contest committee of their home country shall not be submitted to the adjucating society!

2.Contest sections

The contest will comprise the following sections :

i) Stations operated by a single operator, with no operational assistance during the contest,

ii) All other entrants

No more than one transmitter may be in use at any one time. All the equipment of the station (transmitters, receivers and antennas, etc) must be located within a single circle of no greater than 500 meters diameter.

A participating station must operate from the same location throughout the event.

3.Date of contest

The contest will start on the first Saturday of September.

4.Duration of contest

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

5.Contacts

Each station can be worked only once, whether it is fixed, portable or mobile. If a station is worked again during the same contest, only one contact will count for points, but any duplicate contacts should be logged without claim for points and clearly marked as duplicates. Contacts made via active repeaters do not count for points.

6.Type of emission

Contacts may be made in A1A, J3E or F3E(G3E).

7.Contest exchanges

Code numbers exchanged during each contact shall consist of the RS or RST report (note: for the "T" part of the report, see section VIb), followed by a serial number commencing with 001 for the first contact and increasing by one for each successive contact. This exchange must immediately be followed by the complete Locator of the sending station (examples: 59003 JO20DB or 579123 IN55CC).

8.Scoring

Points will be scored on the basis of one point per kilometre, i.e.the calculated distance in kms will be truncated to an integer value and 1 km will be added.
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 (Noordwijkerhout,1987).

9.Entries

The entries must be set out in digital/electronic form fulfilling the requirements under rule 12. Logs must be sent to the national VHF Manager or the national Contest Committee via electonic mail or on electronic data carrier via post not later than the second Monday following the contest weekend. Late entries will not be accepted. The submission of the logs implies that the entrant accepts the contest rules.

10.Judging of entries

The final judging of the entries shall be the responsibility of the organising society, whose decision shall be final. Entrants deliberately contravening any of these rules or disregarding the IARU Region 1 bandplans shall be disqualified[1]).

The claimed contact will be disqualified for any error in the information logged by the station or a time error of more than 10 minutes.

Claiming points for a duplicate contact will be penalized by deducting ten times the number of points claimed for that duplicate contact from the score.

The contest entrants will not be penalized for the failure of non-entrants to comply with the rules.

11.Awards

The winner in each section will receive a certificate.

12.Logs

The logs shall be sent in the digital format only as defined in Section IIIh

---

[1] At the Region 1 Conference in Scheveningen (1972)it was decided that to effect this :
a) each VHF Manager and/or national Contest Committee shall be responsible for monitoring during contests. Additional monitoring stations may be appointed but these stations may not take part in the contest.
b) telephony contacts made with stations operating in the CW subband shall not count for points.
c) the national VHF Manager/Contest Committee is responsible for disqualification based upon the results obtained from a) and b) above.

RULES IARU REGION 1 UHF/MICROWAVES OCTOBER CONTEST

1.Eligible entrants

All licensed radio amateurs in Region 1 can participate in the contest. Multiple operator entries will be accepted, provided only one callsign is used during the contest[2]. The contestants must operate within the letter and spirit of the contest and at no greater power than permitted in the ordinary licenses of their country. Stations operating under special high power licenses do so "hors concours"and cannot be placed in the contest proper.
Stations operating temporarily outside their “home-country” are for the purpose of the contest participating as stations in the country where they operate and their logs will have to be submitted to the VHF-Manager/Contest Committee of that country. Logs sent to the contest committee of their home country shall not be submitted to the adjucating society!

2.Contest sections

The contest will comprise the following sections :

ii) Stations operated by a single operator, with no operational assistance during the contest,

ii) All other entrants

For 432 MHz and for the higher frequency amateur bands till 10 GHz inclusive there will be two sections, as defined above. Furthermore, there will be two sections, as defined above for the combined group of amateur bands above 10 GHz, the so-called millimeter group[3]).

No more than one transmitter may be in use at any one time. All the equipment of the station (transmitters, receivers and antennas, etc) must be located within a single circle of no greater than 500 meters diameter.

A participating station must operate from the same location throughout the event.

3.Date of contest

The contest will start on the first Saturday of October.

4.Duration of contest

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

---

[2] Multi-operator entries are accepted for participation. When such stations use a different call sign on each band, the logs of that Multi-operator entry shall for each band clearly bear an indication of the group.This will preferably be one of the call signs used, but a group name may be used instead. All stations belonging to such a group shall operate from the same location, i.e all the equipment of the station (transmitters, receivers and antennas, etc) must be located within a single circle of no greater than 500 meters diameter.

[3] The millimetre group was introduced during the meeting of the VHF Working Group in Vienna, March 1986, with the aim of promoting the use of these Amateur Service bands. In October 1987 this extended rule was applied for the first time.

5.Contacts

Each station can be worked only once on each band, whether it is fixed, portable or mobile. If a station is worked again during the same contest, only one contact will count for points, but any duplicate contacts should be logged without claim for points and clearly marked as duplicates. Contacts made via active repeaters do not count for points.

6.Type of emission

Contacts may be made in A1A, J3E or F3E(G3E). F2A may be used above 1 GHz.

7.Contest exchanges

Code numbers exchanged during each contact shall consist of the RS or RST report (note: for the "T" part of the report, see section VIb), followed by a serial number. Serial numbering of contacts commences with 001 for the first contact on each band, 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).

8.Scoring

For the amateur bands till 10 GHz inclusive,points will be scored on the basis of one point per kilometer, i.e.the calculated distance in kms will be truncated to an integer value and 1 km will be added.

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 (Noordwijkerhout,1987).

For the combined higher bands the score will be the sum of the points scored on each of the bands, using the following multiplication factors for the number of kilometers scored on each band :

24 Ghz	1 x	120 GHz	5 x
47 GHz	2 x	145 GHz	6 x
75/80 GHz	3 x	245 GHz	10 x

9.Entries

The entries must be set out in digital/electronic form fulfilling the requirements under rule 12. Logs must be sent to the national VHF Manager or the national Contest Committee via electonic mail or on electronic data carrier via post not later than the second Monday following the contest weekend. Late entries will not be accepted. The submission of the logs implies that the entrant accepts the contest rules.

10.Judging of entries

The final judging of the entries shall be the responsibility of the organising society, whose decision shall be final. Entrants deliberately contravening any of these rules or disregarding the IARU Region 1 bandplans shall be disqualified[4]).

---

[4] At the Region 1 Conference in Scheveningen (1972)it was decided that to effect this :
a) each VHF Manager and/or national Contest Committee shall be responsible for monitoring during contests. Additional monitoring stations may be appointed but these stations may not take part in the contest.
b) telephony contacts made with stations operating in the CW subband shall not count for points.

The claimed contact will be disqualified for any error in the information logged by the station or a time error of more than 10 minutes.

Claiming points for a duplicate contact will be penalized by deducting ten times the number of points claimed for that duplicate contact from the score.

The contest entrants will not be penalized for the failure of non-entrants to comply with the rules.

11.Awards

Section winners
Certificates will be issued by the organising society to the winners in the two sections on each band.

Overall winners
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[5]) will be combined, using an adaptive multiplier system:

432 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 secton 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 and the highest number of points scored by any participating station on the band for which the multiplier is being determined.

For the millimetre group the scores as determined according to rule 8 are used for the determination of this group's multiplier.

The entrants scoring highest in each section will be awarded the IARU REGION 1 CERTIFICATE. The organising society will receive the certificates from the chairman of the VHF/UHF/Microwaves committee (signed by the R1 secretary) and will send those after having filled in the relevant data and after signature to the winners in each of the two sections.

The winner in each section will receive a certificate.

12.Logs

The logs shall be sent in the digital format only as defined in Section IIIh

---

c) the national VHF Manager/Contest Committee is responsible for disqualification based upon the results obtained from a) and b) above.

[5] As the 3.4 GHz band is not 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 (Noordwijkerhout 1987)

IIIf

RULES IARU REGION 1 50 MHz JUNE CONTEST

1.Eligible entrants

All licensed radio amateurs in Region 1 who are authorized to use 50 MHz can participate in the contest. Multiple operator entries will be accepted, provided only one callsign is used during the contest. The contestants must operate within the letter and spirit of the contest and at no greater power than permitted in the ordinary licenses of their country. Stations operating under special high power licenses do so "hors concours"and cannot be placed in the contest proper.
Stations operating temporarily outside their “home-country” are for the purpose of the contest participating as stations in the country where they operate and their logs will have to be submitted to the VHF-Manager/Contest Committee of that country. Logs sent to the contest committee of their home country shall not be submitted to the adjucating society!

2.Contest sections

The contest will comprise the following sections :

iii) Stations operated by a single operator, with no operational assistance during the contest,

ii) All other entrants

No more than one transmitter may be in use at any one time. All the equipment of the station (transmitters, receivers and antennas, etc) must be located within a single circle of no greater than 500 meters diameter.

A participating station must operate from the same location throughout the event.

3.Date of contest

The contest will start on the third Saturday of June.

4.Duration of contest

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

5.Contacts

Each station can be worked only once, whether it is fixed, portable or mobile. If a station is worked again during the same contest, only one contact will count for points, but any duplicate contacts should be logged without claim for points and clearly marked as duplicates. Contacts made via active repeaters do not count for points.

6.Type of emission

Contacts may be made in A1A, J3E or F3E(G3E).

7.Contest exchanges

Code numbers exchanged during each contact shall consist of the RS or RST report (note: for the "T" part of the report, see section VIb), followed by a serial number commencing with 001 for the first contact and increasing by one for each successive contact. This exchange must immediately be followed by the complete Locator of the sending station (examples: 59003 JO20DB or 579123 IN55CC).

8.Scoring

Points will be scored on the basis of one point per kilometre, i.e.the calculated distance in kms will be truncated to an integer value and 1 km will be added.
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 (Noordwijkerhout,1987).

9.Entries

The entries must be set out in digital/electronic form fulfilling the requirements under rule 12. Logs must be sent to the national VHF Manager or the national Contest Committee via electonic mail or on electronic data carrier via post not later than the second Monday following the contest weekend. Late entries will not be accepted. The submission of the logs implies that the entrant accepts the contest rules.

10.Judging of entries

The final judging of the entries shall be the responsibility of the organising society, whose decision shall be final. Entrants deliberately contravening any of these rules or disregarding the IARU Region 1 bandplans shall be disqualified[6]).

The claimed contact will be disqualified for any error in the information logged by the station or a time error of more than 10 minutes.

Claiming points for a duplicate contact will be penalized by deducting ten times the number of points claimed for that duplicate contact from the score.

The contest entrants will not be penalized for the failure of non-entrants to comply with the rules.

11.Awards

The winner in each section will receive a certificate.

12.Logs

The logs shall be sent in the digital format only as defined in Section IIIh

---

[6] At the Region 1 Conference in Scheveningen (1972)it was decided that to effect this :
a) each VHF Manager and/or national Contest Committee shall be responsible for monitoring during contests. Additional monitoring stations may be appointed but these stations may not take part in the contest.
b) telephony contacts made with stations operating in the CW subband shall not count for points.
c) the national VHF Manager/Contest Committee is responsible for disqualification based upon the results obtained from a) and b) above.

IIIa.A1

PROCEDURE FOR ORGANISING IARU REGION 1 VHF/UHF/MICROWAVES CONTESTS

A. In January of each year the Chairman of the VHF/UHF/Microwaves Committee will send a letter to the society organising the IARU Region 1 VHF/UHF/Microwaves, 50 MHz and ATV contests in that year, containing an up-to-date copy of the rules for these contests.

B. After receipt the organising societies will distribute these rules (e.g.in the form of a printed booklet) together with an invitation to participate in the contests to all IARU Region 1 member societies. The invitation should contain details on where to send the logs etc. This should be done before the end of March of that year.

C. Not later than the seventh Sunday after the contest the national VHF Manager or properly nominated Contest Committee will forward to the society organising the contest one copy of each entry, after having examined the logs and after having certified those to be acceptable to the best of their knowledge. Stations operating temporarily outside their "home-country" are for the purpose of the contest participating as stations in the country where they operate and their logs will have to be submitted to the VHF-Manager/Contest Committee of that country. Logs send to the contest committee of their home country shall not be submitted to the adjucating society!

D. Two weeks will be allowed for transit to the organising society and thus all national contributions should be in by the ninth Sunday after the contest weekend.

E. The organising society will allow a margin of three weeks for possible postal delays and will declare the entry closed on the twelfth Sunday after the contest weekend. Entries received after this date will be returned to sender or -if agreed by the sender by mail or fax-be destroyed.

A. The organising society will publish the results based on the claimed scores not later than thirteenth Sunday after the contest on the their web site. The organising society will perform full computer/automatic cross check on all the received logs and will publish the preliminary results not later than fourteenth Sunday after the contest on the their web site. The list of results should include at least the following data: call sign, UL, score, number of QSO's, number of deleted QSO's, percentage of deleted points, ODX call sign, ODX UL and ODX QRB. The list of deleted QSOs should be available on the web site to all interested amateurs. The organising society will judge the contest and publish the official results on their web site and send the results to the operator of the IARU R1 web site for publication and will send them (in electronic form) to all VHF Managers and/or Contest Committees of Societies who did send logs, and to the chairman of region 1 VHF/UHF/Microwave comittee not later than two months after the date mentioned in E. above (e.g.not later five months after the contest took place). Optionally certificates for all participants may be provided for distribution by national societies. See also section IIIm.