This Contest Manual is an official South African Radio League document and counts as a justification for being absent over weekends.
The 16th SARL Blue Book

(Compiled by Geoff Levey, ZS6C and Dennis Green, ZS4BS)

“The Blue Book”

This is the sixteenth edition of the Blue Book, the South African Radio League Contest Manual containing the rules of the following contests and activities:

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Each contest’s rules need to be read in conjunction with the General Rules contained herein.

We would like to express our grateful appreciation to the willingness of the contest committees to run the various contests for the year 2018. We have solicited help to integrate their inputs into both the separate contests and the general rules. By incorporating several common features into the General Rules, we have greatly simplified the individual contest
rules.

The perpetual dates will eliminate guesswork as to when a particular contest will take place in the future, as they are now all tied down to a specific day or weekend of a month.

Only the address as stated in the rules should be used for log submissions! Please circulate the Blue Book amongst your amateur friends.

Why is it called “The Blue Book”? The first issue was published with a blue cover and from there the name.

Good contesting,
SARL Contest Committee
## Activity Calendar

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<tr>
<td>8 and 9</td>
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South African Radio League General Contest Rules

1. General

1.1 These contest rules apply to all South African Radio League and Club contests with effect from 1 January 2018. Contestants shall also comply with the specific rules of each specific contest.
1.2 Complaints or suggestions regarding rules may be submitted in writing to the Contest Manager. Submissions will be collated and considered for possible future revision.
1.3 All operations shall be conducted in accordance with the limitations of the entrant’s licence and within the rules and spirit of the contest.
1.4 Copies of the various log sheets and summary sheets are available in MS Word and MS Excel format at [http://www.sarl.org.za/public/contestscontestrules.asp](http://www.sarl.org.za/public/contestscontestrules.asp)

2. Proposed Events or Contests

Proposals for any new contests or other on-the-air activities may be submitted to the South African Radio League Contest Manager by 31 October annually for inclusion in the following year’s Official Calendar of Events.

3. Definitions

These general definitions and their limitations will apply unless the contest in question states otherwise.

3.1 Single operator. A station operated by one person, who receives no assistance whatsoever from any other person in operating, log keeping, checking and so on.
3.2 Multi-operator. A station operated by more than one person, either for the entire duration of the contest or part of the time. There is no limitation on the number of operators that may be used. One operator must act as Entrant and submit the entry.
3.3 Equipment. This includes both station equipment and antennas utilised for the contest. All equipment for stations must be located within a diameter of 500 m. All antennas used by the entrant must be physically connected by coax cable to the transmitters and receivers used by the entrant.
3.4 Fixed Station: A station, which is operated from and located at the registered main station address of a licensee as shown on a radio station licence, regardless of the call sign being used for the contest. Except in the case of stations normally shared by several licensees (e.g. relatives), only one call sign may be used for the duration of the contest.
3.5 Portable / Field Station: A temporary station, operated from a location other than that of the registered main station address of a licensed amateur. Antennas may not be supported by any permanent man-made structure or building. The power for the station shall be drawn from a source other than the normal mains supply, e.g. batteries, portable generator, solar power, wind power or some alternative source of power. Storage batteries may be recharged during the contest by any of the above alternative power sources, including a motor vehicle, but a mains supply may not be used for this purpose.
3.6 Electronic Logs and Summary Sheets. This constitutes a log submission via e-mail. It can be a MS Excel file, a Cabrillo or ADIF file with a summary sheet.
3.7 Consecutive numbering sequence. Consecutive - Adjective: In regular succession without gaps; Successive (without a break); one after the other; uninterrupted. Afrikaans – Opeenvolgend.

4. Contacts

4.1 A contact consists of the acknowledgement of receipt of a call sign and contest data such as RS(T) report and required exchange e.g. consecutive incrementing serial number commencing from 001.
4.2 Note that if the contest exchange includes the RS(T) report, the RS(T) must be logged as given during the exchange. It is acceptable to include DX stations outside of the ZS call areas. If the DX station does not reply with the correct contest ex-change, the RS(T) exchange is the minimum and it is still incumbent upon the contestant to send the full contest exchange.
4.3 Duplicate contacts must be logged, with zero points claimed.
4.4 Cross-band, repeater, digipeaters and gateway contacts do not count.
4.5 Proof of making a contact may be required.

5. Electronic Logs and Summary Sheets

5.1 Participants may only submit logs in Excel, Cabrillo or ADIF format with a summary sheet.
5.2 Scanned documents submitted as JPG or PDF will be treated as check logs.
5.3 For contests requiring serial numbers, a single consecutive numbering sequence starting with 001, shall be used for all contacts. However, a multi-operator station transmitting on several bands simultaneously may at their discretion use separate number sequences for each band.
5.4 The declaration to be included on the Excel, Cabrillo or ADIF summary sheet shall state: *I declare that this station was operated in accordance with the Amateur Radio Regulations, Terms of my Licence and the Rules of the Contest. I have read the contest and general rules. I accept the decision of the Contest Committee.*
5.5 The Contest Committee may request a signed paper copy.

6. Closing Date and Announcement of preliminary and final Results

6.1 Entries shall be postmarked or e-mailed no later than seven (7) days after the contest has ended. This applies to all South African Radio League contests.
6.2 The Contest Committee shall compile a list of claimed scores submitted within seven (7) days of the closing date of the competition. This list shall be e-mailed to all entrants for whom e-mail addresses are available and submitted to the South African Radio League webmaster for publication on the web site.
6.3 The Contest Committee shall compile the results and forward them together with a contest analysis to the South African Radio League Contest Manager, the South African Radio League News compiler and to the Editor of HF Happenings for publication. It is also recommended that the Committee e-mail the results to all participants for whom addresses
7. **Address for Contest Entries**

Entries shall be submitted to the Contest Committee for the contest concerned and NOT to the South African Radio League Headquarters. The relevant address for each contest is published in the rules for that contest.

8. **Locators**

In all contests where stations are required to transmit their location as part of the exchange, the Maidenhead Grid Locator System shall be used. A grid locator consists of two (2) letters followed by two (2) numbers. For certain contests, the requirement is to exchange six (6) character grid square information.

9. **Dispute Resolution**

9.1 Written objections shall be submitted to the South African Radio League Contest Manager within seven (7) days of the announcement or publication of the list of claimed scores for the contest concerned. The Contest Manager shall convey the objection to the relevant Contest Committee for comment.

9.2 The Contest Committee shall present its decision to the South African Radio League Contest Manager within seven days of receipt of such objections and its decision shall be final.

10. **Penalties and Disqualification**

10.1 Any entrant found to be operating in contravention of the Rules or in any way, not operating within the spirit of the contest may be disqualified. The Contest Committee’s decision in this regard and in the interpretation of any other rule shall be final. Reports of persistent poor signal quality or poor operating practice shall be deemed to fall into this classification.

10.2 Unmarked duplicate contacts or contacts containing incorrect or invalid times, call signs, grid locators or exchanges will be removed from the entrant’s log. In addition, the Contest Committee may impose a penalty of three valid contacts of equal value for every contact removed from the entrant’s log. A reduction in claimed score of more than 20% shall result in exclusion from the results.

10.3 Any entrant excluded in terms of this rule may appeal to the contest committee in writing within seven (7) days of notice of, providing full details of reasons to overturn the decision. The Committee shall announce its final decision no later than seven (7) days after receipt of the appeal.

10.4 Entries that do not contain the required information on Log and Summary Sheets, or that are illegible may be rejected or reclassified as check logs and will not be eligible for awards.
11. Limitations

11.1 Operators of a multi-operator station may not be claimed as contacts by that station.
11.2 Contacts with call signs appearing as operators on any of the summary sheets forming an entry shall not count for points or multipliers.
11.3 Contacts with call signs being family members residing with the operator shall not count for points or multipliers.
11.4 Stations may be worked only once. Working various alternative calls owned by a station, or working a club station and then logging various operators from a club station is not permitted.
11.5 Working various family members with their own call signs from the same transmitter is not permitted.
11.6 The problem of “unique” QSOs is a difficult one. To ensure fairness and good sportsmanship like behaviour, all participants, including those who are not actively competing i.e. those stations “handing out points”, should be encouraged to make as many QSOs as they possibly can and not only make contacts with their club members and or friends.

12. Prizes, Awards and Certificates

12.1 Unless stated differently in the contest specific rules, the following will apply to all South African Radio League contests.
12.2 Awards and trophies will only be awarded to South African Radio League members.
12.3 Certificates will be issued for the first three places in each category of the competition.
12.4 A prize will normally be offered for first place i.e. highest score regardless of category entered. However, for contests that consist of multiple parts, e.g. the South African Radio League QRP, South African Radio League National Field Day, etc., a prize will be on offer for the overall winner of the contest.
12.5 A participation certificate will be issued to all participants that submit a log that contains ten or more entries.
12.6 To increase the awareness and participation of the younger amateurs (under 25s), it has been decided that for all the South African Radio League contests to give separate recognition for the best performing youngsters i.e. 1st, 2nd or 3rd. The U25 group still compete with the main field and stand a chance to win a place in the standings as per normal. All youngsters that qualify i.e. U25 must state their age when submitting their logs.

13. VHF/UHF Contests. How to avoid QRM especially on 50 and 144 MHz

13.1 Many contestants have complained about strong analogue stations hogging a calling frequency and burying weaker stations underneath. The following remedies are suggested.
13.2 Give a CQ contest call on 50,200 or 144,200 MHz and ask stations to listen for you on a frequency higher up the band. Other stations who heard your call will follow you. This is how it is done during HF DX contests.
13.3 Club or field stations may select a spot frequency and call from there. It would not take stations long to discover who is operating and where
13.4 Stations must learn to tune and listen around the band and not only to one frequency.
Local stations should spread out to avoid QRM to each other. This will give everyone a fair chance to work distant stations.

14. **Description of the Maidenhead Locator System by Hal Lund, ZS6WB**

14.1 There are still a few VHF operators out there who may not completely understand the grid locator system and the following is for their benefit. The following description is taken from The ARRL World Grid Locator Atlas.

14.2 The earth’s surface is divided into $18 \times 18 = 324$ “fields,” each one 20 degrees longitude by 10 degrees latitude. Each field is divided into 10 by 10 = 100 “squares,” each one 2 degrees longitude x 1-degree latitude. Each square is finally divided into 24 by 24 = 576 ”sub-squares,” each one 5 minute’s longitude by 2, 5 minutes latitude. The fields are indicated by two (2) letters AA to RR, the squares by two (2) digits 00 to 99 and the sub-squares by two (2) letters AA to XX. The first character is the longitude character and the second character are the latitude character on each level. The numbering direction is everywhere west to east and south to north. The complete locator is the sum of all six characters, for example “KG43MJ.” Recommended abbreviation for the word "locator" on CW is "LOC."

14.3 The ARRL World Grid Locator Atlas is inexpensive and if you do not have it available on your computer, it is recommended that every VHF operator try to get a copy. It contains a world map showing all 324 fields and more detailed maps showing the locations of all the 32 400 squares.

14.4 It is general policy in VHF circles throughout the world to use "Squares" as VHF contest multipliers and for VHF award purposes while the small "Sub-squares" are used only for determining distances. As a point of interest, grid fields and squares are now used for several HF awards including some recently introduced by CQ Magazine and even our own WAGS Award for contacts with South African grids on either HF or VHF.

15. **Contest preferred spectrum**

The following frequencies is an extract from the IARU Region 1 band plan


<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Band</th>
<th>CW Frequency Range</th>
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<tr>
<td>160 m</td>
<td>1 810 – 1 838 kHz</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>80 m</td>
<td>3 510 – 3 560 kHz</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3 603 - 3 650 kHz</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3 700 – 3 800 kHz</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(3 651 to 3 699.99 is a contest free segment)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3 580 – 3 582 kHz</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3 582 – 3 620 kHz</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>40 m</td>
<td>7 000 – 7 040 kHz</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>7 063 – 7 100 kHz</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>7 130 – 7 200 kHz</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(7 101 to 7 129.99 is a contest free segment)
15.3 20 metres  
   CW:  14 000 – 14 060 kHz  
   SSB:  14 125 – 14 300 kHz  
   PSK:  14 070 – 14 072 kHz  
   RTTY:  14 080 – 14 099 kHz  
15.4 The frequencies in the band plan are understood as “transmitted frequencies” (not those of the suppressed carrier!) Lowest dial setting for LSB Voice mode: 1 843, 3 603 and 7 063 kHz

16. The South African provinces:

16.1 EC – the Eastern Cape  
16.2 FS – the Free State  
16.3 GP – Gauteng  
16.4 KN – KwaZulu-Natal  
16.5 LP – Limpopo  
16.6 MP – Mpumalanga  
16.7 NC – the Northern Cape  
16.8 NW – North West  
16.9 WC – the Western Cape  
16.10 DX – Used for all others that does not fall in the above group  

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Non-Competitive Activities

Hunting Lions in the air: 13 and 14 January 2018

The event takes place on the weekend closest to 13 January, the birth date of Melvin Jones, the founder of the Lions organisation. It will not be a contest but merely a means for Lions to exchange greetings with other Lions and Lions Clubs. Radio amateurs and members of the various Lions Clubs get together and the Lions are allowed to exchange greetings with other Lions under supervision of the radio amateur. Normally the name and number of the Lions Club is the exchange.

World Amateur Radio Day: 18 April


World QRP Day: 17 June

Get on the air using QRP power and make as many contacts as you can. Utilise the various amateur modes.

International Lighthouse and Lightship Weekend: 18 and 19 August 2018

The basic objective of the event is to promote public awareness of lighthouses and lightships and their need for preservation and restoration and at the same time to promote amateur radio and to foster International goodwill. Lighthouses are fast becoming an endangered species with the introduction of Global Positioning Systems and Satellite Navigation and the automation of the light source to solar power, which has resulted in the withdrawal of management personnel (Keepers). It is hoped that this event will highlight this situation and help prevent further desecration of these magnificent structures all around the world.

Jamboree-on-the-Air/CQ Hou Koers: 19 and 21 October 2018

Radio amateurs and members of the Voortrekker, Scout and Guide movements, allowing the youth and their leaders to exchange greetings with Voortrekkers, Scouts and Guides in South Africa and beyond the borders.

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South African Radio League Contest and Operating Awards

**Silent Keys Memorial Trophy SSB.** Awarded by the Contest Committee to the amateur who achieves the highest score during the annual South African Radio League HF Phone Contest (5 August 2018).

**Joseph White Trophy.** Awarded by the Contest Committee to the amateur who achieves the highest score on any one band, during the annual South African Radio League HF Phone Contest (5 August 2018).

**The AKYAB Trophy.** Awarded by the Contest Committee to the amateur who achieves the highest score in his/her first year of phone, during the annual South African Radio League HF phone Contest (5 August 2018).

**ZS4BS Trophy Digital.** Awarded by the Contest Committee to the amateur who achieves the highest score during the annual South African Radio League HF Digital Contest (19 August 2018).

**South African Radio League Trophy.** Awarded by the Contest Committee to the amateur who achieves the highest score on any one band, during the annual South African Radio League HF Digital Contest (19 August 2018).

**Silent Keys Memorial Trophy CW.** Awarded by the Contest Committee to the amateur who achieves the highest score during the annual South African Radio League HF CW Contest (26 August 2018).

**Anon Trophy.** Awarded by the Contest Committee to the amateur who achieves the highest score on any one band, during the annual South African Radio League HF CW Contest (26 August 2018).

**HOS Trough.** Awarded by the Contest Committee to the amateur who achieves the highest aggregate score in the three annual South African Radio League HF Contests (5, 19 and 26 August 2018).

**Fred Mills Trophy.** Awarded by the Contest Committee to the amateur who achieves the highest score during the annual South African Radio League HF Phone/CW/Digital Contest and who has never won a South African Radio League HF Contest Trophy before (5, 19 and 26 August 2017).

**The Club Participation Award (Branch Participant Trophy).** Awarded by the Contest Committee to the Club who achieves the highest participation in the annual South African Radio League HF CW, Phone and Digital Contests (5, 19 and 26 August 2018).
The “Ray Webber, ZS6RSW” VHF/UHF Trophy. Awarded by the Contest Committee to the amateur who achieves the highest score during the annual South African Radio League VHF/UHF Contest (17 and 18 March and 22 and 23 September 2018).

Arthur Hemsley 2 metre Trophy. Awarded by Council to a Radio Amateur for his/her individual achievements with transmissions in the 2-metre amateur band. This award is made for extraordinary performance on EME or modes such as Tropospheric propagation. It is not for the longest distance worked but rather for persistence in achieving something special on 2 metres.

Radio ZS Two Metre Floating Trophy. Awarded by Council to the amateur who achieved the longest distance on the 2-metre band during the year.

Bert Buckley Six Metre Trophy. Awarded by Council to any radio amateur for his/her individual achievements with transmissions in the six-metre amateur band. This award is not for the longest distance worked but for outstanding work or activity on six metres.

Barney Joel Trophy. Awarded by Council to any member of the South African Radio League for the best performance during the year whilst working HF mobile. This award could be made for performance by an individual in rally or another public event communication, etc.

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Africa All Mode International DX Contest

1. **Aim**

The objective of this all mode contest is to stimulate contesting from Africa. All participating stations worldwide may work any country during the contest period. African DXCC entities are defined as those valid per the ARRL DXCC AF listing published at the time of the contest.

2. **Date**

12:00 UTC on Saturday 15 September to 12:00 UTC on Sunday 16 September 2018. Both single and multi-operator stations may operate for the entire 24-hour period. There are no mandated breaks in operating time required.

3. **Bands**

160, 80, 40, 20, 15 and 10 metres, in accordance with your country and specific licensing requirements governing the portion(s) of these bands that you may use. No contest QSOs are allowed on 12, 17, 30 or 60 metres.

4. **Modes**

CW, RTTY and SSB. Contestants may elect to enter a single mode category (where offered – see “Entry Categories” below) or take part as a mixed-mode entrant. Mixed-mode entrants may work the same station once on each mode per band (see “Entry Categories” for more details).

5. **Log Submissions and Deadlines**

No paper entries will be accepted for contest or checking purposes. Entries must be submitted in Cabrillo format only and be received no later than 15 days after the contest – Monday 1 October 2018. Entries must be sent to contest@sarl.org.za

6. **Awards**

6.1 Electronic certificates will be awarded and emailed to:

6.1.1  The highest scoring entrant in each category for the contest
6.1.2  The highest scoring entrant in each category per continent
6.1.3  The highest scoring entrant overall (any category) per ITU zone
6.1.4  The overall top Rookie score each year per continent
6.1.5  The first and second place entrants in each category from each entity entered
7. Results

Results will be posted on the South African Radio League website at www.sarl.org.za two months after the entry deadline.

8. Entry Categories

For all categories, the use of spotting nets and skimmers are permitted. For all categories, there are no restrictions on the number of band or mode changes made in any given period during the contest. Contestants may only submit their log in one of the 18 categories available.

8.1. Single Operator Single Transmitter
8.1.1. Single band
8.1.1.1. Phone only, high, low and QRP power levels
8.1.1.2. CW only, high low and QRP power levels
8.1.1.3. RTTY only, high low and QRP power levels
8.1.1.4. Mixed mode, high low and QRP power levels
8.1.2. All band
8.1.2.1. Phone only, high, low and QRP power levels
8.1.2.2. CW only, high low and QRP power levels
8.1.2.3. RTTY only, high low and QRP power levels
8.1.2.4. Mixed mode, high low and QRP power levels

One person performs all operating and logging functions and without exception, only one transmitted signal is allowed at any given time. Mixed mode entrants may work a station once per mode per band.

8.2. Single Operator Two Radio
8.2.1. Single mode all band, low power
8.2.2. Single mode all band, high power
8.2.3. Mixed mode all band, high power
8.2.4. Mixed mode all band, low power

8.3. Multi Operator Single Transmitter
8.3.1. Single band
8.3.1.1. Mixed mode high power
8.3.1.2. Mixed mode low power
8.3.2. All band
8.3.2.1. Mixed mode high power
8.3.2.2. Mixed mode low power

8.4. Multi Operator Multi Transmitter
8.4.1. Mixed mode all band, high power
8.4.2. Mixed mode all band, low power

All Multi-op efforts must enter the mixed mode category. There is no multi-op or SO2R QRP power level. Stations may be worked once per mode per band. In all categories, cross-mode, cross band and repeater contacts is not allowed.
9. **Categories Eligible for Rookie Awards**

The rookie awards in the AMA contest aim to reward individual rather than team efforts, which show flexibility and skill in operating procedure for recently licensed amateurs. They are available for the categories of 8.1.1.4 and 8.1.2.4. You are eligible to mark your log submission as a rookie entry if you were licensed for the first time on, or less than two years prior to, the contest date. If you enter one of the rookie categories, you may not enter a different category in the same contest. It is not mandatory to enter as a rookie if you qualify as such, you may also elect to enter any of the non-rookie categories.

10. **Contest Exchange**

The exchange is your RS(T) (not checked during the log checking process), followed by an incremental serial number commencing at “001”. Changing modes or bands does not necessitate different serial number ranges, i.e. the serial number simply progresses from “001” upwards sequentially as you log QSOs in any category, for single or multi-op efforts. A complete exchange, consisting of an RS(T) and serial number, must be logged for each QSO.

11. **Power Levels**

For the purposes of this contest, all entrants must adhere to the power levels (expressed as Peak Envelope Power, or PEP) as set out below when determining their entry category. Additionally, all entrants must adhere to their specific licensing requirements regarding permitted power and other regulations, which take precedent over the contest-defined power levels when operating in the contest.

11.1. QRP is defined as 5 watts PEP or less as measured at the antenna port at the transmitter, or power amplifier (if used).

11.2. Low power is defined as more than 5 watts PEP but not more than 100 watts PEP measured at the antenna port either at the transmitter, or power amplifier (if used).

11.3. High power is defined as more than 100 watts PEP but not more than 1 500 watts PEP measured at the antenna port either at the transmitter, or power amplifier (if used).

12. **Points, multipliers and scoring**

12.1 Points
All QSOs are awarded 1 point.

12.2 Band multiplier
The band multiplier is determined on a band-by-band basis.
The band multiplier increments by one for every AF-DXCC entity worked, for each of the three operating modes: CW, SSB and RTTY.

12.3 Band score
Band score is simply the band points multiplied by the band multiplier. Band score = (band points) X (band multiplier)

12.4 Total score
Total score is simply the sum of all the band scores.
Total score = 10 m band score + 15 m band score + 20 m band score + 40 m band score + 80 m
band score + 160 m band score

13. AF Entity Definition

13.1. For the purposes of this contest, Africa entities are considered as per the standard ARRL DXCC AF list as published at the time/year of the contest currently taking place.
13.2. Ship-based and aeronautical stations only count 1 point when worked and do not count as multipliers regardless of them being in international or territorial waters during the contest period.

14. Cabrillo Information

QSO: Required information fields and format.

--------info sent-------- --------info rcvd--------
QSO: freq mo date time call rst exch call rst exch t QSO:
***** ** yyyy-mm-dd nnnn ******* nnnn ******* nnnn ******* n QSO:
28080 Ry 2014-09-12 0531 ZS6A 59 001 W1AW/5 59 073 0
00000000011111111122222222233333333344444444455555555555556666666666677777777788
123456789012345678901234567890123456789012345678901234567890123456789012345678901

Note for Column 81 (transmitter number): For the MULTI-TWO category the last column in the log indicates which transmitter made the QSO. It must be a 0 or a 1. This column is not required for other categories.

15. General

15.1. Conditions of Entry: Each entrant agrees to be bound by the provisions set out in this document. The decisions of the South African Radio League Contest Committee are final and binding.
15.2. The use of self-spotting on packet via any means is inconsistent with the spirit and intent of this contest.
15.3. The use of non-amateur radio means of communications (e.g. telephone or internet) for soliciting a contact during the contest period is inconsistent with the spirit and intent of this contest.
15.4. Where contest-preferred segments are incorporated into regional band plans, entrants must observe them.
15.5. Penalties and disqualifications: participants breaching the provisions as set out in this document may be subject to a point deduction as decided by the contest committee, or in serious cases disqualification.
15.6. Duplicate QSOs will not attract any penalties, but will also not count for additional points.
15.7. All transmitters and receivers must be located within a 500-metre diameter circle, excluding antennas.
15.8. The use of remote receiving or transmitting installations outside of your own entity is prohibited.

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Antique Wireless Association CW Activity Day

1. **Aim**

   The aim of the CW Activity Day is for participants to contact as many amateurs as possible on the 20, 40 and 80 m amateur bands.

2. **Date and Time**

   13:00 – 15:00 UTC on Sunday 4 February 2018.

3. **Frequencies**

   14 000 to 14 060 kHz; 7 000 to 7 040 kHz and 3 510 to 3 560 kHz

4. **Categories**

   4.1 Single Operator All Band, Low Power (maximum 100 W)
   4.2 Single operator All Band, QRP (maximum 5 W)
   4.3 Single Operator Single Band, Low Power (maximum 100 W)
   4.4 Single operator Single band, QRP (maximum 5 W)

5. **Exchange**

   RST, operators name and Grid Square locator

6. **Scoring**

   Contacts count 1 point for low power, 2 points for QRP.

7. **Awards**

   Certificates are awarded to the first places and the highest single band score.

8. **Log Sheets**

   Log sheets must be submitted by Monday 20 February 2017 to andyzs6ady@vodamail.co.za

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Antique Wireless Association Valve QSO Party

1. **Aim**

The aim of the AWA Valve QSO party is to create activity on the 40 and 80 metre bands. It is a phone only contest using AM and SSB. Preferably, valve radios or radios with valves in them may be used. No linear amplifiers may be used.

2. **Date and Time**

2.1 AM QSO Party
13:00 to 17:00 UTC Saturday 5 May and
13:00 to 17:00 UTC Saturday 6 October 2018

2.2 SSB QSO Party
13:00 to 17:00 UTC Sunday 6 May and
13:00 to 17:00 UTC Sunday 7 October 2017

3. **Frequencies**

3.1 40 metres: 7 063 to 7 100 kHz and 7 130 to 7 200 kHz
3.2 80 metres: 3 603 to 3 650 kHz

4. **Power**

The output power may not exceed 100 w, unless the rig itself has a higher output power (FTDX400, etc.)

5. **Exchange**

Call sign, RS report, a consecutive serial numbers starting at 001 and the type of radio used, e.g. HT37 TX.

6. **Scoring (Your radio)**

All valve radio: 3 points per contact Hybrid radio: 2 points per contact Solid State Radio: 1 point per contact

7. **Log Sheets**

The log sheets must be submitted by Monday 21 May 2018 and Monday 22 October 2018 to andyzs6ady@vodafone.co.za. Certificates will be awarded to the first three places in each category – AM and SSB

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The Pears HF DX Contest

1. **Aim**

The aim of the Pears HF DX Contest is to encourage Southern African radio amateurs to work DX.

2. **Contest Period**

Sunday 28 October 2018 starting at 12:00 UTC and ending at 16:00 UTC.

3. **Modes and Frequencies**

SSB, CW and Digital (any digital mode will be acceptable) with activity on 20, 15 and 10 metres

4. **Entrance Categories**

4.1 Single Operator, Base or Field Station
4.2 Multi Operator, Base or Field Station

5. **Station Requirements**

Stations may use the maximum power permitted according to the regulations in the country of operation.

6. **Points**

6.1 One point is earned for each QSO. A station may be contacted once on each contest band
6.2 Field stations must multiply their score by two (2) and a further multiplier of two (2) is available if the station uses a non-gain antenna with reference to a dipole. Then the score is multiplied by the number of countries contacted

7. **Exchange**

Call sign and CQ Zone.

8. **Logs**

Log sheets must be submitted by 19 November 2018 by e-mail to contest@peham.co.za or to the Port Elizabeth Amateur Radio Society, PO Box 10402, Linton Grange, Port Elizabeth, 6015 or. No late submissions will be considered. Should more than three logs be received per category, a certificate will be awarded to the winner in each category.
The PEARS National VHF/UHF Contest

1. Introduction

1.1 The PEARS National VHF and UHF contest will take place from 19 to 21 January 2018 and is open to all licensed amateurs in the RSA, including non-members of the SARL, as well as amateurs from the neighbouring states.

1.2 The aim of a VHF and UHF contest is to stimulate activity on these bands, make many long-distance contacts possible, establish new records, encourage the improvement of VHF and UHF equipment and advance amateur radio.

1.3 This is a 44-hour dual contest for analogue and digital modes, which is divided into 2 sessions that will spread out activity over the contest period and reflect changes of propagation.

1.4 So, watch out for Tropo Ducting or Meteor Scatter in the early mornings or at night on 50 MHz and 144 MHz, while in the daytime look out for Rover stations, Aircraft scatter and possibly Sporadic-E. This is also a wonderful camping period with lots of fun for field stations. Amateurs are requested to participate in both the contests and keep the bands alive.

2. Dates and Times.

The first 22-hour session of the VHF and UHF contest starts at 16:00 UTC on Friday 19 January and closes at 14:00 UTC on Saturday afternoon 20 January. The second 22-hour session commences immediately after 14:00 UTC on Saturday and ends at 12:00 UTC on Sunday 21 January 2018.

3. Categories

3.1 Base Station. A base station is the normal home or fixed station. It may be operated by one or more amateurs as long as they use their own call signs.

3.2 Field Station. A field station is a temporary station set up in a caravan, tent or motor vehicle and may erect any type of antenna system but must use their own portable power supply. One or more amateurs may operate it, but they must use their own call signs.

3.3 Club Multi-Operator Station. A Club Multi-operator station can only operate under the Club’s call sign. It may use many operators, since all five bands can be worked at the same time and beginners should be encouraged to participate. A club multi-operator team may operate either from a base or a field station as desired.

3.4 Rover Category. A Rover is a mobile station that operates from a stationary position in any four 4-digit grid squares during a session. Rover activity should be encouraged as they create a lot of extra activity during a VHF contest and should appeal to townhouse amateurs.

3.5 Limited Category. This category is limited to a total of 4 hours per session divided into two 2-hour periods during each session and may be scheduled during any part of a session.
operating from any fixed grid position as a base or field station or from a stationary mobile.

3.6. The 144,400 MHz and 145,500 MHz FM Category. The main objective of this divisional FM category is to encourage the younger generation, novices or even some old-timers, to participate and get the taste of VHF contesting using simplified rules. You may operate with any type of equipment or antennas on 144,350 – 144,400 MHz FM and/or 145,500 – 145,575 MHz FM, fixed or mobile and try and make as many contacts as possible. You only have to exchange signal reports, but could learn about propagation, have fun and compare notes. You can score 10 points for each contact you make in your own division or 20 points from another division. Stations from other categories and divisions may also QSY to these frequencies and give you some points, of course, they will score their normal one point per kilometre, but you must now give them your grid locator too. There are two sessions, so you can work the same station twice and score extra points, or hook up with a station that you missed during the first session.

4. Contest Frequency Channels

50,200 – 50,250 MHz SSB/CW
50,250 – 50,300 MHz Digital
50,350 – 50,400 MHz FM

70,100 – 70,150 MHz SSB/CW
70,150 – 70,175 MHz Digital
70,200 – 70,275 MHz FM

144,200 – 144,250 MHz SSB/CW
144,250 – 144,300 MHz Digital
144,350 – 144,400 MHz FM
145,500 – 145,575 MHz FM

432,200 – 432,250 MHz SSB/CW
432,250 – 432,300 MHz Digital
432,350 – 432,400 MHz FM

1296,200 – 1296,250 MHz SSB/CW
1296,250 – 1296,300 MHz Digital
1296,350 – 1296,400 MHz FM

4.1. To avoid pile-ups on the calling frequencies of 50,200 MHz or 144,200 MHz SSB, it is suggested that when activity is high to call on these frequencies, but continue the QSO 5 to 15 kHz higher up the band, as done during HF DX contests. So, tune around at times.

4.2. CW stations call CQ 1 kHz above the SSB frequency, (for example 50,201 MHz or 144,201 MHz, to be audible to USB stations too, but you must work CW stations 20 kHz higher in frequency, i.e. 50,220 MHz CW or 144,220 MHz CW).

4.3. Since VHF amateurs are widely spread out across South Africa, it is important to know when and in what direction they are transmitting. Therefore, spotting and any form of liaison will be permitted to solve this problem.
5. Contestants

All ZR/ZS/ZU amateurs may participate as well as amateurs from the six neighbouring states i.e. Namibia (V5), Botswana (A2), Zimbabwe (Z2), Mozambique (C9), Lesotho (7P) and Swaziland (3DA) and only contacts with these states will count.

6. Reports and Scoring

6.1 A valid contact consists of an exchange of call signs, signal reports and the locator, such as the 6-digit Maidenhead Locator or co-ordinates. Stations in the five categories (3.1 to 3.5) claim one point per kilometre, but points may only be claimed for one (1) analogue and one (1) digital contact per station on the same band during a session. A Rover station can be worked from four different 4-digit grid squares and each will count as a new contact.

6.2 A multiplier, based on the total number of four-digit grid squares worked on all bands, will multiply the scores achieved on all bands and categories. The motive behind this is to encourage long distance operation and to log as many 4-digit grid squares as possible on all the VHF and UHF bands to boost your score.

7. Log Sheets

7.1 Separate log sheets are required for analogue and digital. The top of your log sheet must indicate Category, Full Name, Call Sign, Locator and E-mail Address.

7.2 The log sheets require only the Date, Time, Frequency, Call Sign of the station worked, Signal Reports received, the Locator of station worked. Please note that Rover stations must add the suffix /R to their call signs (e.g. ZS6XYZ/R).

7.3 All entries must be submitted to PEARS not later than 15 February 2018 and their decision will be final. The postal and e-mail addresses are given below. The names of the winners as well as a complete list of all the scores will be posted on the SARL VHF forum and the PEARS web site early in March 2018.

8. Awards

8.1 PEARS will award certificates to the analogue and digital winners and runners-up as listed below.

8.2 The grand overall national winner and first and second runner-up on analogue or digital modes are based on the stations which scored maximum points on all the bands in the three categories (3.1) Base, (3.2) Field and (3.3) Club Multi-operator.

8.3 The longest distance on analogue or digital achieved on each band exceeding 400 kilometres.

8.4 The Divisional overall analogue winner and first and second runner-up who scored the most points on all the five bands in each of the three main categories (3.1, 3.2 and 3.3) on analogue mode. This will offer three participants in every division an opportunity to be awarded with certificates.

8.5 Participants in the Rover and Limited categories, can qualify as an overall winner or first runner-up or second runner-up based on their maximum scores on all the five bands.
8.6. The 144 MHz and 145 MHz FM category will also feature an overall winner and first and second runner-up in their respective divisions.

9. Further Information

For further information please contact the Port Elizabeth Amateur Radio Society, PO Box 10402, Linton Grange 6015, Port Elizabeth, e-mail Mike, ZS2FM at mikebosch@gmail.com or call him on mobile 084 612 9600.

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RaDAR Challenge

1. Aim

1.1 The RaDAR “Challenge” is a unique event aimed at promoting the use of Rapidly Deployable Amateur Radio stations. Categories (Fixed, Field or Moving) may be changed at any time during the challenge. The points system is so structured as to encourage portable RaDAR operations especially moveable RaDAR stations.

1.2 RaDAR operators are encouraged to be self-sufficient during each challenge, with not only power supply and communications equipment but food, water, protective clothing and shelter.

2. Date and Time

2.1 RaDAR operators define their own operating time schedule. It’s up to each individual to plan his / her MAXIMUM, SINGLE PERIOD, FOUR HOUR ops. He / she should consider propagation with the ultimate goal of inter-continental RaDAR to RaDAR communications in mind.

2.2 00:00 UTC to 23:59 UTC on Saturday 7 April 2018
2.3 00:00 UTC to 23:59 UTC on Saturday 14 July 2018
2.4 00:00 UTC to 23:59 UTC on Saturday 3 November 2018.
2.5 Twenty-four hours will give equal opportunity to the international community of RaDAR operators.

3. Bands and Modes

3.1 All amateur bands are allowed including cross band contacts via amateur radio satellites. Modes – CW, SSB, FM or any legal amateur radio digital mode. As from 2018 the WARC bands will be excluded even though the RaDAR Challenge is not a “contest” as such.

3.2 QSOs via terrestrial FM repeaters should preferably not be used for the purpose of the challenge.

4. Suggested HF calling frequencies

See http://zs6bne.wordpress.com/2013/03/06/radar-calling-frequencies/ for the RaDAR Calling channels, the latest suggested international list of calling frequencies

5. Exchange

The RaDAR challenge requires more than a minimalistic information exchange. Accurate information exchange is considered more important than a large QSO count. Call sign, name, RS (T) report and grid locator. The grid locator of six characters is acceptable but should preferably be accurate to 8 or 10 characters for higher position accuracy (especially for moving RaDAR stations).
6. **Scoring (For determining your own success rate)**

1 point per QSO. Individual QSOs could be per mode, per band, per satellite, per grid location. If the moving RaDAR station has moved the required distance contact can be made with a previously worked station, again. Suggestions have been made to call CQ including grid location, for example CQ RaDAR from grid KG34ACXXYY, to help callers determine whether it is possible for a new contact with a previously worked moving RaDAR station.

7. **Categories and multipliers**

7.1 The following multipliers are applicable to determine the final score. If category/mode of transport changes were made during the challenge, then calculate accordingly.

x 1 – RaDAR Fixed station (in a building away from home)

x 2 – RaDAR Field station (camping)

x 3 – moving RaDAR station – see modes of transport below.

7.2 Modes of transport and required movement distances (moving RaDAR stations only)

Vehicles, motorcycles and motorboats (motorised transport) – 6 km

Bicycles – 2 km

On foot and paddle canoes – 1 km

Wheelchairs – 500 m

7.3 Aeronautical mobile stations are considered moving stations and can communicate at any convenient time.

7.4 Changes for 2018. Moving RaDAR stations need to make five QSOs before moving to the next deployment point, thereafter they are required to move to their next destination. The move needs to cover the required distance before further contacts can be made. This requirement tests the ability to rapidly and successfully re-deploy your amateur radio station. If it be gentlemanly to make further QSOs before moving, then please feel free to do so but the QSOs in excess of five per deployment point cannot be counted for points.

8. **Bonus points (All categories)**

8.1 Five (5) points for a minimum of one satellite OR digital modes QSO involving a computer, smart phone or digital modes device. (For clarity thereafter 1 point per Satellite / Digital modes QSO).

8.2 Five (5) points for the first successful same continent RaDAR to RaDAR QSO.

8.3 Five (5) points for the first intercontinental (DX) QSO.

8.4 Ten (10) points for the first successful inter-continental (DX) RaDAR to RaDAR QSO.

9. **Log Sheets**

9.1 Log sheets must be submitted by 14 April 2018, 28 July 2018 and 10 November 2018 and sent by e-mail to edleighton@gmail.com.

9.2 A photo of the station should accompany every log entry including each new location.
that moveable RaDAR stations visit. The results and photos are used to promote RaDAR and amateur radio.

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South African Radio League 80 m QSO Party

1. Aim

The aim of these contests is to create an interest in and activity on the 80-m band. It is a phone only contest.

2. Date and times

2.1 17:00 to 20:00 UTC on Thursday 5 April 2018
2.2 17:00 to 20:00 UTC on Thursday 4 October 2018

3. Frequencies

3.1 Only frequencies in the segment 3 603 to 3 650 and 3 700 to 3 800 kHz may be used.
3.2 The segment 3 651 to 3 699.99 is contest free

4. Exchange

Call sign, RS signal report and operator’s name.

5. Categories

5.1 Single Operator
5.2 Short Wave Listener (SWL)

6. Scoring

6.1 10 points for every contact with a South African station
6.2 15 points for every contact with a station outside South Africa

7. Log Sheets

Log sheets in MS Excel format ONLY shall be submitted by 12 April 2018 and 11 October 2018 by e-mail to zs5lp@vodamail.co.za

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South African Radio League Digital Contest

1. **Aim**

To establish as many contacts as possible between radio amateurs in Southern Africa using the FT8 / RTTY mode(s). The contest is open to all radio amateurs in Southern Africa.

2. **Date and Time**

2.1 14:00 UTC to 17:00 UTC on Sunday 25 February 2018
2.2 The Digital contest on 19 August is run using the rules of the South African Radio League HF Contest, see page.

3. **Bands**

3.1 80 metres (3 580 to 3 600 kHz)
3.2 40 metres (7 040 to 7 060 kHz)
3.3 20 metres (14 070 to 14 099 kHz)
3.4 FT8 – standard frequencies
3.5 RTTY is preferred at the upper end of the specified frequencies
3.6 Please note that USB must be used at all times.

4. **Contacts**

A station may be contacted twice on each band once on RTTY, once on FT8.

5. **Exchange**

RST report and your grid square (first 4 digits) e.g. KG33

6. **Points**

Contacts with stations listed in 7.1 to 7.7 below are worth 3 points. Contacts with stations in 7.8 below are worth 1 point.

7. **Multiplier**

The first contact with each area listed below will be used as a band multiplier.

7.1 Area 1: ZS1
7.2 Area 2: ZS2
7.3 Area 3: ZS3
7.4 Area 4: ZS4
7.5 Area 5: ZS5
7.6 Area 6: ZS6
7.7 Area 7: 3DA, 7P, 7Q, 9J, C9, A2, D2, V5, Z2, ZD7, ZD9, ZS7, ZS8, FR, 3B8, 5R, FH and D6
7.8 Area 8: Stations in the rest of the world.

8. Scoring

8.1 Band total = QSO points \times \text{number of call areas worked per band}
8.2 The final score = \text{sum of the band totals}

9. Log Sheets

9.1 Logs in ADIF, Cabrillo or MS Excel format with a summary sheet and labelled “your call sign Digital Contest,” shall be submitted by 4 March 2018, by e-mail to contest@sarl.org.za.
9.2 Refer to GR 3.6 and 5.1 to 5.6 for detail about logs and summary sheets.

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South African Radio League Hamnet 40 m Simulated Emergency Contest

1. Aim

This SSB Contest is open to all Radio Amateurs in South Africa, Namibia, Botswana, Zimbabwe, Swaziland, Mozambique, Lesotho, Marion Island and South African Antarctica. Only contacts with these areas will count.

2. Date and Time

12:00 to 14:00 UTC on Sunday 4 March 2018

3. Frequencies

It is a phone contest in the band segments 7 063 to 7 100 kHz and 7 130 to 7 200 kHz.

4. Categories

4.1 Single operator stationary mobile
4.2 Single operator portable
4.3 Multi-operator portable
4.4 Single operator base station

5. Antennas

Antennas are limited to antennas with less than unity gain relative to a dipole. Stationary Mobile stations shall use antennas that rely solely on their vehicles for support and shall not exceed a height of 5 metres above ground. Portable station antennas may not be erected and installed before the day of the contest and no permanent manmade structure may be used to either house equipment or for antenna supports.

6. Power

Stationary Mobile and Portable stations shall operate from the same site for the duration of the contest and all power used shall comply with the requirements for Field Stations in the general rules.

7. Exchange

7.1 Signal report followed by a three-figure number as per category
4.1 - starting with 201 for the first contact
4.2 - starting with 401 for the first contact
4.3 - starting with 601 for the first contact
4.4 - starting with 801 for the first contact
7.2 Non-participants start with 001 for the first contact

8. Scoring

8.1 Scoring consists of points accumulated from all contacts, multiplied by a multiplier.
8.2 Contact with a station in:
  Category 4.1, 4.2 and 4.3 in own call area is 3 points
  Category 4.1, 4.2 and 4.3 in another call area is 4 points
  Category 4.4 or non-participant in own call area is 1 point
  Category 4.4 or non-participant in another call area is 2 points
8.3 Areas are as defined in the following list
  8.3.1 Area 1: ZS1
  8.3.2 Area 2: ZS2
  8.3.3 Area 3: ZS3
  8.3.4 Area 4: ZS4
  8.3.5 Area 5: ZS5
  8.3.6 Area 6: ZS6
  8.3.7 Area 7: 3DA, 7P, C9, Z2, ZS8 (eastern group)
  8.3.8 Area 8: A2, V5, ZS7 (western group)
8.4 The multiplier consists of the number of call areas worked, multiplied by a power multiplier.
8.5 The power multiplier is 2 for an output power of over 50 W PEP and 3 for an output power of less than 50 W PEP.

9. Log Sheets

Log sheets must be submitted by 11 March 2018 by e-mail to contest@peham.co.za or to Hamnet Eastern Cape, Al Akers, ZS2U, 53 Clarence Street, Westering, Port Elizabeth, 6025

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South African Radio League HF Phone, Digital and CW Contests

1. Aim

The aim of the HF Contests is for participants to contact as many amateurs in Southern Africa as possible on the 20, 40 and 80 m amateur bands.

2. Dates

2.1 SSB - 14:00 to 17:00 UTC on Sunday 5 August 2018
2.2 Digital - 14:00 to 17:00 UTC on Sunday 19 August 2018
2.3 CW - 14:00 to 17:00 UTC on Sunday 26 August 2018

3. Frequencies

3.1 SSB:
14 125 to 14 300 kHz
7 063 to 7 100 and 7 130 to 7 200 kHz
3 603 to 3 650 and 3 700 to 3 800 kHz

3.2 Digital:
3 580 to 3 600 kHz / 3 573 kHz
7 040 to 7 060 kHz / 7 074 kHz
14 070 to 14 099 kHz / 14.074 kHz

3.3 CW:
14 000 to 14 060 kHz
7 000 to 7 040 kHz
3 510 to 3 560 kHz

4. Categories

4.1 Single Operator Single Band
4.2 Single Operator All Band
4.3 Multi Operator Single Band
4.4 Multi Operator All Band
4.5 Individual competitors and club stations are encouraged to compete.

5. Exchange

RS(T) and a consecutive serial number starting at 001

6. Scoring

6.1 SSB contacts count 1 point.
6.2 CW and Digital contacts count 2 points
6.3 Count two points for each area on each band.
6.4 Count 2 points for each station contacted on all three bands.
6.5 Call Areas
6.5.1 ZS1 Western Cape Area
6.5.2 ZS2 Eastern Cape Area
6.5.3 ZS3 Northern Cape Area
6.5.4 ZS4 Free State Area
6.5.5 ZS5 KwaZulu-Natal
6.5.6 ZS6 Gauteng, Mpumalanga; Limpopo and North West
6.5.7 3DA Swaziland, 7P Lesotho, C9 Mozambique, Z2 Zimbabwe and ZS8 Marion Island
6.5.8 9J Zambia, A2 Botswana, V5 Namibia, ZD9 Gough and Tristan da Cunha Islands and ZS7 Antarctica
6.5.9 DX (all stations outside the above areas)

7. **Awards** (Refer to GR 12)

7.1 Trophies are awarded to the first place and the highest single band score in each contest.
7.2 There is also a trophy for the highest combined score in all three contests.
7.3 A trophy is awarded to the Phone contestant in his or her first year of phone achieving the highest score. Candidates for this trophy shall state the date of the issue of the licence on the summary sheet.
7.4 A trophy is awarded to the radio amateur under the age of 25 achieving the highest score in the three contests.
7.5 A trophy is awarded to the YL achieving the highest score in the three contests.

8. **Log Sheets**

8.1 Submit logs in ADIF, Cabrillo or MS Excel format and labelled “your call sign HF Phone or HF Digital or HF CW,” by 12 August 2018 (Phone), 26 August 2018 (Digital) and 2 September 2018 (CW) by e-mail to zs4bfn@mweb.co.za.
8.2 Refer to GR 3.6 and 5.1 to 5.6 for detail about logs and summary sheets.
South African Radio League National Field Day

1. **Aim**

To work as many stations as possible on all the HF amateur bands (excluding the 60, 30, 17 and 12 m bands). In doing so, to learn to operate in abnormal situations in less than optimal conditions. A premium is placed on developing skills to meet the challenges of emergency preparedness as well as to acquaint the public with the capabilities of Amateur Radio.

2. **Date and Times**

2.1 10:00 UTC on Saturday 10 February to 10:00 UTC on Sunday 11 February 2018

2.2 10:00 UTC on Saturday 8 September to 10:00 UTC on Sunday 9 September 2018.

3. **Frequencies and Modes**

3.1 HF amateur bands, excluding the 2 200, 630, 30, 17 and 12 metre bands.

3.2 Phone, CW and Digital (PSK, FT8 and RTTY).

3.3 Phone, CW and Digital modes on a band are considered as separate bands.

3.4 A station may be worked only once per band under this rule.

4. **Entry Categories**

4.1 **Class A** – Field Station, Multi operator. Such stations must be located in places that are not regular station locations and must comply with the requirements of a field station as defined in the general section of rules. A single licensee or trustee for the entry is responsible for the group entry. All equipment (including antennas) must lie within a circle whose diameter does not exceed 500 metres. All contacts must be made with transmitter(s) and receiver(s) operating independent of commercial mains power.

4.2 **Class B** – Field Station, Multi operator, QRP. All contacts must be made using an output power of 5 Watts or less. Other provisions are the same as Class A.

4.3 **Class C** – Field Station, Single Operator. Such stations must be located in places that are not regular station locations and must comply with the requirements of a field station as defined in the general section of rules. All equipment (including antennas) must lie within a circle whose diameter does not exceed 500 metres. All contacts must be made with transmitter(s) and receiver(s) operating independent of commercial mains power.

4.4 **Class D** – Field Station, Single Operator, QRP. All contacts must be made using an output power of 5 Watts or less. Other provisions are the same as Class C.

4.5 **Class E** – Ultra Light Portable. Light weight self-contained stations, operating QRP or low power such as RaDAR, Summits on the Air, Parks on the Air (game and nature reserves),
Islands on the Air, Heritage sites, etc. The operator must carry the entire station, antenna included, to the operating site. The distance carried must not be less than 1 km.

4.6 Class F - General Stations. Stations operating from permanent or licensed station locations using commercial power.

4.7 To encourage more individuals and groups to participate in the National Field Day events, a 6-hour section has been introduced. It need not be for one continuous 6-hour period, but once operation has commenced in the contest, off periods must be a minimum of 60 minutes.

5. Call signs

Only one call sign per station is permitted. In the case of multi-operator stations using more than one transmitter, all operators shall use the same call sign.

6. Establishment of Stations

Equipment for Field Stations may only be set up in the 24 hours prior to the starting time of the contest. This restriction applies to antennas, masts, towers and transmitting equipment, but excludes accommodation such as a caravan, tent, etc. Once a Field Station has been established at a site, it may not move to an alternative site after the contest starts, excluding Class E stations.

7. Exchange

7.1 The number of transmitters, the Field Day operating class and the Provincial abbreviation.

7.2 The sending of a RS or RST is optional – it has nothing to do with the scoring.

7.3 Examples - A three-transmitter Class A field station in North West would send "3A NW"; A general station using a single transceiver located in Cape Town would give the following exchange “1F WC” and DX stations are logged as “1F DX”

8. Scoring

8.1 Scores are based on the total number of QSO points x the power multiplier x the number of provinces worked X the class multiplier.

8.2 QSO Points:

8.2.1 Each contact with a station from one of the South African provinces counts for five points.

8.2.2 Each DX contact counts for one point.

8.3 Power multipliers:

8.3.1 Power 5 watts or less x 6

8.3.2 Power 50 watts or less x 4

8.3.3 Power 100 watts or less x 2

8.3.4 Power greater than 100 watts x 1

8.3.5 The power multiplier for an entry is determined by the maximum output power used by any transmitter used to complete any contact during the event.
8.4 Provinces worked multiplier
8.4.1 A multiplier of one for each one of the 9 South African provinces worked (regardless of band) and one extra for working any station outside of the 9 provinces i.e. DX.
8.4.2 EC – The Eastern Cape (including Marion Island)
8.4.3 FS – The Free State
8.4.4 GP – Gauteng
8.4.5 KN – KwaZulu-Natal
8.4.6 LP – Limpopo
8.4.7 MP – Mpumalanga
8.4.8 NC – The Northern Cape
8.4.9 NW – North West
8.4.10 WC – The Western Cape (including Sanae Base and Gough island)
8.4.11 DX – Used for all others that does not fall in the above group
8.5 Class multiplier
8.5.1 General stations, class multiplier of 1
8.5.2 Field stations single and multi, class multiplier of 3

9. Miscellaneous Rules

9.1 A person may not contact for QSO credit any station from which they also participate.
9.2A transmitter/receiver/transceiver used to contact one or more Field Day stations may not subsequently be used under any other call sign to participate in Field Day.
9.3 Batteries may be charged while in use. The batteries must be charged from a power source other than commercial mains power.
9.4 All stations for a single entry must be operated under one call sign
9.5 There is no limitation to the number of transmitters or receivers that may be deployed. The use of more than one transmitter at the same time on a single band or mode is prohibited.

10. Log Sheets

10.1 Logs in ADIF, Cabrillo or MS Excel format with a summary sheet labelled “your call sign NFD,” shall be sent by e-mail to contest@sarl.org.za . The closing date for log submissions is 18 February 2018 and 9 September 2018.
10.2 Refer to GR 3.6 and 5.1 to 5.6 for detail about logs and summary sheets.
10.3 A photo(s) of the station in operation (JPG format) MUST accompany every log entry.

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South African Radio League Newbie Party

1. Aim

This is a fun activity to encourage all new radio amateurs to become active.

2. Date and Time

2.1 08:00 to 20:00 UTC 7 July 2018
2.2 08:00 to 20:00 UTC 24 November 2018

3. Exchange

RS and phonetic character found in the table below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Length being radio amateur</th>
<th>Phonetic character</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Less than 6 months</td>
<td>Alpha</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>One year</td>
<td>Bravo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Two years</td>
<td>Echo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Three years</td>
<td>Golf</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Four years</td>
<td>India</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>More than 4 years</td>
<td>November</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

4. Frequency

4.1 SSB only
4.2 14 125 to 14 300 kHz
4.3 7 063 to 7 100 and 7 130 to 7 200 kHz
4.4 3 603 to 3 650 and 3 700 to 3 800 kHz

5. Scoring

5.1 Each contact is worth the number of points found in the table below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Length being radio amateur</th>
<th>Point per contact</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Less than 6 months</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>One year</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Two years</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Three years</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Four years</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>More than 4 years</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

5.2 If the contact is made with a newbie radio amateur, who is an amateur less than one year, the points are doubled.
5.3 Individual QSOs could be per band.

6. Log Sheets

6.1 Log sheets in MS Excel format shall be submitted by 16 July 2018 and 10 December
2018 by e-mail to ZS3VdK@webmail.co.za

7. Awards

7.1 A certificate will be awarded for 1st, 2nd and 3rd places.
7.2 Result of the first 10 positions will be posted to the SARL Forum.

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The antenna does not work if the mast is vertical! The mast be at an angle ☺
South African Radio League QRP Contests

1. **Aim**

The QRP contests are intended to be fun activities to promote QRP operation between radio amateurs. Using homebuilt equipment or operating as a portable/field station and using temporary antennas is encouraged, but is not a requirement.

2. **Dates and times**

2.1 Summer – from 12:00 to 15:00 UTC Saturday 27 January 2018
2.2 Autumn – from 12:00 to 15:00 UTC Saturday 21 April 2018
2.3 Winter – from 12:00 to 15:00 UTC Saturday 21 July 2018
2.4 Spring – from 12:00 to 15:00 UTC Saturday 13 October 2018

3. **General Info**

3.1 Modes: SSB and CW
3.2 Power: 5 watts (PEP) output or less
3.3 A station may be worked once per band per mode.
3.4 There are no antenna restrictions.

4. **Frequency**

4.1 The first hour is limited to the 40-m band only, the remaining two hours the contestants are free to use any HF (non-WARC) band as they see fit.
4.2 Comply with the contest-preferred segments as detailed in the general rules.
4.3 It would be advantageous to use the standard QRP calling frequencies as the starting point.

5. **Exchange**

5.1 RS(T) and Grid locator
5.2 Please consider exchanging realistic RS(T) signal reports.
5.3 Please use the full 6- character grid locator. e.g. KG43EU.
5.4 If the station’s grid locator is unknown, then use some other means that identifies the station’s location: e.g. the name of the closest town or city e.g. Gerdau or 25 km NW of Aberdeen.
5.5 With DX contacts the locator information can be omitted, the RS(T) will suffice as the minimum required exchange as per the general rules

6. **QSO Points**

Each contact counts 1 point.
7. **Multipliers**

7.1 Prefix / Country multiplier
7.1.1 Each South African call area 0 through 9 counts as a multiplier
7.1.2 Each DXCC country worked counts as a multiplier.
7.2 Station type multiplier
7.2.1 Home stations x 1.
7.2.2 Portable stations x 2.
7.2.3 Ultra-light portable field station x 3.
7.2.4 Homebrew stations (picture is imperative) x 3
7.2.5 The definitions listed in the General Rules define the above stations types accurately
7.2.6 A mobile station will be treated as a field station
7.2.7 A portable station not meeting the requirements as a field station will be treated as a home station.
7.2.8 Ultra-light portable field station must comply with all the field station criteria, but the operator must carry the entire station, antenna included to the operating site. The distance carried must not be less than 1 km.

8. **Score**

Score = (QSO points) x (Prefix multiplier) x (Station multiplier)

9. **Log Sheets**

9.1 Logs in ADIF, Cabrillo or MS Excel format with a summary sheet and labelled “your call sign QRP Contest,” shall be submitted by 3 February 2018, 14 April 2018, 21 July 2018 and 13 October 2018 by e-mail to contest@sarl.org.za
9.2 Refer to GR 3.6 and 5.1 to 5.6 for detail about logs and summary sheets.
9.3 A photo(s) of the station operating (JPG format) MUST accompany every log entry.

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South African Radio League Top Band QSO Party

1. **Aim**

This is a fun activity to promote contacts on 160 metres between radio amateurs in Southern African countries and to encourage radio amateurs to apply for the South African Radio League Top Band Award.

2. **Date and Time**

00:00 UTC on Thursday 21 June 2018 to 00:00 UTC on Monday 25 June 2018.

3. **Frequency**

3.1 CW: 1 810 – 1 838 kHz
3.2 Phone: 1 840 – 2 000 kHz

4. **Exchange**

The exchange is a RS(T) report and provincial or country abbreviation.

5. **Participation**

The event is open to all licensed amateurs that have access to the 160-metre band.

6. **Scoring**

6.1 Each station can be worked once per mode i.e. once on Phone and again with CW
6.2 QSO points: Each contact will count three (3) points.
6.3 Bonus Points: Each South African call area and each DXCC country worked will be awarded with five (5) additional bonus points.
6.4 Total Score = (Total QSO points) + (Bonus points)

7. **Log Sheets**

7.1 Logs in ADIF, Cabrillo or MS Excel format with a summary sheet labelled “your call sign Top Band,” shall be submitted by 2 July 2018 by e-mail to contest@sarl.org.za.
7.2 Refer to GR 3.6 and 5.1 to 5.6 for detail about logs and summary sheets.

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The 16th SARL Blue Book

SARL VHF/UHF Analogue Contest
(SSB/AM/FM/CW)

1. Aim

1.1 The VHF/UHF contest is a test of operator ability and station design.
1.2 To promote activity on the VHF/UHF and microwave bands.
1.3 To encourage Amateurs to work greater distances than usual by operating portable/field stations in favourable locations and by optimising equipment and operating techniques at both field and home stations.
1.4 To provide opportunities for Amateurs to activate and work new grid squares.
1.5 The Contest is open to all licensed Radio Amateurs in South Africa, Namibia (V5), Botswana (A2), Zimbabwe (Z2), Mozambique (C9), Lesotho (7P) and Swaziland (3DA). Only contacts with these states will count.
1.6 The general rules covered in pages 4 – 9 of the SARL Contesting Manual (Blue Book) are to be followed.

2. Dates and Times

2.1 10:00 UTC Saturday 10 March to 10:00 UTC Sunday 11 March 2018
2.2 10:00 UTC Saturday 10 November to 10:00 UTC Sunday 11 November 2018

3. Categories

3.1 Single Operator. A station operated by one person, who receives no assistance whatsoever from any other person in operating, log keeping, checking and so on.
3.2 Multi operator. A station operated by more than one person, either for the entire duration of the contest or part of the time. There is no limitation on the number of operators that may be used. One operator must act as Entrant and submit the entry.
3.3 Portable/Field Station. A temporary station operated from a fixed location other than that of the registered main station address of a licensed amateur. Antennas should not be supported by any permanent man-made structure or building. The power for the station shall be drawn from a source other than the normal mains supply. One or more amateurs may operate it, but they must use one call sign only.
3.4 Limited 4 Hour. The category can be used by contestants who cannot operate for the full 24-hour period. Logs must be for a 4-hour continuous period in the contest.

4. Contacts

4.1 Contacts must be two-way point to point. Stations shall exchange signal reports as well as their location, e.g. (latitude and longitude or full six-digit Maidenhead locator or accurate area/address/location).
4.2 Self-Spotting will be allowed, e.g. you may announce that you are calling CQ on 144,250 on a repeater frequency or an internet logger or any group. The contact itself or any information related to the contact should be unassisted. No information may be sent between 3rd party stations or by any other medium to assist with completing of the contact.
4.3 No station may be worked twice on the same band.
4.4 No EME, repeater, satellite or IRLP (Echolink, etc.) contacts are allowed.
4.5 No points will be forfeited if a non-competing station cannot provide a grid locator. However, the receiving operator shall receive and record sufficient information to be able to calculate the distance (typically latitude and longitude) or the nearest street address and area.
4.6 No cross-band contacts are allowed.

5. Limitations

5.1 Operators of a multi-operator station may not be claimed as contacts by that station.
5.2 Stations may be worked only once. Working various alternative calls owned by a station, or working a club station and then logging various operators from a club station is not permitted
5.3 Field stations will be permitted to move to a different grid location and then log contacts previously logged from the previous grid location.
5.4 To ensure fairness and good sportsmanship like behaviour, all participants, including those who are not actively competing i.e. those stations “handing out points”, should be encouraged to make as many QSOs as they possibly can with other competing stations and not only make contacts with their club members and or friends.

6. Frequencies

6.1 6 metres
50,090 - 50,100 MHz CW
50,200 - 50,250 MHz SSB
50,350 - 50,400 MHz FM
51,400 - FM
6.2 4 metres
70,090 - CW
70,100 - 70,150 MHz SSB
70,200 - 70,275 MHz FM
6.3 2 metres
144,050 - CW
144,250 - 144,300 MHz SSB
145,500 - 145,575 MHz FM
6.4 70 cm
432,100 - CW
432,200 - 432,250 MHz SSB
433,350 - 433,400 MHz FM
6.5 23 cm
1 296,195 - CW
1 296,200 - 1 296,250 MHz SSB
1 296,350 - 1 296,400 MHz FM
6.6 Higher frequencies as per band plan
6.7 The 70 MHz band is a shared band; please avoid QRM to commercial users.
6.8 ZU stations are currently not permitted to operate on 50 MHz (6 m) or 1 296 MHz (23 cm) according to the Government Gazette.
7. **Scoring**

7.1 Band Multipliers:
7.1.1 6 m x 3
7.1.2 4 m x 5
7.1.3 2 m x 2
7.1.4 70 cm x 7
7.1.5 23 cm x 9
7.1.6 >23 cm x 15

7.2 Grid Multiplier: A grid is the first 4 digits of the Maidenhead grid locator.
7.2.1 Distances are calculated automatically when using the SARL VHF/UHF Log Sheet provided on the SARL contest page. If for any reason the log sheet cannot be used, the “Tinylocator” program must be used to calculate distances.
7.2.2 The Distances on each band are summed and then multiplied by the number of different grids worked on that band to give the band score. This is done automatically for you when you use the SARL VHF/UHF Log Sheet.
7.2.3 The final score is the sum of the band scores.

8. **Log sheets**

8.2 The log sheet will calculate distances and multipliers automatically. You do not have to type distances in on the log sheets. (please read the instructions on the Summary page of the SARL VHF/UHF Log Sheet.)
8.3 Log sheets shall be submitted by 2 April 2018 and 3 December 2018 by e-mail to contest@sarl.org.za
8.4 Log sheet for Multi operator, Club stations and Portable/ Field stations MUST have the names of all the active operators on the Summary section of the log sheet for certificate purposes.

9. **Prizes, Awards and Certificates**

9.1 Awards and trophies will only be awarded to South African Radio League members.
9.2 Certificates will be issued for the first three places in the contest and in each category.
9.3 A prize will be on offer for the overall winner of the contest.
9.4 Submitted logs that contain 10 or more contacts will be placed in a lucky draw and the lucky person’s name drawn will receive a prize.
9.5 A participation certificate will be issued to all participants that submit a log that contains ten or more entries.
9.6 In an attempt to increase the awareness and participation of the younger amateurs (under 25s), it has been decided that for all the SARL contests to give separate recognition for the best performing youngsters i.e. 1st, 2nd or 3rd. The U25 group still compete with the main field and stand a chance to win a place in the standings as per normal. All youngsters that qualify i.e. U25 must state their age when submitting their logs.

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**SARL VHF/UHF Digital Contest**

(RTTY/PSK/WSJT but not limited to these modes)

1. **Aim**

1.1 The VHF/UHF Digital contest is a test of operator ability and station design.
1.2 To promote Digital activity on the VHF/UHF and microwave bands.
1.3 To encourage Amateurs to work greater distances than usual by operating portable/field stations in favourable locations and by optimizing equipment and operating techniques at both field and home stations.
1.4 To provide opportunities for Amateurs to activate and work new grid squares.
1.5 The Contest is open to all licensed Radio Amateurs in South Africa, Namibia (V5), Botswana (A2), Zimbabwe (Z2), Mozambique (C9), Lesotho (7P) and Swaziland (3DA). Only contacts with these states will count.
1.6 The general rules covered in pages 4 – 9 of the SARL Contesting Manual (Blue Book) are to be followed.

2. **Dates and Times**

2.1 10:00 UTC Saturday 7 April 2018 to 10:00 UTC Sunday 8 April 2018
2.2 10:00 UTC Saturday 15 September to 10:00 UTC Sunday 16 September 2018

3. **Categories**

3.1 Single Operator. A station operated by one person, who receives no assistance whatsoever from any other person in operating, log keeping, checking and so on.
3.2 Multi operator. A station operated by more than one person, either for the entire duration of the contest or part of the time. There is no limitation on the number of operators that may be used. One operator must act as Entrant and submit the entry.
3.3 Portable/Field Station. A temporary station operated from a fixed location other than that of the registered main station address of a licensed amateur. Antennas should not be supported by any permanent man-made structure or building. The power for the station shall be drawn from a source other than the normal mains supply. One or more amateurs may operate it, but they must use one call sign only.
3.4 Limited 4 Hour. Contestants who cannot operate for the full 24-hour period can use the category. Logs must be for a 4-hour continuous period in the contest.

4. **Contacts**

4.1 Contacts must be two-way point to point. Stations shall exchange signal reports as well as their location e.g. (latitude and longitude or full six-digit Maidenhead locator or accurate area/address/location).
4.2 Self-Spotting will be allowed, e.g. you may announce that you are calling CQ on 144.250 on a repeater frequency or an internet logger or any group. The contact itself or any
information related to the contact should be unassisted. No information may be sent between third party stations or by any other medium to assist with completing of the contact.

4.3 No station may be worked twice on the same band.

4.4 No EME, repeater, satellite or IRLP (Echolink, etc.) contacts are allowed.

4.5 No points will be forfeited if a non-competing station cannot provide a grid locator. However, the receiving operator shall receive and record sufficient information to be able to calculate the distance (typically latitude and longitude) or the nearest street address and area. WSJT only allow for the first 4 digits of the grid locator, the full 6-digit locator can be sent in the 73 line.

4.6 No cross-band contacts are allowed.

5. Limitations

5.1 Operators of a multi-operator station may not be claimed as contacts by that station.

5.2 Stations may be worked only once. Working various alternative calls owned by a station, or working a club station and then logging various different operators from a club station is not permitted.

5.3 Field stations will be permitted to move to a different grid location once and then log contacts previously logged from the previous grid location.

5.4 To ensure fairness and good sportsmanship like behaviour, all participants, including those who are not actively competing i.e. those stations “handing out points”, should be encouraged to make as many QSOs as they possibly can with other competing stations and not only make contacts with their club members and or friends.

6. Frequencies

6.1 50,250 - 50,300 MHz

6.2 70,150 - 70,175 MHz

6.3 144,200 - 144,250 MHz

6.4 432,250 - 433,300 MHz

6.5 1 296,250 - 1 296,300 MHz

6.6 Higher frequencies as per band plan

6.7 The 70 MHz band is a shared band; please avoid QRM to commercial users.

6.8 ZU stations are currently not permitted to operate on 50 MHz (6 m) or 1 296 MHz (23 cm) according to the Government Gazette.

7. Scoring

7.1 Band Multipliers:

7.1.1 6 m x 3

7.1.2 4 m x 5

7.1.3 2 m x 2

7.1.4 70 cm x 7

7.1.5 23 cm x 9

7.1.6 >23 cm x 15

7.2 Grid Multiplier: A grid is the first 4 digits of the Maidenhead grid locator.
7.2.1 Distances are calculated automatically when using the SARL VHF/UHF Log sheet provided on the SARL contest page. If for any reason the log sheet cannot be used, the “Tinylocator” program must be used to calculate distances.

7.2.2 The Distances on each band are summed and then multiplied by the number of different grids worked on that band to give the band score. This is done automatically for you when you use the SARL VHF/UHF Log Sheet.

7.3 The final score is the sum of the band scores.

8. Log sheets


8.2 The log sheet will calculate distances and multipliers automatically. You do not have to type distances in on the log sheets. (Please read the instructions on the Summary page of the SARL VHF/UHF Log Sheet.)

8.3 Log sheets shall be submitted by 30 April 2018 and 8 October 2018 by e-mail to contest@sarl.org.za.

8.4 When submitting log sheets, it should be renamed by the participant to include his/her call sign.

8.5 Log sheet for Multi operator, Club stations and Portable/ Field stations MUST have the names of all the active operators on the Summary section of the log sheet for certificate purposes.

9. Prizes, Awards and Certificates

9.1 Awards and trophies will only be awarded to South African Radio League members.

9.2 Certificates will be issued for the first three places in the Contest and in each category.

9.3 A prize will be on offer for the overall winner of the contest.

9.4 Submitted logs that contain 10 or more contacts will be placed in a lucky draw and the lucky person’s name drawn will receive a prize.

9.5 In an attempt to increase the awareness and participation of the younger amateurs (under 25s), it has been decided that for all the SARL contests to give separate recognition for the best performing youngsters i.e. 1st, 2nd or 3rd. The U25 group still compete with the main field and stand a chance to win a place in the standings as per normal. All youngsters that qualify i.e. U25 must state their age when submitting their logs.

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South African Radio League Youth Sprint

1. **Aim**

This is a fun activity to celebrate the Youth and to promote contacts between young radio amateurs in Southern African countries. Call “CQ Youth Sprint”

2. **Date and Time**

17 February 2018 from 08:00 to 10:00 UTC

3. **Exchange**

The exchange is a RS report and the operator’s age.

4. **Frequency**

It is a phone sprint on the 40-metre band, 7 063 to 7 100 and 7 130 to 7 200 kHz

5. **Scoring**

5.1 Contacts between stations in the age group 25 and younger are worth 5 points.
5.2 Contacts between stations in the under 25 group and over 26 group is worth 2 points
5.3 Contacts between stations in the age group 26 and older are worth 1 point.

6. **Log Sheets**

6.1 Logs in ADIF, Cabrillo or MS Excel format with a summary sheet labelled “your call sign Youth Sprint,” shall be submitted by 24 February 2018 by e-mail to contest@sarl.org.za.
6.2 Refer to GR 3.6 and 5.1 to 5.6 for detail about logs and summary sheets.
6.3 The age of the operator must be shown on the summary sheet.
6.4 All the logs received will be entered for a draw for a Student membership of the South African Radio League.

7. **Awards**

7.1 Certificates will be awarded for all logs that are submitted correctly.
7.2 Prizes will be awarded to the 1st, 2nd and 3rd place in the competition.
7.3 All logs with more than 10 contacts will entered for a lucky draw.

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South African Radio League YL Sprint

1. **Aim**

   This is a fun activity to celebrate Women’s Day between radio amateurs in South Africa. Call “YL Sprint”

2. **Date and Time**

   9 August 2018 from 12:00 to 14:00 UTC

3. **Exchange**

   The exchange is a RS report and YL or OM.

4. **Frequency**

   4.1 It is a phone sprint on the 40-metre band

   4.2 7 063 to 7 100 and 7 130 to 7 200 kHz

5. **Scoring**

   5.1 Contacts between YL stations are worth 5 points.

   5.2 Contacts between YL and OM stations are worth 3 points

   5.3 Contacts between OM stations are worth 1 point.

6. **Log Sheets**

   6.1 Logs in ADIF, Cabrillo or MS Excel format with a summary sheet labelled “your call sign YL Sprint,” shall be submitted by 16 August 2018 by e-mail to zs4bfn@mweb.co.za.

   6.2 Refer to GR 3.6 and 5.1 to 5.6 for detail about logs and summary sheets.

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ZS2 Sprint

1. Aim

This is a fun activity to promote contacts between radio amateurs in the Eastern Cape and radio amateurs in Southern African countries.

2. Date and Time

14:00 to 15:00 UTC Sunday 22 July 2018.

3. Exchange

The exchange is RS(T) and provincial or country abbreviation.

4. Frequency

4.1 It is a phone and CW contest on the 40-metre band
4.2 CW: 7 000 to 7 040 kHz
4.3 SSB: 7 063 to 7 100 and 7 130 to 7 200 kHz

5. Scoring

5.1 ZS2 stations
5.1.1 Contacts with stations in ZS2 are worth 1 point.
5.1.2 Contacts with stations in other ZS call areas or Southern African countries are worth 2 points.
5.2 Other stations
5.2.1 Contacts with stations in ZS2 are worth 2 points.
5.2.2 Contacts with stations in own or other ZS call areas (excluding ZS2) or Southern African countries are worth 1 point.
5.3 Contacts with the Port Elizabeth Amateur Radio Society, ZS2PE, or the Border Radio Club, ZS2BRC, are worth 5 points each. Only one contact per station is allowed.

6. Log Sheets

Logs, in ADIF, Cabrillo or MS Excel format and labelled “your call sign ZS2 Sprint,” shall be submitted by 29 July 2018 and sent by e-mail to zs2ec01@gmail.com

7. Awards

7.1 Certificates will be awarded to the 1st 2nd and 3rd place.
7.2 This will only happen if more than five logs are submitted

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ZS3 Sprint

1. **Aim**

This is a fun activity to promote contacts between radio amateurs in the Northern Cape and radio amateurs in Southern African countries.

2. **Date and Time**

14:00 to 15:00 UTC Sunday 20 May 2018.

3. **Exchange**

The exchange is RS(T) and provincial or country abbreviation.

4. **Frequency**

4.1 It is a phone and CW contest on the 40-metre band
4.2 CW: 7 000 to 7 040 kHz
4.3 SSB: 7 063 to 7 100 and 7 130 to 7 200 kHz

5. **Scoring**

5.1 ZS3 stations:
5.1.1 Contacts with stations in ZS3 are worth 1 point.
5.1.2 Contacts with stations in other ZS call areas or Southern African countries are worth 2 points.
5.2 Other stations:
5.2.1 Contacts with stations in ZS3 are worth 2 points.
5.2.2 Contacts with stations in own or other ZS call areas (excluding ZS3) or Southern African countries are worth 1 point.
5.3 Contacts with the Northern Cape ARC, ZS3NC, Namaqualand Aero Sport Association, ZS3FLY, the Bo-Karoo ARC, ZS3VDK, or the Sutherland ARC, ZS3OBS, are worth 5 points each. Only one contact per station is allowed.

6. **Log Sheets**

Logs, in ADIF, Cabrillo or MS Excel format and labelled “your call sign ZS3 Sprint,” shall be submitted by 27 May 2018 and sent by e-mail to zs3nc@qsl.net

7. **Awards**

A certificate will be awarded to the 1st, 2nd and 3rd place in the competition.

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ZS4 Sprint

1. Aim

This is a fun activity to promote contacts between radio amateurs in the Free State and radio amateurs in Southern African countries.

2. Date and Time

From 14:00 to 15:00 UTC Sunday 22 April 2018

3. Exchange

3.1 ZS4 - RS(T) and town name or abbreviation.
3.2 Other - RS(T) and provincial or country abbreviation.

4. Frequency

4.1 A phone and CW contest on the 40-metre band.
4.2 SSB: (14:00 - 15:00 UTC) 7 063 - 7 100 and 7 130 - 7 200 kHz
4.3 CW: (15:00 - 16:00 UTC) 7 000 to 7 040 kHz

5. Scoring

5.1 For ZS4
5.1.1 Contacts with stations in ZS4 are worth 1 point.
5.1.2 Contacts with stations in other ZS call areas or Southern African countries are worth 2 points.
5.2 Other
5.2.1 Contacts with stations in ZS4 are worth 2 points.
5.2.2 Contacts with stations in own or other ZS call areas (excluding ZS4) or Southern African countries are worth 1 point.
5.3 Contacts with the Bloemfontein ARC, ZS4BFN, Vrystaat Radioklub, ZS4B, Welkom Radio Club, ZS4WRC, or the Sasolburg ARC, ZS4SRK is worth 5 points each.
5.4 Stations may be worked once on SSB and again on CW during the allocated time slots

6. Log Sheets

6.1 Logs, in ADIF, Cabrillo or MS Excel format and labelled “your call sign ZS4 Sprint,” shall be submitted by 30 April 2018 by e-mail to zs4srk@gmail.com
6.2 A certificate will be awarded for 1st, 2nd and 3rd places in both categories.

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ZS5 Sprint

1. Aim

This is a fun activity to promote contacts between radio amateurs in Kwazulu-Natal and radio amateurs in Southern African countries.

2. Date and Time

From 14:00 to 15:00 UTC Sunday 1 July 2018

3. Exchange

3.1 ZS5 - RS(T) and town name or abbreviation.
3.2 Other - RS(T) and provincial or country abbreviation.

4. Frequency

4.1 A phone and CW contest on the 40-metre band
4.2 CW: 7 000 to 7 040 kHz
4.3 SSB: 7 063 to 7 100 and 7 130 to 7 200 kHz

5. Scoring

5.1 For ZS5
5.1.1 Contacts with stations in ZS5 are worth 1 point.
5.1.2 Contacts with stations in other ZS call areas or Southern African countries are worth 2 points.
5.2 Other
5.2.1 Contacts with stations in ZS5 are worth 2 points.
5.2.2 Contacts with stations in own or other ZS call areas (excluding ZS5) or Southern African countries are worth 1 point.
5.3 Contacts with the Highway ARC, ZSSHAM, the Durban ARC, ZS5D, the Hibiscus Coast ARC, ZSSHAC, the Zululand ARC, ZSSZLB, the Midlands ARC, ZS5PMB, or the Noord Natal Amateurradioklub, ZS5NAK, is worth 5 points each, only one contact per station is allowed

6. Log Sheets

Logs, in ADIF, Cabrillo or MS Excel format and labelled “your call sign ZS5 Sprint,” shall be submitted by 9 July 2018 by e-mail to zs5contest@harc.org.za

7. Awards

A certificate will be awarded to the 1st, 2nd and 3rd place in the competition.

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Hammies Sprint

1. **Aim**

This is a fun activity to promote contacts between Hammies and radio amateurs in Southern African countries with an emphasis on ZU stations.

2. **Date and Time**

14:00 to 15:00 UTC 10 June 2018

3. **Exchange**

3.1 The exchange is RS and provincial abbreviation
3.2 DX for all stations outside South Africa

4. **Frequency and mode**

4.1 A phone contest on the 40-metre band
4.2 7 063 to 7 100 and 7 130 to 7 200 kHz

5. **Scoring**

5.1 General
5.1.1 Contacts with stations in the same ZS region are worth 1 point.
5.1.2 Contacts with stations in other ZS regions or DX stations are worth 2 points.
5.2 Special
5.2.1 Contacts with the Hammies ARC, ZS2ZU, ZS3ZU, ZS5ZU, ZS6ZU or any other Hammies ARC that may be registered at the time are worth 5 points
5.2.2 Contacts with any ZU station are worth 3 points
5.2.3 Contacts between ZU stations are worth 5 points

6. **Log Sheets**

Logs, in ADIF, Cabrillo or MS Excel format and labelled “your call sign Hammies,” shall be submitted by 17 June 2017 and sent by e-mail to chairman@zs6zu.org.za or zr6dx@afirica.com

7. **Awards**

7.1 Certificates will be awarded to the 1st 2nd and 3rd place
7.2 Certificates will be awarded to the 1st 2nd and 3rd place for ZU stations

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1. **Activity period**

1.1 The CQ DX Marathon is a yearlong activity, beginning at 00:00 UTC 1 January and ending at 23:59 UTC 31 December.
1.2 Each year’s event is separate.

2. **Frequencies**

Any authorised amateur frequency may be used. Contacts through repeaters or satellites are not allowed for credit, nor are contacts with maritime or aeronautical mobile stations. All contacts must be made entirely over amateur radio frequencies – i.e., Echolink-type contacts do not count.

3. **Modes**

3.1 Any authorised amateur mode may be used, but three modes will be recognized in the DX Marathon – CW, PHONE and Digital.
3.2 All modes other than CW or voice will count as Digital. Except for single mode submissions, cross-mode QSOs are permitted, but the mode used by the DX Marathon participant must be shown in the submission.

4. **General**

4.1 Each entrant in the DX Marathon may submit one log each year per operating location.
4.2 Participants submitting logs for single-mode or single-band entries must include only those contacts in their submission.
4.3 Logs submitted with multiple modes or multiple bands will not be considered for single-mode or single-band awards.
4.4 Entries with two or more call signs will count as a single entry only if all contacts were made by the same (single) operator at the same station using the same antennas and each callsign used is listed in the comments section of the submission form.
4.5 Remote operation is permitted if all transmitters, receivers and antennas are at a single physical location.
4.6 A remote station in a different country than the entrant's country of license must comply with all local laws and regulations.
4.7 If an entrant operates from both a primary station and a remote station, separate entries for each location may be submitted provided such separate entries have different callsigns or a portable callsign designator.
4.8 Entries that include contacts made with the assistance of remote receivers and/or transmitters in addition to contacts from a primary station are not permitted.

5. **Categories**

5.1 There are three entry classes, “Formula,” “Limited” and “Unlimited.”
5.2 Formula: An entrant may choose one of two options in this class:
5.2.1 All contacts must be made with a maximum output power of 5 watts, regardless of band or mode; or
5.2.2 the operator may run a maximum of 100 watts output to a simple antenna, such as a vertical or dipole (see the appendix below for further rules on antennas used in either option for Formula Class).
5.2.3 An operator in Formula Class must select QRP (5 watts or less) or 100 watts and limited antennas at the beginning of the year’s DX Marathon and may not switch between entry modes during the year.
5.2.4 All contacts must be made without the use of higher power or prohibited antennas to initially secure the contact. Use of spotting nets such as a DX Cluster® is allowed.
5.2.5 Details of antennas used in either option of Formula Class must be included on the official submission form to qualify for Formula Class. Formula Class entries without antenna descriptions (type, height and length, for example) may be re-classified to Unlimited Class.

5.3 Limited: Limited Class entrants are allowed a maximum output power of 100 watts and simple antennas, such as verticals or dipoles, plus small directional antennas such as Yagis and multi-element loop, hex and quad type antennas for the 6, 10, 12, 15, 17 and 20 metre bands and single-element rotatable dipoles for the 30 and 40 metre bands.
5.3.1 See the Appendix below for further description of Limited Class antennas. All contacts must be made without the use of higher power or prohibited antennas to initially secure the contact. Use of spotting nets such as a DX Cluster® is allowed.
5.3.2 Details of antennas used in Limited Class must be included on the official submission form to qualify for Limited Class. Limited Class entries without antenna descriptions (type, height and length, for example) may be re-classified to Unlimited Class.

5.4 Unlimited: Any antenna or antennas may be used, along with any power level for which the operator is licensed. Use of spotting nets such as DX Cluster® is allowed.

6. Scoring
6.1 Each country worked is worth one point.
6.2 Each CQ zone worked is worth one point.
6.3 The total score is the sum of zones and countries worked, on any mode and any authorised band.
6.4 There are no multipliers of any kind.
6.5 Each country and zone count only once.
6.6 A single QSO may count for both a country and a zone. If during the year you work 238 countries and 37 zones, your score is 275. If you work all 40 zones and 150 countries, your score is 190.
6.7 The CQ DX Countries List and the CQ Zone List constitute the official lists. The lists are available on the DX Marathon web site.
6.8 In the case of ties, the operator whose last scoring contact was earlier chronologically will be judged the winner. Decisions of the Marathon Manager are final.

7. Submissions
7.1 Submissions must be made electronically, via email to scores@dxmarathon.com.
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7.2 A Microsoft Excel® template into which contacts may be entered is available for
7.3 The website also provides other options for those without access to Excel®. All scores
must be received by 5 January 2019.

8. Verification: QSLs are not required.
8.1 The operator is expected to claim contacts only from stations the operator has every
reason to believe are legitimate and only to claim contacts in which an accurate two-way
exchange was clearly accomplished (see Appendix for further explanation).
8.2 Scores will be adjusted by the DX Marathon committee for claimed contacts with
pirates or any station not considered legitimate.
8.3 Submissions may be penalized or voided in cases of fraud or poor sportsmanship.
8.4 Decisions of the Marathon Manager are final.

9. Clubs

9.1 Clubs are strongly encouraged to use the framework of this contest for intramural and
regional competitions.
9.2 Please be sure to enter your club name on the submission form.

10. Results

The final listing of official scores and winners will be published in CQ magazine and/or the CQ
website and the DX Marathon website after the results have been published in CQ Magazine.

11. Awards

11.1 Plaques
11.1.1 The DX Marathon will award plaques as follows: highest overall score in Unlimited
Class; highest overall score in Limited Class; highest overall score in Formula Class, both 5-
watt and 100-watt options; highest overall CW only, highest overall SSB only and highest
overall Digital only scores; highest overall score for single band entries for the 10, 12, 15, 17,
20, 30, 40 and 80 metre bands; highest overall score for each of the 6 continents and highest
overall CW scores in Europe and North America.
11.1.2 Plaques for CW, SSB, band and continent winners are awarded regardless of class and
will only be awarded if the winning scores in those categories are at least 50% of the score of
the overall DX Marathon Unlimited Class winner.
11.1.3 Entrants may receive only one plaque per year. In the case of a participant qualifying
for more than one plaque, that participant will receive a plaque for the highest level based on
the above order.
11.2 Certificates
11.2.1 Certificates are awarded to qualified participants in this order: highest overall score in
each country; highest overall score in each CQ zone; highest overall score on the 6 and 160
metre bands; highest overall score in Unlimited, Limited, Formula 100 watt and Formula 5
watt classes in each USA callsign district; highest overall score in each Canadian callsign
district; highest overall score for each of the three modes on each continent with the exception of CW in Europe and North America.

11.2.2 Plaque winners are not eligible for certificates. Only one certificate will be awarded per entrant.

11.2.3 In the case of a participant qualifying for more than one certificate, that participant will receive a certificate for the highest level based on the above order.

11.2.4 In all cases, the rulings of the Marathon Manager are final.

Appendix

1. **Formula Class antennas, option 1:** Operators selecting the 5-watt option are limited to antennas on a single tower and whose height does not exceed 20 metres above ground elevation. Wire antennas may also be used but must meet the criteria of the 100-watt option and may be tower-supported at only one point.

2. **Formula Class antennas, option 2:** Antennas for operators choosing the 100-watt option must be either simple verticals or wire antennas lacking significant gain. No arrays are allowed, whether vertical or horizontal. Wire antennas, regardless of type, may not exceed 40 metres in length, may not be higher than 20 metres above ground at any point of the antenna and may be tower-supported at only one point. The tallest point of vertical antennas used may not be higher than 20 metres above ground. Yagis, quads and rotatable dipoles may not be used in this category. There is no limit on the number of antennas that may be used if each antenna meets the above criteria.

3. **Limited Class Antennas:** Antennas for Limited Class include all Formula Class option 2 antennas for use on all bands plus directional antennas such as Yagis and multi-element loop, hex and quad type antennas on the 20 to 6 metre bands. Directional antennas with no more than 3 elements per band are allowed on the 20 to 6 metre bands. Boom length may not exceed 5 metres for antennas with booms. Single-element rotatable dipoles are allowed for the 30 and 40 metre bands. Directional antennas and rotatable dipoles must not be higher than 15 metres above ground and all antennas must be on a single tower or support.

4. **Contacts:** Each contact for a claimed country or zone must be a solid contact. The station claiming a contact with another station is expected to have had his or her callsign fully and accurately received and transmitted by the other station and to have copied his/her own call being correctly sent by the other station. For example, K2MGA may not claim credit for a QSO with a DX station who had his call as K3MGA, even though in many cases the DX station would QSL the contact with the correction made (after receiving a card from K2MGA, realizing the error and correcting his/her log). For a contact to count, both stations must correctly copy both callsigns.
The 2018 ARRL International Grid Chase

1. Introduction

1.1 In the spirit of the Fred Fish Memorial Award, VUCC, DXCC, WAS and WAC, we bring you a world-wide event in which all Radio Amateurs can participate where the goal is to contact (each Month during 2018) as many Maidenhead 4-digit grid squares as possible on all amateur bands.

1.2 Building on our successful 2016 National Parks On The Air (NPOTA) event (providing a year-long focus of fun activating or contacting US National Parks), and considering ARRL’s existing grid-square based award events (including our Fred Fish and VUCC Award programs where the objective is to contact stations in as many 4-digit maidenhead grid squares as possible), we introduce for 2018 the ARRL International Grid Chase to bring international grid-chasing on all amateur bands (HF, and VHF and above) to an all new level.

1.3 In a fashion like NPOTA, using Logbook of the World (LoTW - www.arrl.org/logbook-of-the-world) as the QSOs data source, the 2018 ARRL International Grid Chase activities will be scored MONTHLY on the ARRL web site at www.arrl.org/aigc2018. Each month we will start fresh, recognizing participation through various tables and data selection options on the web page. Monthly pages will be added to track each calendar month's activities. Once the year is completed, an annual summary will be released.

2. Objective

On a Monthly basis, on amateur frequencies from HF to Microwaves, to contact amateur stations in as many different 2 degrees by 1-degree maidenhead 4-digit grid squares as possible.

3. Dates/Event Period

3.1 The event runs from 00:00 UTC 1 January 2018 to 23:59 UTC 31 December 2018.

3.2 At the beginning of each month during 2018, the monthly scores will be reset to zero to begin the new month of competition.

4. Bands

4.1 All FCC-authorized frequencies (excluding the 60-meter band).

4.2 Permitted bands: 2 200 m, 630 m, 160 m, 80 m, 40 m, 30 m, 20 m, 17 m, 15 m, 12 m, 10 m, 6 m, 2 m, 1,25 m, 70 cm, 33 cm, 23 cm, and all higher FCC-authorized microwave bands.

5. Modes

5.1 Three mode categories will be recognized - CW, Phone and Digital

5.2 All voice modes count as Phone

5.3 All digital modes count as Digital
6. **Methods of contact**

6.1 All methods of contact are permitted (excluding QSOs made through repeaters, digipeaters, Echolink, IRLP, or non-satellite cross-band QSOs which do not count in this event).

6.2 Satellite and EME QSOs are permitted.

7. **Station types**

7.1 Fixed, Portable, Mobile/Rover and Maritime Mobile (MM) stations may participate (MM stations are not eligible for DXCC, WAS or WAC credit however).

7.2 Stations who claim to operate from more than one grid locator simultaneously (i.e., from the boundary between two grid locators or from the intersection of four grid locators) must be physically present in all locators to give multiple locator credit with a single contact. These stations should be prepared to validate their claim. For a mobile station, this means parking the vehicle exactly on the line or corner. For a portable station, this means that the total area occupied by the station's physical setup, including operating position(s), power source(s), and antenna(s), must occupy some portion of each of the two/four grid squares simultaneously. Operators of boundary/corner stations should be prepared to provide evidence of meeting the simultaneous occupation test if called upon to do so. Two photographs -- one showing the placement of the GPS receiver in the station setup, and a close-up legibly showing the GPS reading -- are typically needed as evidence of compliance. Video footage showing an overview of the operating site and then, uncut and in real time, zooming in on the GPS display coordinates is even better.

7.3 Grid boundary lines and grid corners must be established using a GPS receiver whose map datum is set to WGS84, the global default for current GPS receivers. The GPS receiver should be set to use WAAS (Wide Area Augmentation System) if so equipped, since this improves the error figure to as little as 5 feet. In no case may the GPS receiver show an error figure more than 20 feet (6 metres). Any modern GPS receiver equipped with WAAS will easily meet this requirement, as will most older units without WAAS.

8. **Exchange**

8.1 Call Sign and Maidenhead 4-digit grid-square locator (see [www.arrl.org/grid-squares](http://www.arrl.org/grid-squares)).

8.2 Exchange of signal report is optional.

8.3 When operating during a contest, the contest exchange takes precedence over the grid square exchange.

8.4 QSOs made with a club or special event (e.g., 1x1) call count only for the club, not for the operator.

8.5 As with other similar award's criteria, if a station is located on the intersection of 2, 3 or 4 grid squares, the over-the-air exchange need only include just one grid square (confirmation for the adjoining grid squares will be made by the station operating from the intersecting grids through the station location in TQSL [https://lotw.arrl.org/lotw-help_devel_en/stnloc/?lang=en](https://lotw.arrl.org/lotw-help_devel_en/stnloc/?lang=en)).

8.6 TQSL Station Locations will allow multiple adjacent grids (formatted as “grid,grid,”
etc). MM stations would have DXCC Entity set to “none”. For information on LoTW TQSL, see http://www.arrl.org/quick-start-tqsl.

8.7 All QSOs within your DXCC entity qualify. See also section 10 below for Awards with specific requirements.

9. Event participation - contact submissions

All submissions are made through LoTW. See https://lotw.arrl.org/lotw/default

10. Awards

10.1 As all contacts are being uploaded to LoTW, in addition to the overall monthly and annual recognitions of the ARRL International Grid Chase, participants may use their contacts toward other ARRL awards (see the list of ARRL awards at http://www.arrl.org/awards).
10.2 These include ARRL’s grid-based awards of VHF-UHF Century Club (VUCC) and the Fred Fish Memorial Award (for contact with all 488 US 4-digit grid squares on 6 meters), as well as Worked All States (WAS) and WAS Triple Play, DX Century Club (DXCC), and Worked All Continents (WAC).

11. Recognitions

11.1 Achievement in collecting grid squares in the ARRL International Grid Chase will be recognized by categories of Band, Mode, and Continent (other leader’s types will be developed as warranted) through our interactive web page monthly and at year end summary.
11.2 Online certificates of achievement will be developed for Monthly and Annual recognition.

12. Resources

A variety of resources offer grid-square maps and mapping tools.
12.1 To learn more about Maidenhead grid-squares, see www.arrl.org/grid-squares
12.2 The ARRL offers its World Grid Atlas from the ARRL Store at www.arrl.org/shop/The-ARRL-World-Grid-Locator-Atlas
12.3 You can map your location using this handy Google Maps tool from Laurent Haas, F6FVY, at http://qthlocator.free.fr/index.php
12.4 Call sign lookups in QRZ (www.qrz.com) often includes the station’s grid square in their station detail tab.

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