

RULES IARU R1 50/70 MHZ, 145 MHZ AND UHF/ μ W

CONTESTS

Eligible entrants

All licensed radio amateurs in Region 1 may participate in the contest. Multiple operator entries will be accepted, provided only one callsign per band is used during the contest. When such stations use a different call sign on each band, the logs of that Multi-operator entry shall for each band clearly bear an indication of the group. This will preferably be one of the call signs used, but a group name may be used instead. All stations belonging to such a group shall operate from the same location. A Station operated by more than one operator and using the same call sign on different frequency bands is eligible for MULTI section only. (Varna 2014)

The contestants must operate within the letter and spirit of the contest and at no greater power than permitted in the ordinary licenses of their country. Stations operating under special high power licenses do so "hors concours" and cannot be placed in the contest proper.

Contest sections¹

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

- **Section SINGLE:** stations operated by a single operator, with no operational assistance of another person during the contest.
- **Section MULTI:** stations operated by multiple operators
- **Section 6 HOURS SINGLE:** stations operated by a single operator, with no operational assistance of another person during the contest (144 MHz and 432 MHz only).
- **Section 6 HOURS MULTI:** stations operated by a multiple operators (144 MHz and 432 MHz only).
- **Section SINGLE without MGM:** stations operated by a single operator, with no operational assistance of another person during the contest (50 MHz and 70 MHz only).
- **Section SINGLE with MGM:** stations operated by a single operator, with no operational assistance of another person during the contest on (50 MHz and 70 MHz only).
- **Section MULTI without MGM:** stations operated by a multiple operators (50 MHz and 70 MHz only).
- **Section MULTI with MGM:** stations operated by a multiple operators (50 MHz and 70 MHz only).

¹ The rover class has been deleted (Varna 2014)

6 HOURS section time rule:

the 6 hour time segment can be divided into maximum two periods. The time of the first QSO sets the start time of the first period. The pause between the two periods must be longer than 2 hours. The first time difference of 2 hours or more between two consecutive QSOs marks the pause segment. Only the QSOs that fall into the combined 6 hour time segment will be counted for points. (Varna 2014)

Participants are welcome to operate longer than 6 hours and in such case they shall send their complete log (the contest robot will automatically extract the 6 hours part from the log, while the rest of the log entries will be used for cross-checking purposes). (Vienna 2016)

Operating²

- No more than one transmitter per band may be in use at any one time.
- A participating station must operate from the same location throughout the event.
- All the equipment of the station (transmitters, receivers and antennas, etc) must be located within a single circle of no greater than 500 metres diameter.

The operator may reside outside the station's area ("remote station"), connected to the station via a "remote control terminal". In such a case, the Locator for the contest is the Locator of the station's position. An operator may only operate one single station, regardless if it is locally or remotely operated, during the same event.

Date of contests

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

Duration of contests

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

² The recommendation for using The 144,500 – 144,700 MHz band has been deleted (Varna 2014)

Contacts

Each station may only be worked once per band, whether it is fixed, portable or mobile. If a station is worked again during the same contest on the same band, only one contact may count for points, but any duplicate contacts should be logged without claim for points and clearly marked as duplicates.

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

Competitors are obliged to follow the common definition for a valid QSO (described in the PART 1 section 4.1). The contest exchange (call, report, QSO number and locator) shall be sent and confirmed on the band where the contact started and only during the QSO. No attempt should be made during the QSO to obtain any part of the required exchange information via other communication methods such as the Internet chat channel, DX Cluster, talk-back on another amateur band, telephone etc.. Such a secondary method invalidates the contest QSO. Self-spotting (advertising its own frequency) on any other communication means, like DX Cluster, chat rooms, etc. shall not be used during the contest. (Varna 2014)

Acceptable examples when using a secondary method:

"Shall we make a sked on 144.388?"

"I have QRM, let's move to 144.218 kHz and start again"

"Nothing received, please try again" and the QSO starts again

"Thank you for a nice QSO" - Note: Only after the QSO has completed on the radio!

Unacceptable examples when using a secondary method:

"I need your serial number"

"Please repeat all information"

"Please confirm <report>, <serial number>, <locator> etc."

Type of emission

Contacts may be made in A1A, J3E or F3E (G3E). MGM mode is allowed during the 50/70 MHz contest.(Varna 2014)

Contest exchanges

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

For contact on 50 MHz, outside of Region 1, the locator can be 4 digits and "MM" will be added as 5th and 6th digit. (Vienna 2016)

Note: for the "T" part of the report, PART 3 section 2.1.2. For the "Q" part of the report, see PART 3 section 2.2

Scoring

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

The centre of each locator square is used for distance calculations.

In case that only a 4-character locator has been received, the contact is invalid; except (50 MHz outside Region 1, see 2.9)

In order to make contest scores comparable, for the conversion from degrees to kilometres a factor of 111.2 should be used when calculating distances with the aid of the spherical geometry equation (Noordwijkerhout, 1987).

All QSOs including unique QSOs shall count for points even if they only appear in the log of one contest entrant (Varna 2014)

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

- 24 GHz 1 x
- 47 GHz 2 x
- 75/80 GHz 3 x
- 122 GHz 4 x
- 134 GHz 8 x
- 245 GHz 10 x

Entries

The entries must be set out in digital/electronic form fulfilling the requirements under rule 5.3.13. Logs shall be sent according to rule 5.2.3 not later than the second Monday following the contest weekend. Late entries will be accepted as check logs. By submitting the contest or check log, an entrant agrees that he / she has:

- understood the contest rules and agrees to be bound by them,
- operated according to all the rules and regulations that pertain to his and/or station license,
- agreed the cross-checked log may be made open to the public, except for the personal data in PAdr1, PAdr2, RName, RAdr1, RAdr2, RPoCo, RCity, RCoun, RPhon and RHBBS lines of EDI file format,
- accept all decisions of the organizing society (contest organizer) as final.

(Vienna 2016)

Judging of entries

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

Each VHF Manager and/or national Contest Committee shall be responsible for monitoring during contests. Additional monitoring stations may be appointed. The national VHF Manager/Contest Committee is responsible for disqualification based upon the results of monitoring. The claimed contact shall be disqualified for any error in the information logged by the station.

Any error in the exchanged information logged by a station is liable to result in the loss of all points for that contact, subject to review and confirmation by the contest organiser.

Awards

Section winners:

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

Overall winners for UHF/Microwave contest:

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

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

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

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

- The multiplier is equal to the ratio between the highest number of points scored by any participating station on the 435 MHz band for that section and the highest number of points scored by any participating station on the band for that section for which the multiplier is being determined.
- For the millimetre group the scores as determined according to rule 2.10 are used for the determination of this group's multiplier.
- As the 3.4 GHz band is not yet available in all countries within Region 1, the 3.4 GHz results will not be taken into account when determining the overall winners of the sections in the October IARU Region 1 UHF/Microwaves contest (Noordwijkerhout 1987)

Logs

The logs shall be in the format defined in PART 3 Section 5
Please visit also the IARU Contest robot: iaru.oevsv.at