



International Amateur Radio Union Region 1

Working for the future of amateur radio

VHF+ Newsletter

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Dick Harms PA2DW

General

The VHF+ Newsletter is usually being issued right after an IARU-conference or Interim Meeting and randomly with a frequency of 2-3 times a year, depending on the appearance of important newsitems. Ever since the VGC (Virtual General Conference) of 2020 however, no Newsletters have been issued and this is unusual und undesired. We will therefore increase the frequency of the Newsletter in the coming time!

Prior to the Hamradio Faire in Friedrichshafen Germany, there will be an Interim Meeting. The regular Interim Meeting in Vienna this year April, had to be cancelled due to the pandemic COVID-19 crisis. We are delighted to see many of our colleagues next week in Friedrichshafen, however the meeting is held "Hybrid", which means that all of us will be participating in the meeting via a Zoom link, even though a small group will be present in Friedrichshafen. Therefore , it will be vital, that even if you are in presence with us in Friedrichshafen, **you must bring a laptop/lpad or alike and a headset!**

The agenda of the meeting will be dominated by spectrum matters. The preparation of the ITU World Radio Conference (WRC23) shows us a couple of disrupting threads, in particular concerning the 23 cm band. Participants of the Interim Meeting have been asked previously to investigate which parts of the frequency spectrum is under pressure locally and I repeat the question here, so that we can summarize it next week in Friedrichshafen.

Another important topic is the use of FT4/FT8 on 6m, 4m and in particular 2m. This MGM-class of transmission is enormously popular, so we need to see if it is necessary/desirable to create a new way of use and band planning on these bands. We have some views on this item we would like to share with you but do bring your ideas to the meeting please!

We also have suggestions to improve the use of the VHF-managers handbook and there are a minor couple of amendments we need to agree upon.

Of course, contesting is on the main menu in the Interim Meeting. Contesting is one the great tools to preserve our frequency spectrum. "Use it or loose it" applies to it more than ever!

Contesting is a game and games always need rules to keep things as honest as possible. It is always a creative challenge for contest participants, to find new ways to win. Better equipment, better operators and sometimes finding a way to disregard the rules. For us it is always a challenge to improve the rules or to facilitate tools that help us creating a fair competition!

I hope to meet many of the winners in Friedrichshafen when they collect their prizes and see where they all did it for!

Some more contesting news items in the next chapter!

Best regards,

Dick W. Harms PA2DW

Chairman IARU-Committee C5 (VHF+)

VHF+ Contest News

2022 Contest Calendar

Month	Date	Contest name
April	16 – 17	IARU Reg. 1 50 MHz MGM Contest
May	21 – 22	IARU Reg. 1 70 MHz MGM Contest
June	11 – 12	IARU Reg. 1 ATV Contest
June	18 – 19	IARU Reg. 1 50 MHz CW/SSB Contest
July	16 – 17	IARU Reg. 1 70 MHz CW/SSB Contest
September	03 – 04	IARU Reg. 1 145 MHz Contest
October	01 – 02	IARU Reg. 1 UHF/Microwaves Contest
November	05 – 06	IARU Reg. 1 Marconi Memorial CW 145 MHz Contest

IARU Region 1 50 MHz CW/SSB Contest

The next weekend (June 18th/19th) is going to be the 2022 edition of the 50 MHz CW/SSB Contest.

Year	50 MHz
2014	497
2015	580
2016	564
2017	613
2018	309
2019	382
2020	537
2021	714

The 2021 edition of this contest has seen 714 participants in all three categories (SO-MO-6H), which is the highest number of logs received since 2014 (when we officially adopted the IARU Region 1 Contest robot tool).

We hope that the 2022 edition is going to be a new record in terms of participants from all the IARU Region 1, if “miss propagation” will help the participants the fun will be sure, with a high number of QSOs and pileups on SSB and CW.

We recommend you all the respect of the IARU Region 1 Bandplan, in particular the intercontinental DX window.

Further, we remember to all the participants how to send their logs :

- to your national VHF Contest Manager, who is responsible to upload all the logs in the IARU Region 1 Contest Robot,
- or you can upload them directly on the IARU Contest Robot <https://iaru.oevsv.at>

Those who are willing to win a prize in their participation category must respect the 34 hours rule:

- In every category of all the IARU Region 1 Contests the stations willing to win their categories must submit their logs individually to the IARU R1 Contest Robot within the 23:59 UTC of the Monday after the contest (34 hours); only these stations will be eligible to the victory and prizes.
- If the first station in the classification did not send his log before the deadline to be eligible for the victory (34 hours), then the first station which sent his log within the 34 hours deadline will be the winner. (VGC 2020)

The complete rules are available on the VHF Handbook v 9.01 page 75 and the followings:

<https://www.iaru-r1.org/reference/handbooks/>

IARU Region 1 VHF & Up Trophy

In 2022 we have started the first-ever edition of the IARU Region 1 VHF & Up Trophy; you can find all the rules on the VHF Handbook v 9.01 page 88 (Part 3 / Chapter 6).

The March Subregional Contest has been already evaluated and the final results are visible on the IARU R1 contest robot website at <https://iaru.oevsv.at> , we are waiting for the deadline of the complaining period for the May Subregional Contest to release the final results, in the meantime, we are collecting all the logs for the latest June Microwave Subregional Contest.

The March Subregional Contest has seen 1843 participants from all over Region 1 on all the bands up to 144 MHz, for the May session has been collected 2118 logs.

The next contest on the calendar for the Trophy will be the July Subregional Contest held on the 1st full weekend of July.

We remember that you can send your logs:

- to your national VHF Contest Manager, who is responsible to upload all the logs in the IARU Contest Robot,
- or you can upload them directly on the IARU Contest Robot <https://iaru.oevsv.at>

For the March, May, June, and July Subregional Contests there isn't the 34 hours rule (valid only for the IARU Region 1 contests in September and October).

IARU Region 1 50 MHz and 70 MHz MGM Contests

The 2022 edition of these two contests has been the first one evaluated using the IARU Region 1 Contest Robot, in 2021 we have used the RSGB robot to collect all the ADIF logs and Rob PE1ETR evaluated them with his own contest robot. (Thanks to RSGB, Ian G0FCT, and Rob PE1ITR).

Both the contests have been already evaluated and the results are available at <https://iaru.oevsv.at>

The 50 MHz session, held on April 16th-17th, has seen only 14 participants, despite the good number of qsos, more than a hundred, in some logs.

For the 70 MHz session, held on May 21st – 22nd, it has been received 13 logs, and also in this band the number of QSOs was quite good in some logs.

Stations eligible to win a prize (34 hours rule)

This rule is adopted in all IARU Region 1 contests (except the ATV Contest):

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April	16 – 17	IARU Reg. 1 50 MHz MGM Contest
May	21 – 22	IARU Reg. 1 70 MHz MGM Contest
June	11 – 12	IARU Reg. 1 ATV Contest
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Final considerations

The key to success in organizing a competition is to make the rules understandable for all the community of possible participants, to achieve this result IARU Region 1 has used and is using all the means to reach every contester in the region.

After the Virtual General Conference in November 2020, all the amendments to the contests' rules have been written in the IARU R1 VHF Handbook version 9.01, available on the official IARU Region 1 website, further all the national VHF Managers have been informed using the official IARU R1 mailing list, and the VHF Newsletter.

It is demanded to all the participants to read the complete set of rules, and which are the regulations in force for that contest.

We kindly ask all the national VHF Managers and VHF Contest Managers to collaborate to inform all the participants in their countries regarding the contest rules and how to send their logs.

Best regards,

Alessandro Carletti, IV3KKW
VHF+ Contest WG Chairman

Useful Information

C5 Chairman: Dick Harms, PA2DW

C5 Vice chairman: Jann Traschewski, DG8NGN

Contest co-ordinator: Alex Carletti , IV3KKW

Beacons co-ordinator: Mathias Klug, DH4FAJ

Satellite co-ordinator: Graham Shirville, G3VZV

Spectrum specialist: Murray Niman, G6JYB

Secretary: Jacques Verleijen, ON4AVJ

Website: <https://www.iaru-r1.org/about-us/committees-and-working-groups/vhf-uhf-shf-committee-c5/>

Handbook: Current Edition: v9.01: https://www.iaru-r1.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/03/VHF_Handbook_V9.01.pdf

Newsletters: <https://www.iaru-r1.org/about-us/committees-and-working-groups/vhf-uhf-shf-committee-c5/vhf-newsletters/>

Contest robot <http://iaru.oevsv.at/>

Mailing list VHF managers and liaison officers

If you are not on this mailing list and you are a VHF manager of your country please send a mail to ON4AVJ@uba.be