



Minutes of HF Contest Committee Skype meeting

19th June 2017

Attendees: Nick G4FAL (Chair HFCC), Iain M0PCB, Clive GM3POI, Mike G7tWC, Chris GM3WOJ and Mike G0GJV. Apologies received from Andy G4PIQ (Chair VHFCC), Ian G0FCT (Chair CSC), Pete G4CLA and Ed G3SQX.

1. This Year' Contests

1.1. Update on Participation to-date

- 1.1.1. In NFD 2017 the portables entry is reduced by 3 from 2016 but there were two checklogs, one of which appears to be a protest and one no-show protest from a regular entrant.
- 1.1.2. Commonwealth Contest entry was good with 275 entries up from 270 entries in 2016.
- 1.1.3. 80m CCs have similar numbers of entrants to previous two years - 2015 had 379 unique calls, 2016 had 384 and 2017 to date has 371.
- 1.1.4. On the whole, participation is encouraging

1.2. Promoting the DX Contest: The following course of action has been agreed by the committee.

- 1.2.1. Email all survey participants – **Action Nick G4FAL**
- 1.2.2. Email all 80m CC entrants – **Action Nick G4FAL**
- 1.2.3. Email everyone who enters IOTA in 2017, possibly by appending an advertisement to their acknowledgement email – **Action Nick G4FAL**
- 1.2.4. Regular post on UK HF Group – **Action Nick G4FAL**
- 1.2.5. CQ Contest reflector – **Action Chris GM3WOJ**
- 1.2.6. Update international calendars and other societies – **Action Mike G7TWC and Nick G4FAL**
- 1.2.7. RadCom copy – **Action Nick G4FAL**

2. Other issues for this year

2.1. Certificates of position were discussed with Mike G0GJV – this needs further discussion with Ian G0FCT and Pete G4CLA but the aim is to have these in place for 2018. There is a need to agree on what information will be on the certificates – for example would positions of particular licence classes such as Foundation and Intermediate be shown in addition to overall positions?

2.2. GR2HQ website and awards

- 2.2.1. M0VKY hosts the website and QRZ.com – **Action Mike G7TWC to liaise with Simon to update**
- 2.2.2. Awards will be discontinued for 2017.

2.3. QSO Cards

- 2.3.1. GR2HQ and G6XX cards are to have adverts for our contests. Once the licences are finalised we will discuss QSL management with Charles Wilmott M0OXO who has been managing QSL arrangements for GR2HQ for some years – **Action Nick G4FAL**

2.4. Trophies – update from RSGB Board

- 2.4.1. Ian G0FCT and Jacqui G6XSX provided the RSGB Board with a proposal based on the HFCC reallocation spreadsheet.



- 2.4.2. The Board are prepared to fund the purchase of four new trophies for presentation at the convention in October.
- 2.4.3. CSC are investigating making plaques available for certain contests from 2017 and more in 2018 if they are successful. – **Action Ian GOFCT**
- 2.4.4. The website now needs details of trophies and awards for HF Contests adding.
- 2.4.5. There is an option of asking for trophy sponsors from our members rather than spending RSGB funds. This will be explored with Ian and Jacqui. - **Action Nick G4FAL**

2.5. Convention Saturday Talk and Sunday Forum – need to decide the content for each of these sessions – **Action Nick G4FAL**

3. Next Year's Contests

3.1. Change to all rules to clarify remote operation

- 3.1.1. For 2018 at HF we wish to allow remote operation where the transmitter and receiver are at one location and within the same DXCC entity (or Commonwealth Call Area in BERU) as the operator. Also we wish to allow remote operation of home stations. We understand that a similar proposal is under consideration at VHF so we should try to make these rules the same – **Action Nick G4FAL to produce text for VHFCC to consider**

3.2. Change to all rules for Affiliated Society Contests to have 80km radius for Local Clubs. HFCC agreed to use km after some discussion although it was agreed that the UK has not generally adopted km – **Action Nick G4FAL to produce text for VHFCC to consider**

3.3. AFS – new data event – frequency and power allocation for PSK63 and RTTY were discussed.

- 3.3.1. Date to be the Saturday following AFS phone
- 3.3.2. 100W max PSK, 400W max RTTY
- 3.3.3. PSK: 3580-3590 kHz; 7040-7045 kHz
- 3.3.4. RTTY: 3590-3620 kHz; 7045-7060 kHz

3.4. 80m Club Championship - add QRS frequency allocation as Autumn Series expand CW to 3510 to 3565 and QRS from 3565 to 3570

3.5. Commonwealth – additional optional commemorative HQ stations to be allowed in the rules.

3.6. NFD/SSB FD – consider a single op QRP short duration and no fossil fuel supplies only category - “Have a go portable” to encourage more spontaneous operation – **Action Nick G4FAL to draft ideas**

4. G6XX for RSGB Contest Club

4.1. Ofcom have agreed to provide the RSGB Contest Club with a callsign and an NOV to use the historic RSGB callsign G6XX. This should be available for IOTA in July. HFCC to consider how this might be used to promote RSGB Contests for discussion at a future meeting.

5. Facebook Group - No progress to date.