



Minutes of the HF Contest Committee meeting via Skype
18th July at 20.00

Attendees:

- Nick G4FAL - Chair
Ian G0FCT
Mike G0GJV
Graham G0NBI
Chris GM3WOJ
Stewart GW0ETF
Iain M0PCB

Apologies for absence were received from: Pete G4CLA, Andy G4PIQ, Paul G4PVM, Mike G7TWC and Clive GM3POI

1. Matters arising from the minutes of the meeting held on 27th June 2018

1.1. IARU HF Championship stations: GR2HQ

Nick reported that 8 stations had activated the GR2HQ callsign, making a total of 7,061 CW and 6,023 claimed QSOs. The claimed score was 18.7 million points, considerably more than last year (2017 - 13.2m). The Committee thanked the station hosts and all those who had operated.

Table with 7 columns: Station, 160m, 80m, 40m, 20m, 15m, 10m. Rows include stations M6T, G3YDD, G6MC, GWORHC, G4FAL, GM3WOJ, MOBPO, and G4NVR with their respective operating modes.

It was note that a coordinating meeting to review this year's event and plan for the next would be held at the RSGB Convention in October.

Action: Nick G4FAL

1.2. FIFA World Cup Marathon

Nick reported that, despite the last-minute organisation of the use of the G*6XX callsign (marathon duration was 45 days – 1st June to 15th July), this initiative had been a great success and had enhanced the reputation of the RSGB on the international stage. The final totals were as follows:

Callsign	GM6XX	GI6XX	GW6XX	G6XX
QSOs total/unique	10,014/5996	10,747/6,543	8,580/5,337	25,393/12,944
CW/DIGI/SSB totals	5698/428/2888	6861/328/3558	5851/01/2728	14233/1160/10,000
DXCC entities	101	116	95	150
No of stations making single QSO	4,087	4,439	3,667	8,254
Most QSOS with a single station	HA7XL – 17 SP2EWQ - 15	SP2EWQ - 15	SP2EWQ - 14	SP2EWQ – 28
Most active bands	4,408 – 20m 2,873 - 40m	5,847 – 20m 1,638 - 40m	5,322 – 20m 1,177 - 40m	11,718 – 20m 5,852 - 40m
No of stations involved	8	4	7	29 (some multi op)

It was agreed that the experience of the marathon had reinforced the committee's view that the current SSES callsign arrangement is not really compatible with this type of event.

Firstly, it does not facilitate the use of Regional Identifiers and, secondly, it requires operator details to be finalised far too long in advance of the event and consequently allows no flexibility in allocating stations to activate the callsign.

Nick reported that he would be requesting that this matter be discussed with Ofcom.

Action: Nick G4FAL

The committee extended its thanks and appreciation to Nick G4FAL for all his efforts in ensuring the success of the event.

1.3. Beginners Guide to Contesting

It was reported that the guide was now ready for publication.

Action Ian G0FCT

1.4. Proposed Changes to the RSGB website

It was agreed that these be discussed with the General Manager at the forthcoming Volunteer Leadership Team meeting.

Action: Nick G4FAL and Ian G0FCT (Graham G0NBI to provide visual briefing)



2. Contest Calendar 2019.
Nick reported that the forthcoming deadline for the RSGB Yearbook necessitated urgent agreement on next year's calendar. The timetable was agreed and is included as Appendix 1. It was agreed that suitable photos be sourced to complement the publication.

Action Ian G0FCT

3. 40m QSO Party Rules and timing
It was noted that analysis of the marathon/GR2HQ logs indicated that inter-G propagation was most likely during the morning hours of daylight. It was agreed that a sub-group be tasked with agreeing all necessary details.

Action: Stewart GW0ETF and Chris GM3WOJ

4. Possible QSO marathon in 2019 using G*6XX and/or a Special Callsign
In view of the success of the FIFA marathon, it was agreed to explore the possibility of a subsequent marathon-type event perhaps in conjunction with the IARU.

Action Nick G4FAL and Ian G0FCT

5. RSGB Contest Club: Second club callsign
It was noted that the various versions of G*6XX had proved very popular both at home and abroad, making some 73,000 QSOs in a year with 165,000 "hits" on QRZ.com.

This had improved considerably the profile of RSGB contesting. It was agreed to apply for a second callsign by way of a re-issuance of a similar historic call.

Action Nick G4FAL

6. Date of next meeting: 22nd August 2018 at 20.00 via Skype



Appendix 1	Contest Calendar 2019	
Date	Time (UTC)	Contest Name
Sat 5 Jan	1300-1700	RSGB AFS 80m-40m Contests CW
Sun 13 Jan	1300-1700	RSGB AFS 80m-40m Contests Datamodes
Sat 19 Jan	1300-1700	RSGB AFS 80m-40m Contests Phone
Mon 4 Feb	2000-2130	80m CC SSB
Sat 9 Feb	1900-2300	1st 1.8MHz Contest
Wed 13 Feb	2000-2130	80m CC DATA
Thu 28 Feb	2000-2130	80m CC CW
Mon 4 Mar	2000-2130	80m CC DATA
Sat 9-Sun 10 Mar	1000-1000	Commonwealth Contest
Wed 13 Mar	2000-2130	80m CC CW
Thu 28 Mar	2000-2130	80m CC SSB
Mon 1 Apr	1900-2030	80m CC CW
Sun 7 Apr	1900-2030	RoLo SSB
Wed 10 Apr	1900-2030	80m CC SSB
Thu 25 Apr	1900-2030	80m CC DATA
Mon 13 May	1900-2030	80m CC SSB
Wed 22 May	1900-2030	80m CC DATA
Thu 30 May	1900-2030	80m CC CW
Sat 1-Sun 2 Jun	1500-1500	NFD
Sat 8 Jun	1000-1200	1st 40m QSO Party
Mon 10 Jun	1900-2030	80m CC DATA
Wed 19 Jun	1900-2030	80m CC CW
Thu 27 Jun	1900-2030	80m CC SSB
Mon 1 Jul	1900-2030	80m CC CW
Wed 10 Jul	1900-2030	80m CC SSB
Sun 21 Jul	0900-1600	Low Power Contest
Thu 25 Jul	1900-2030	80m CC DATA
Sat 27-Sun 28 Jul	1200-1200	IOTA Contest
Sun 18 Aug	1000-1200	2nd 40m QSO Party
Sat 7-Sun 8 Sep	1300-1300	SSB Field Day
Mon 9 Sep	1900-2030	Autumn Series SSB
Wed 18 Sep	1900-2030	Autumn Series CW
Thu 26 Sep	1900-2030	Autumn Series DATA
Sun 6 Oct	0500-2300	DX Contest
Mon 14 Oct	1900-2030	Autumn Series CW
Sun 20 Oct	1900-2030	RoLo CW
Wed 23 Oct	1900-2030	Autumn Series DATA
Thu 31 Oct	1900-2030	Autumn Series SSB
Sat 9 Nov	2000-2300	Club Calls (1.8MHz AFS)
Mon 11 Nov	2000-2130	Autumn Series DATA
Sat 16 Nov	1900-2300	2nd 1.8MHz Contest
Wed 20 Nov	2000-2130	Autumn Series SSB
Thu 28 Nov	2000-2130	Autumn Series CW

Events in **bold** qualify for the HF Championship