

Minutes of VHFCC Meeting 10th September 2021

Attendees :

Andy Cook, G4PIQ (Chair),
Ian Pawson G0FCT,
Pete Lindsay G4CLA,
Richard Baker, GD8EXI,
Mike Goodey, G0GJV,
Mike Tubby, G8TIC,
John Quarmby, G3XDY,
Richard Staples, G4HGI,
Martin Hall, GM8IEM

Apologies:

Stewart Bryant, G3YSX (Board Liaison)

1. Review of Actions

G4CLA to draft these rule changes into the master XML file and elsewhere as necessary ready for review. – **Complete**

G0FCT to update and better signpost the hall-of-fame – **Complete**

Action : G0FCT to repeat the hall of fame for 2021

G0FCT to discuss with the Rad Com Editor whether we can get a piece printed in there – **Complete**

G4PIQ to consider whether we can squeeze some form of additional presentation / photo opportunity at any face-to-face convention run next year – **Complete – no face-to-face convention this year**

Action : G4PIQ to discuss with convention organisers and HFCC chair whether we can schedule a contest forum and run some form of virtual trophy presentation within the virtual convention this year

Action : G8TIC to speak to M0MUX about how we could technically run a forum

G0FCT to create a list of penalties for publication – **Complete**

G4PIQ to schedule further time for discussion of signal quality – **Complete** – situation being monitored for now

G4PIQ to schedule for further discussion and consider how we engage with newcomers – **Ongoing**

Action : G0FCT to discuss with Rad Com whether we can re-use the Rad Com Basics contesting articles that he has written

2. Update on IARU C5 Progress

A new chair has been appointed, but there is relatively little activity at this time.

3. Entries to IARU Events

At present – due to GDPR constraints – we do not automatically forward RSGB entries into the IARU events, although the IARU do now take our open logs as check logs en-masse. We provide a link to the IARU submission page, but it is not well utilised, resulting in very few RSGB entries to the IARU contests compared to most other Region 1 countries. This is not a particularly popular position with our entrants and we would like to see if we can work within the GDPR constraints to allow a more automated method of submission.

Action : G4PIQ to examine what is done by the other countries and to consider whether we can implement a ‘consent to submit’ checkbox of similar

4. Review of Contest Entry Levels

Appendix A contains an updated spreadsheet of entry levels to VHFCC contests. The large uplift due to the lockdown continued for the first part of the year, but has started to reverse out in some events as the country has started to open up. Nevertheless, entry levels are generally encouraging and generally showing an underlying upward trend when the localised impact of the pandemic is removed.

VHF NFD was not well supported this year, but we assume that some teams were not yet confident of being COVID safe at the time.

The MGM contest was not well supported in its new slot.

There are no obvious candidates for closure this year

5. Carbon Footprint Reduction in Contesting

Topic suggested by G3YSX. Deferred until next meeting due to lack of time

6. Review of Rule for 2022 and Consultation Items

- We will remove the clause limiting station sharing to family members only (this was introduced for COVID) and replace with the previous clause
- The 2m FT8 contests have proved popular. There have been a significant number of entrants to the European 70cm FT8 event on the 2nd Wednesday of each month and we propose to run an RSGB event in this slot. There is uncertainty over the correct timing for this (and the 2m event) and we propose to

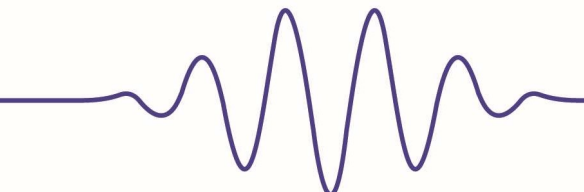
consult on some options – leave as it; do all 4 hours, do 2 hours; operate any 3 hours of the 4

- We will remove slot fed yagis from all Restricted / Low-Power sections for consistency (still exist in the VHF NFD rules)
- We will consult on whether to move the power measurement point for restricted / low power from the transmitter output to the antenna feed-point to bring in line with the open section.
- We will consult on whether to end the Backpackers at 1400, and – if we did that - whether to leave start at 1100, or move back to 1000
- We will consult on whether to reduce the 2m Low Power to 4 hours
- We discussed the movement of the 4m Trophy from Saturday to the Sunday. This was moved, following a number of requests primarily to allow stations to enter both this event and the HFCC International Low Power Contest (which are both are Championship events), and on a secondary basis to allow stations to enter the full 24 hours of the new IARU event. It is our policy to not clash between HFCC and VHFCC contests unless it is absolutely essential. It is unfortunate that this change was made at the last minute not well publicised in the lists of changes for 2021. The committee discussed whether we should consult on going back to Saturday – but the majority felt that we should run for another year in the current form.
- We will consider if we can simplify the number of multiplier options in-use –
Action : G0FCT

Action : G4PIQ – organise a survey

7. AOB

None



Appendix A – Contest Entry Levels

| Contest | 1999 | 2000 | 2001 | 2002 | 2003 | 2004 | 2005 | 2006 | 2007 | 2008 | 2009 | 2010 | 2011 | 2012 | 2013 | 2014 | 2015 | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 | | |
|-----------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|-----|-----|
| 144 UKAC | 20 | 22 | 26 | 36 | 32 | 55 | 73 | 147 | 190 | 257 | 316 | 368 | 495 | 442 | 499 | 574 | 603 | 644 | 655 | 661 | 634 | 781 | | | |
| 432 UKAC | 19 | 12 | 20 | 22 | 22 | 19 | 23 | 34 | 53 | 66 | 166 | 218 | 300 | 293 | 369 | 420 | 417 | 469 | 453 | 465 | 431 | 583 | | | |
| 1.3 UKAC | 13 | 14 | 11 | 13 | 11 | 12 | 15 | 12 | 15 | 16 | 47 | 85 | 90 | 136 | 140 | 186 | 201 | 229 | 216 | 214 | 207 | 266 | | | |
| 50 UKAC | | | | | | | | 25 | 43 | 59 | 169 | 238 | 237 | 258 | 348 | 437 | 454 | 496 | 435 | 424 | 391 | 516 | | | |
| 70 UKAC | | | | | | | | 12 | | 20 | 55 | 94 | 108 | 131 | 151 | 207 | 200 | 269 | 309 | 299 | 293 | 377 | | | |
| SHF UKAC | | | | | | | | | | | | | 33 | 33 | 27 | 50 | 38 | 65 | 83 | 87 | 93 | 96 | | | |
| 50 FMAC | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 39 | | | | |
| 70 FMAC | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 67 | 57 | | | |
| 144 FMAC | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 175 | 135 | 131 | 231 |
| 432 FMAC | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 118 | 103 | 113 | 158 |
| 432 AFS | 34 | 35 | 30 | 33 | 30 | 26 | 35 | 38 | | 28 | 35 | 63 | 76 | 72 | 82 | 98 | 114 | 102 | 109 | 133 | 118 | 116 | 168 | | |
| 432 AFS Clubs | 15 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 12 | 11 | 14 | 14 | | 12 | 14 | 26 | 34 | 29 | 29 | 44 | 49 | 46 | 50 | 56 | 46 | 49 | 69 | | |
| March 2/70 | 27 | 35 | 25 | | 24 | 25 | 32 | 35 | 23 | 36 | 60 | 59 | 91 | 59 | 72 | 59 | 84 | 63 | 85 | 98 | 94 | 98 | 137 | | |
| 70 MHz Cums | 24 | 24 | 20 | 20 | 18 | 20 | 19 | 22 | 29 | 28 | 38 | 50 | 74 | 73 | 76 | 81 | 87 | 88 | 102 | 89 | 83 | 82 | | | |
| 1st 70 MHz | 22 | 13 | 12 | 18 | 22 | 22 | 18 | 19 | 21 | 23 | 32 | 35 | 47 | 46 | 40 | 41 | 49 | 58 | 56 | 44 | 39 | 56 | 56 | | |
| 1st 50 MHz | | | | | | | | | 36 | 48 | 39 | 35 | 48 | 42 | 53 | 48 | 49 | 53 | 61 | 41 | 49 | 120 | 73 | | |
| 1st MGM | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 53 | 38 | 47 | 29 | | |
| May UHF | 30 | 24 | 15 | 17 | 26 | | 34 | | 29 | 18 | 16 | 20 | 26 | 33 | 39 | 23 | 33 | 53 | 41 | 45 | 36 | 44 | 55 | | |
| 432 Trophy | | 21 | 15 | 17 | 20 | 22 | 28 | 23 | 28 | 25 | 28 | 33 | 35 | 37 | 48 | 54 | 37 | 51 | 57 | 52 | 57 | 80 | 90 | | |
| 10G Trophy | 14 | 10 | | 5 | 9 | 11 | 10 | 10 | 8 | 11 | 8 | 5 | 12 | 8 | 6 | 8 | 6 | 9 | 7 | 14 | 9 | 12 | 18 | | |
| 70 MHz CW | | | | | | | | | | | | 17 | 23 | 19 | 29 | 25 | 25 | 21 | 28 | 33 | 25 | 47 | 20 | | |
| May 144 | 42 | 24 | | 33 | 34 | 34 | 41 | 38 | 31 | 48 | 65 | 68 | 65 | 68 | 70 | 74 | 77 | 80 | 93 | 101 | 102 | 161 | 118 | | |
| Backpackers | 54 | 45 | | 39 | 55 | 59 | 69 | 50 | 52 | 58 | 52 | 60 | 53 | 35 | 50 | 53 | 60 | 42 | 51 | 55 | 67 | 24 | | | |
| 50 MHz Trophy | 28 | 33 | 25 | 33 | 32 | 28 | 32 | 36 | 42 | 47 | 58 | 56 | 65 | 59 | 63 | 81 | 81 | 93 | 128 | 109 | 88 | 144 | 136 | | |
| 50 MHz CW | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 48 | 38 | 26 | 21 | 21 | 26 | 31 | 16 | 47 | 34 | | |
| VHF NFD | 68 | 73 | | 56 | 59 | 52 | 53 | 58 | 49 | 63 | 76 | 61 | 69 | 54 | 80 | 62 | 58 | 59 | 61 | 58 | 54 | | 38 | | |
| VHF NFD Sweeper | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 34 | 36 | 36 | 51 | 53 | 52 | | 63 | | |
| 70 MHz Trophy | 31 | 32 | 16 | 40 | 31 | 32 | 27 | 25 | 27 | 32 | 35 | 30 | 45 | 41 | 49 | 55 | 59 | 59 | 65 | 70 | 62 | 82 | 66 | | |



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|------------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|----|
| 144 Low Power | 32 | 32 | 13 | 23 | 25 | 33 | 34 | 35 | 27 | 28 | 46 | 48 | 36 | 33 | 32 | 35 | 47 | 58 | 60 | 58 | 72 | 99 | 70 |
| 432 Low Power | 28 | 23 | 10 | 17 | 19 | 23 | 34 | 18 | 28 | 28 | 33 | 38 | 38 | 31 | 27 | 39 | 51 | 42 | 53 | 47 | 55 | 68 | 53 |
| 144 Trophy | 35 | 30 | 34 | 27 | 35 | 37 | 42 | 46 | 55 | 54 | 78 | 75 | 68 | 56 | 66 | 71 | 82 | 85 | 101 | 101 | 114 | 162 | |
| 2nd 70 MHz (AFS) | 22 | 21 | 16 | 18 | 27 | 19 | 16 | 18 | 15 | 20 | 28 | 32 | 28 | 34 | 25 | 33 | 39 | 49 | 35 | 24 | 66 | 81 | |
| 1.3 Trophy | 15 | 11 | 7 | 13 | 10 | 10 | 10 | 12 | 9 | 9 | 11 | 17 | 20 | 22 | 17 | 18 | 32 | 25 | 30 | 31 | 46 | 39 | |
| 2.3 Trophy | 12 | 10 | 6 | 8 | 8 | 8 | 6 | 7 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 8 | 11 | 10 | 7 | 8 | 11 | 9 | 11 | 17 | 21 | 18 | |
| Oct UHF | 19 | 15 | 12 | 16 | 15 | 15 | 12 | 21 | 22 | 20 | 23 | 18 | 25 | 25 | 29 | 22 | 40 | 27 | 35 | 28 | 41 | 32 | |
| 50 MHz AFS | | 14 | 17 | 19 | 17 | 21 | 16 | 13 | 11 | 24 | 33 | 32 | 78 | 77 | 84 | 84 | 96 | 111 | 87 | 95 | 101 | 103 | |
| 50 AFS Clubs | | | | | | | | | | | | | 31 | 34 | 38 | 40 | 41 | 49 | 39 | 42 | 41 | 45 | |
| Marconi | 17 | 14 | | 13 | 14 | 13 | 11 | 12 | 17 | 9 | 25 | 22 | 25 | 23 | 27 | 28 | 42 | 32 | 44 | 32 | 34 | 54 | |
| 144 AFS | 68 | 77 | 74 | 76 | 81 | 60 | 66 | 45 | 48 | 77 | 93 | 125 | 113 | 107 | 115 | 138 | 125 | 156 | 133 | 150 | 128 | 178 | |
| 144 AFS Clubs | 18 | 20 | 19 | 21 | 21 | 16 | 17 | 9 | 12 | 18 | 25 | 41 | 40 | 43 | 49 | 58 | 56 | 61 | 61 | 59 | 57 | 76 | |
| 2nd MGM | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 37 | 12 | 35 | |
| Xmas Cums | 25 | 22 | 24 | 20 | 17 | 22 | 28 | 22 | 28 | 49 | 56 | 56 | 61 | 73 | 62 | 84 | 105 | 110 | 80 | 121 | 102 | 111 | |