



## Minutes of the meeting of the HFCC

held on 28<sup>th</sup> September 2022 via Microsoft Teams

(Including Notes from the HFCC Contest Forum held at the 2022 RSGB Convention)

### Directors or Attendees:

Stewart, G3YSX	President
Nick, G4FAL	Chair HFCC
Ian, G0FCT	Chair CSC
Andy, G4PIQ	Chair VHFCC
Mike, G0GJV	
Graham, G0NBI	
Pete, G4CLA	
Paul, G4PVM	
Michael, G7TWC	
Stewart, GW0ETF	
Clive, GM3POI	
Chris, GM3WOJ,	
Allan, GM4ZUK	
Nick, M1DDD	

1. Transatlantic Centenary Tests – December 2022.
  - 1.1. Nick reported that few operating slots had been booked to date.
  - 1.2. It was noted that there will be a talk, display, and sign-up facility at the Convention as well as promotion of the initiative through the usual RSGB media channels. HFCC members were asked to book slots as soon as possible, especially during the first weekend in order to give an initial impetus to the event. Action: All
2. Russia/Belarus Stations
  - 2.1. The current position - that entries to our contests from these countries are either banned or treated as checklogs – was noted.
  - 2.2. It was agreed that now would be the wrong time to change that policy but that the situation should be kept under regular review.
3. The future of the DX Contest
  - 3.1. It was noted that there were three international DX contests organised separately by the contest committees of the RSGB and the United Kingdom and Ireland Contest Club (UKEICC), two in October and one in April/May each year.
  - 3.2. The UKEICC events were single mode (SSB and CW) whilst the RSGB contest accommodated multimode entries.
  - 3.3. The difference in participation in the events was stark with the UKEICC SSB contest in 2021 attracting 425 entrants, the 2022 CW event 538 and last year's RSGB contest, 132.
  - 3.4. Nick proposed that the RSGB contest be discontinued and that the RSGB should lend its support to the UKEI events.
  - 3.5. This was agreed in principle subject to discussion with UKEI officers and approval of the RSGB Board.
  - 3.6. If the proposal went ahead, details to be agreed included



- 3.6.1. how the two remaining DX contests could be assimilated into the RSGB HF Championship
  - 3.6.2. the feasibility of moving the UKEI SSB contest to the date of current RSGB DX Contest
  - 3.6.3. how the current (three) trophies awarded for excellence in the RSGB contest could be re-assigned for the benefit of RSGB members in the UKEI events
  - 3.6.4. whether the UKEI events could be included in the qualifying list of contests for SCCs
  - 3.7. Action:
    - 3.7.1. GM3WOJ to organise a meeting between HFCC and UKEICC officials during the Convention.
    - 3.7.2. G0NBI to provide a briefing note for Stewart (to inform the Board discussion).
    - 3.7.3. G0FCT to open discussions with Ofcom about including the events in the SCC qualifying list.
  - 3.8. Post Meeting Note: Discussion at the RSGB Convention Forum accepted that this was an appropriate course of action.
4. FT4 Activity Day scoring system.
- 4.1. G0FCT referred to the concern raised by some members that many (international) stations do not routinely send locator squares, a current essential part of the exchange needed for a valid QSO. This leads to significant post-event amendment of logs and reduces the attraction of the event.
  - 4.2. It was agreed that:
    - 4.2.1. the requirement for locator squares to be recorded be removed and that DXCCs be used for multipliers.
    - 4.2.2. that this rule change be extended to the nine 90-minute FT4 contests held throughout the year.
    - 4.2.3. that these changes should take effect from the beginning of 2023.
  - 4.3. Action: G0FCT to amend rules
  - 4.4. Post Meeting Note: Discussion at the RSGB Convention Forum confirmed that FT4 contest participants present agreed with the proposal.
5. HF Championship qualifying contests
- 5.1. It was agreed that the possible addition of the FT4 Activity Day to the list of events be discussed at the forum session at the Convention. Action: G4FAL
  - 5.2. Post Meeting Note: Discussion at the RSGB Convention Forum did not show support for adding the FT4 Activity Day to the HF Championship, however it was noted that very few of the participants in the Activity Day were present.
6. 80m CCs
- 6.1. Frequency “warming”
    - 6.1.1. Following discussion about the desirability or otherwise of introducing a “Le Mans” start (as per the Autumn Series), it was agreed that the current rules should remain unchanged.
  - 6.2. Final table positions
    - 6.2.1. A proposal was received from a member that only a subset of an individual’s scores be included in the final table, either the best 15 (out of 18 potential) individual events or the best 5 (of 6) legs on each mode.
    - 6.2.2. It was noted that a similar principle had been applied to comparable VHF contests.
    - 6.2.3. The Committee were minded to support the proposal of including the best 5 scores in each of the 3 legs (CW, Data and SSB) in the individual competition, noting that the scoring system for the team competition would remain unchanged. However, it was agreed that this proposed change be discussed in the forum meeting at Convention before a final decision was taken. Action: G4FAL



- 6.3. Post Meeting Note: Discussion at the RSGB Convention Forum confirmed that entrants would welcome the 80m CCs individual scores table being based on the best 5 (of 6) from each of the three modes.
7. The future of the ROLO contest.
  - 7.1. The decline in participation in recent years was noted and it was agreed that this event be discontinued, subject to discussion at the Convention. Action: G4FAL
  - 7.2. Post Meeting Note: Discussion at the RSGB Convention Forum accepted that this was an appropriate course of action.
8. Commonwealth HQ stations for 2023
  - 8.1. It was agreed that whilst GB5CC should remain available for use as one of the main HQ stations, G5WS be promoted for use for other country specific RSGB HQ stations this year in view of its special significance.
9. NFD - removal of registration requirement
  - 9.1. It was noted that the VHF Contest Committee had removed the need for prior registration for stations wishing to compete for awards.
  - 9.2. It was agreed that a similar principle be agreed for HF Field Days.
  - 9.3. Action: – G0FCT to redraft the rules subject to discussion at the Convention.
  - 9.4. Post Meeting Note: Discussion at the RSGB Convention Forum confirmed that NFD entrants would welcome the removal of the need for prior registration.
10. Committee Membership
  - 10.1. It was agreed that options for bringing “new blood” onto the Committee be explored, and that this be discussed at the Convention. Action: G4FAL