QRP Hours 40m/80m contest 2018

Date: Sunday 21 October 2018 Time CW/PSK: 0400-0559 UTC SSB: 0400-0559 UTC

This time we start an hour earlier than last year, but we have two hours for the event and two bands. You can choose what modes and which of the two bands you use throughout those two hours. You get to choose how you spend your time on each mode. You can swap between modes and bands as many times as you like, but only one transmitter on at any time.

Hopefully we will have a few portable battery powered stations joining in as 40m and 80m are often used by portable operators including park visitors (WWFF) and mountain toppers (SOTA). This is a dual band 40m/80m event. The date has been chosen to avoid the VK-ZL and CQ contests on other weekends of October.

Note that the southern VK states and ZL will have moved to DST by the time of this event. Ensure you take that into account when planning your operation.

Recommended Frequencies:

CW 3500-3535, 7020-7050

Digital: 3570-3600, 7040-7060 as per WIA band plan.

SSB: 3535-3570, 3600-3620, 7060-7170.

Contacts:

Exchange **Two Digit** serial numbers with each station worked, once on each mode and band if possible. Start serial numbers at 01 and try to get to 99. (No real point in 3 digit numbers for this event is there? But if you do, keep going with 3 digits).

Each contact is worth 1 point. Contacts with ZL stations are encouraged.

Special operating conditions

If you operate as a portable station, either from a car or as a battery powered station, please include that info, including your operating location, in your log.

Logs

The following information is essential for a log submission:

Time UTC Band	Mode	Callsign worked	Number sent	Number received
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Contacts should be listed in the order in which they happened. The number sent (by you) is listed before the number received (by you). Please take care with the data columns, they are all required and they need to be in the order illustrated above. If you issue numbers out of sequence, your log should record the number actually given to the other station. It does not matter if there are gaps in your numbers, such as due to an uncompleted contact.

Signal reports: You do not need to include signal reports either on air or in your log, but you are welcome to include signal reports in your contacts. Eg you may give someone 579001 or just 001 but your contest log will show just 001.

The time should be recorded in standard logging time: UTC.

Logs should be sent by email to the address below. File Format: can be a plain text file, a spreadsheet from Excel or Open Office. It can also be a CSV file with the above data columns separated by a comma. One line per contact. Please no PDF – PDF is for printing. There is no current suitable contest available within VKCL. You can alternatively use the N1MM logger on windows, using a custom contest definition provided by Alan VK4SN. In that case send the Cabrillo file output by that program. A link to the contest definition file will be provided on the club website contest page.

In your covering email, please indicate whether you operated as:

- A home station or a portable station and your power source if portable
- whether you were operating at QRP (5w or less)

Also please supply a declaration that you have operated in accordance with your licence conditions and in the spirit of the contest.

Log deadline: two weeks after the contest – midnight AEST Sunday 4th November.

Awards/Certificates

Certificates will be issued to 1 more than 10% of the number of entrants, in the home and portable division. Additional certificates will be issued at the discretion of the contest manager. Certificates will be emailed as PDF files.

Alternative contest formats

I am interested in whether the change to a multi band format is enjoyed by contestants. 80m is proving very useful for daytime contacts replacing the missing 40m NVIS propagation and contacts during this time of low sunspot activity. Giving you the freedom to operate on one or both bands and modes in this event should provide additional opportunities.

Comments please with your logs or send them in any time to the email address below.

Contest address

Queries and logs to: contests@vkqrpclub.org

73 Andrew VK1DA/VK2UH