

Results of October 2021 QRP Hours contest

This contest we had to contend with the very odd conditions on 40m, which featured long skip distances with large exclusion zones, meaning that often two stations were calling the same station, but could not hear each other. CQs were bound to be made “on top of” other stations, but with such strange conditions, these accidental collisions just have to be borne. For example from Yass I heard only one vk2 station, yet some logs contained contacts with multiple vk2 callsigns.

Nearly all contesters did lodge their logs direct with vklogchecker.com, the website created by Alan VK4SN and his son. Several logs were sent to me direct and I was able to lodge them myself. The logchecker website is a great help to contest managers as it automates the cross-checking of logs.

I entered a small log myself having only spent the second half hour in the CW section and finding very few contacts available on SSB.

Our Lokey editor Terry VK2KTJ operated on a JT mode and made one contact, there could have been many more especially when you consider these modes are good at digging out signals below the noise level.

Alan VK4SN commented that he called on PSK without any responses.

Most of the participants who sent in logs added some “soapbox” comments and I suggest you go to vklogchecker.com to read them.

Score adjustments

The logchecker detected some contacts claimed that were not in the other station’s log, a sign of confusing conditions where multiple callers make an operator think they are exchanging numbers with station X when it is really station Y. Such phantom contacts were deleted from claimed scores. No points were lost due to incorrect numbers - everyone got the numbers right.

Complete score table.

Category	Callsign	Score	Placement
SSB	VK3YE	11	1st
SSB	VK2UE	9	2nd
SSB	VK3PT	7	=3rd
SSB	VK5LA	7	=3rd
SSB	VK7VH	7	=3rd
SSB	VK7LTD	5	
SSB	VK3GJG	4	
SSB	VK2YW	4	
SSB	VK1DA	3	
SSB	VK3CTM	3	
SSB	VK2KI	1	
CW	VK5LJ	10	=1st
CW	VK3YE	10	=1st
CW	VK4SN	7	3rd
CW	VK3PT	6	
CW	VK5LA	6	
CW	VK2EAH	5	
CW	VK1DA	5	

CW	VK3BYD	5	
CW	VK2KI	4	
CW	VK2ZP		4
CW	VK1QRP	3	
CW	VK3CTM	3	
CW	VK7LTD	3	
CW	VK2YW	3	
CW	VK2KJJ	2	
Digital	VK2KTJ	1	1st

As the results show, Peter VK3YE did very well on both SSB and CW, so his choice of the swamp to erect his antenna was very successful. If you haven't seen his video on youtube, it's very interesting.

The interactions between VKCL and the vklogchecker website are still shaking down a bit. For various historical reasons, VKCL offers an all-mode category for most contests but we don't use that as we have separate time periods for each mode.

The support for this contest suggests it is likely to remain on the calendar. Thanks to all who participated, all who helped by making contacts with QRP stations and to those who submitted logs. I'd like to hear suggestions you may have for variations to the QRP Hours contests. Different bands, different Hours?

73 Andrew VK1DA/VK2UH