

Results of April 2022 QRP Hours contest

Here are the results for the April 2022 80m contest.

Category	Callsign	Score	Placement
SSB	VK5LJ	11	1st
SSB	VK2YW	9	2nd
SSB	VK2UE	8	3rd
SSB	VK3GP	8	=3rd
SSB	VK1DO	6	4th
SSB	VK7AG	5	5th
SSB	VK2KI	5	=5th
SSB	VK7LTD	2	6th
			7th
SSB	VK2JDR	1	
SSB	VK6BEK	1	=7th

CW	VK5LJ	15	1st
CW	VK5AV	15	=1st
CW	VK2YW	12	2nd
CW	VK2CCC	10	3rd
CW	VK1DO	9	4th
CW	VK2KI	9	=4th
CW	VK3YE	8	5th
CW	VK2KJJ	5	6th
CW	VK4IAN	5	=6th
CW	VK7LTD	4	7th
CW	VK2JDR	3	8th
Digital	VK7STO	4	1 st (digital)

Soapbox

VK2KI	Thanks for putting this together Andrew - good fun and lots of folks on. And thanks for the last minute help with the logging application too. Cheers, mb
VK2CC C	Thanks all for participation, I was pleased that my 500 milliwatts were heard across the country.
VK2KJJ	local QRM S9, but great to receive QRP with good strength
VK1DO	All good fun, some surprisingly strong stations, I was a bit slow to return my IC703 to full power after the CW section, but it hardly mattered. The simplicity of submitting a log made the whole contest a no brainer. My return to a hand key was a bit of a shock, I spend so much time on keyboard these days it was most confronting!
VK5AV	Local QRM at start, sigs got stronger. Hope I didn't mess too many up. Lots of fun.
VK3GP	Ten-Tec Argonaut VI 10W, 80m EFHW dipole, portable setup.
VK2YW	Good fun but very few people on phone. No contacts after 1125

Contest manager notes

A higher error rate was noted in the logs this time. Again, where the number logged does not agree with the sending station's log, the log with the error loses the contact, but the other log does not. There was one log received for 5 contacts on JT65, not the best mode for digital contests. The sent and received serial numbers need to be added to an optional part of the jt65 exchange. In international contests a contact without a received or sent serial number will not count as a valid contact. I will specify more closely the suggested modes and how numbers need to be exchanged. The digital section was originally targeted at PSK31 but that mode seems to be completely unused now. There are better modes than JT65 for contesting.

One log claimed an ssb contact during the CW hour. This contact was not allowed. Please read the rules.

The John Moyle Field Day contest requirement of a suffix of "P" on portable stations is not in the rules of this contest, so is not required.

Thankyou to all who managed to export the Cabrillo File from VKCL or N1MM or FLE, then upload it to the vklogchecker.com website. The site contains very useful contact cross checking logic which greatly simplifies the job of the contest manager.

Special mention to my brother Chris VK1DO who joined in the contest this time. He had been recovering from a Covid infection in the preceding week but was enthusiastic enough to put up an antenna during the day and use an IC703 for the contest. With a hand key. Outstanding effort.

A log that was submitted only by email to the vkqlrp mailing list is not included in the results seen on the vklogchecker website as the submission deadline had passed before the log came to my attention. Emailed logs should use the published email address for log submissions – using the mailing list does not guarantee I receive the log. If you send a log by email, do it several days before the deadline, otherwise it may not make it into the logchecker. The address is included in the rules.

With the passing of the author of the VKCL software, there is some doubt about how long the software will be used. I'll monitor the situation and include recommendations in the next contest rules. Note that the "submit log" function in VKCL only submits logs to the WIA log website, which does not accept QRP Hours logs. This is why the steps required for submitting logs to vklogchecker.com are spelled out in so much detail. You do need to export and save the Cabrillo file and then go to the logchecker site and submit it there.

When using FLE, please note and follow the coding required for sent and received numbers. The sent number is preceded by a comma and the received number is immediately preceded by a dot or full stop. Without those prefixes, the numbers are assumed by FLE to be signal reports and the numbers are blank. Again, the log was not penalised but it did require manual cross checking with other logs. This would not happen with almost any other contest. I'm trying to encourage participation.

A check of your Cabrillo LOG file before submission will reveal any major problems. Even if you have already submitted a log, you can fix the problems and resubmit it. Any plain text viewer or editor will view the LOG file.

Thanks to all who joined in the contest, dealt with the vagaries of 80m propagation and battled the QRN.

Andrew VK1DA/VK2DA (note new vk2 callsign – VK2UH is now someone else's callsign).

