

# Results of QRP Hours contest October 2022

Andrew VK1DA/2DA

This year's contest featured strong static interference from electrical storm activity around NSW and Victoria, with recent weather in the east of Australia presenting challenges and even disasters for some families and their towns.

After discussions with operators about the digital modes I decided to specify the FT4 mode as it was designed for contest use, supported short QSOs and allowed for numbers to be exchanged. In addition the FT4 frequency was specified, which allowed people to find contacts despite apparently being all on the same dial frequency, which is a unique feature of digital modes as the actual bandwidth of each station is so low. This strategy seemed to work well as we had the most entries of digital logs in recent memory. So we will keep the FT4 mode until an even better mode turns up.

Results below are presented separately for each mode. The contest logchecker worked very well (again) and all except one log were submitted by the operators. The situation with VKCL is still uncertain.

Again I decided to overlook incorrect contest exchanges, there were only a few errors and in the circumstances I thought there was every reason for these. (But in other contests such contacts would be discarded). Only a few contacts were claimed with a completely different callsign. In those cases the other station was actually logging a confirmed contact with a third station.

As noted by Mark VK2KI some VK6 operators tried to make contacts but 40m was not cooperating at that time of the day. Perhaps a later timeslot would move the contest into a better dx time.

## Results

### SSB

- 1: VK1O - 9
- 2: VK2UE - 7
- 3: VK3AFW - 4
- 4: VK4OTZ - 3
- 4: VK3CTM - 3
- 4: VK3V - 3
- 4: VK2YW - 3
- 4: VK2R - 3

5: VK3NCR - 2  
5: VK3TCP - 2  
5: VK4SN - 2  
6: VK7WW - 1  
6: VK2KI - 1  
7: VK1RF - 1

## CW

1: VK5LJ - 10  
2: VK7WW - 8  
3: VK3CTM - 6  
3: VK2WP - 6  
3: VK2KI - 6  
3: VK4SN - 6  
4: VK2YW - 5  
5: VK1QRP - 4  
5: VK2KJJ - 4  
5: VK3BYD - 4  
6: VK3TBR - 3  
7: VK3NCR - 2  
7: VK3AFW - 2  
8: VK1RF - 1  
8: VK7KPC - 1

## Digital

1: VK1O - 7  
2: VK7DW - 5  
3: VK3AFW - 3  
4: VK1RF - 2  
4: VK3V - 2  
5: VK4SN - 1

## Soapbox

VK1QRP      A fun contest, but the weather forced me to QRT early. My portable operating position was on top of Simpson's Hill - not far from my home QTH.

VK2KI Thanks Andrew. Tough conditions this time - a bit of a battle with low signals - but there seemed to be a good number of people out there - VK3 was well represented, worked VK5s, heard one VK7 but no VK2s or 4s. On SSB for the second hour, I heard only Ian in Clare. There were some stations out in VK6 for the event, but two of them from PARG (one portable and one from home on FT4) reported hearing absolutely no one; like here, 40m can work well over there during the day - but this day it wasn't to be! Cheers and thank you for organising it again - better luck next time - and well done giving up your day to fill sandbags! mb

VK2R QTH: Rouse Hill Regional Park VKFF-2784 Rig: IC7300 @ 5W Ant: ZS6BKW @ 9m

VK2UE Terrible conditions. Not the best day for a QRP contest but I persevered and had fun!

VK2WP very poor conditions, storms nearby, sunspot activity

VK2YW Rain static was bad. Pulled the pin at 1640 with impending storm. Good fun though. Thanks for running it. Might try WSJT next time

VK3AFW TWO STATIONS DID NOT SEND REPORTS SO NOMINAL CONTEST REPORTS USED  
THANKS ANDREW FOR ORGANISING AND HELPING WITH LOG

VK3BYD Tough work but only missed 2 or 3 who could either not hear me or were too weak for my home station with normal home QRM.

VK3CTM Much QRN. The 'cutting power' of CW was demonstrated once again!

VK3V Very difficult conditions here in VK3 on 40m this afternoon. Next year I'll head to a much quieter park and hope for better propagation. Next year I will practice with WSJT-X in FT4 contest mode before the contest rather than learning as I go.

VK4OTZ First QRP Hours contest. I really enjoyed it, but a lot of QRN.

VK5LJ Tough conditions today for QRP, very noisy S5. with S7 peaks. Running 5w into OCF Dipole.

VK7WW QRN steadily increased from S5 to 7 in the first hour. Then it was S9 for the SSB hour. QSO with only one station (VK3CTM). Could occasionally a VK1? on 7105...but I retired at about 0545 UTC.

An hour before the contest started I received a callup from my local SES requiring volunteers to fill sand bags to help businesses and residents in the area deal with local flooding. I got back home from that just as the contest ended, so was unable to join in this time.

Thanks to all who participated and even more thanks to those who submitted logs.

The rules for the April 80m contest will be in March Lokey and on the website at the same time.

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Contest manager