

**Contest Advisory Committee
Semi-Annual Report**

**For the American Radio Relay League
Board of Director's Meeting**

July 2022

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Chairman, CAC
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Overview

In the last six months, the CAC has met online to review changes to rules. We have considered several ideas and made progress on task list items.

Most of our discussions take place online in our discussion group. A 90-minute Zoom meeting was held March 30, 2022, that prepared us for our presentation to the PSC. Our CAC members report our activities to their respective board members. Our liaison to the PSC is Bill, AC0W, he is kept updated, monitors our discussions and updates CAC on PSC actions.

Many of the following tasks were presented and moved forward by the PSC.

Task List Overview

2020.1 Multi-Operator Club Scores - apportionment of club scores for multi-ops

- **Completed and approved by CAC and PSC**
- **Revisited this for implementation for all multi-ops**
- **Announced for implementation in 2022**

2020.2 Single Band Scores ARRL DX - Expand ARRL DX contest categories in single band to differentiate by power and assisted/unassisted categories

- **Completed and approved by CAC and PSC**
- **Announced for implementation in 2022**

2020.3 New Digital Contest, HF + 6 meters – ARRL International Digital Contest

- **Completed and approved by CAC and PSC**
- **Announced and successfully implemented in 2022**

2020.5 Social Media During Contesting – added to unlimited definition

- **Completed and approved by CAC and PSC**
- **ARRL HQ staff shared the proposed rules with the CAC**
- **CAC discussed online**
- **Formal rules announcement soon**

2020.7 Family Rule Modification – Allow multiple stations to use remote stations

- **Completed and approved by CAC and PSC**
- **Announced and in the current rules**

2021.3 RTTY Roundup to be RTTY only

- **Completed and approved by CAC and PSC**
- **Announced with the International Digital Contest announcement**

2021.5 10 GHz and Up Changes

- Recommended revised scoring structure to encourage activity on higher bands
- Completed and approved by CAC and PSC
- **Not announced**

2021.6 FT8 Issues in VHF Contests

- CAC VHF Subcommittee
- Recommended Analog Mode subcategory for the SO categories – adopted
- Further study on going

2021.7 Youth in Contests – new category or overlay

- Suggestion being reviewed by CAC
- Not much support in discussion

2022.1 EME Contest

- Reviewed by VHF subcommittee
- Recommend on additional weekend for higher microwave bands
- CAC and PSC approved
- HQ has announced implementation for 2022

2022.2 IARU/WRTC

- WRTC competition has a M/2 category that is not in the IARU
- Recommendation to add this category
- CAC and PSC approved
- HQ has announced implementation for IARU 2022

2022.3 Contest Exchange use of Signal Report

- CAC discussed eliminating the use of signal report in contest exchanges
- No consensus achieved by the CAC
- CAC recommended contest exchanges with signal report should remain as is
- PSC accepted this recommendation

2022.4 Digital Multi Channel

- CAC discussed the technology and rules
- Recommended “one signal, one stream allowed per band”
- CAC and PSC approved
- HQ to implement in the Digital contest rules

2022.5 Limited Antenna Proposal

- CAC in discussion

CAC Membership:

There has been one change since the last report. John Comella, N8AA has been replaced by Dan Kovatch, W8CAR. The CAC members as of June 30, 2022, are:

- Atlantic – Charles D. Fulp, Jr, K3WW; k3ww@fast.net
- Central – Craig Thompson, K9CT; Craig@k9ct.us (Chairman)
- Dakota – Jon Platt, W0ZQ; W0ZQ@AOL.com
- Delta – Stan Stockton, K5GO; wa5rtg@gmail.com
- Great Lakes – Dan Kovatch, W8CAR; w8car@bex.net
- Hudson – Zev Darack, N2WKS; zevdarack@gmail.com
- Midwest – Dr. Glenn Johnson, W0GJ; w0gj@arrl.net
- New England – Rudy Bakalov, N2WQ; r_bakalov@yahoo.com
- Northwestern – Jim Cassidy, KI7Y; ki7y@arrl.net
- Pacific – Jim Brown, K9YC; K9YC@arrl.net
- Roanoke - Don Daso, K4ZA; k4za@juno.com
- Rocky Mountain – Darryl Hazelgren, K7UT; darryl@hazelgren.net
- Southeastern – Charles Wooten, NF4A; NF4A@knology.net
- Southwestern – Glenn Rattmann, K6NA; k6na59@gmail.com
- West Gulf – James K. George, N3BB; n3bb@mindspring.com
- Radio Amateurs of Canada – Samuel A. Ferris, VE5SF; ve5sf@sasktel.net

VHF CAC Subcommittee

Committee members:

Jon Platt W0ZQ (Subcommittee Chair)
Craig Thompson K9CT
Jeff Ach W2FU
Rus Healy K2UA
Steve Kostro N2CEI
Bob Striegl K2DRH
John Kalenowsky K9JK
Jim Duffey KK6MC

Recent Considerations:

CAC:

A new task was assigned by PSC for the study of Youth in Contesting category or awards. CAC has discussed with little feedback from membership in support so far.

We received a notice of a petition to move the Field Day date for health and safety concerns. Petition has not been formally received. Some discussion has taken place regarding this subject with little support for change.

Suggestion was made by an ARRL member to add a "Limited Antenna" category to all HF contests. CAC is discussing this.

The CAC is evaluating the new Digital Contest. So far, we have noted good participation and nice comments from the community. We are looking for any constructive ideas. One suggestion was to create a Technician category to improve the 10 and 6 meter activity.

VHF Subcommittee/CAC:

The June VHF was the first one to implement the Analog category. Many entries were received in this new category. Less negative 3830 comments were noted from previous years. However, propagation was favorable compared to the last couple of years and that may have had some impact. The VHF subcommittee is studying the results.

The VHF subcommittee has met several times and currently is discussing ideas regarding the January, June, and September VHF contests. Goal is to improve and attract activity. The VHF committee reports their work to the CAC on a regular basis.

Respectfully submitted on behalf of the ARRL Contest Advisory Committee

Craig Thompson, CAC Chairman