

RSGB Contest Committee Report to Spectrum Forum, November 2013

Entries in the majority of RSGB contests have continue to increase over the past year. The shorter weekday contests have shown the greatest increase especially on 2m where the activity is such that it can be difficult to find a clear frequency. Weekend contests have only seen a modest increase in entries. The Contest Committee (CC) intends to introduce a club element to some weekend contests to try to increase activity.

The IOTA Contest and VHF NFD were both designated as Centenary events with special certificates available to those who gained sufficient points. This has been well received.

The 2014 contest rules have been modified to explicitly list the IARU recommended contest segments/calling frequencies. The CC can record contests using a SDR; these recording are used to identify entrants who do not keep within the contest segments. The CC hopes to be able to expand the number of recording stations and the range of bands monitored during 2014.

The CC continues to assist OFCOM with the issuing of Special Contest Calls. A revised SCC which enables holders to use these calls in any legitimate contest has recently been introduced. The necessity to provide OFCOM with evidence of successful contest activity over a three year period has been retained.

The CC has recently had to disqualify a participant for cheating. This involved giving a false locator in VHF contests to increase the number of points gained and to make the station more attractive since it appeared to be operating from a sparsely populated (in radio terms) locator square. The perpetrator has been banned from RSGB contest participation for three years.

The discussions about the future of RSGB 21/28MHz contest have not been concluded. The CC is waiting for a proposal from G3SJJ, G3LET and G3PHO.

Ian Pawson, G0FCT