



RSGB Contesting Committees Report to Spectrum Forum

Review of 2021

RSGB contesting activities continue to be orchestrated by the three contesting committees; the HF Contest Committee (HFCC), the VHF Contest Committee (VHFCC) and the Contest Support Committee (CSC). Nick G4FAL is the Chair of the HFCC, Andy G4PIQ is the Chair of the VHFCC and Ian G0FCT is the Chair of the CSC.

The HFCC and VHFCC are responsible for the contest strategy for the annual RSGB Contest Calendar (balance of contests, contester development etc.), rules, adjudication principles and contest development through consultation below 30MHz (HFCC) and above 30MHz (VHFCC). These two committees are also responsible for communication for contest matters in their part of the radio spectrum. The CSC is responsible for providing IT support, adjudication, Special Contest Call administration, trophy management (in conjunction with the RSGB Trophy Manager) and communication that is related to these functions.

The HFCC and VHFCC response to the second COVID-19 lockdown in late 2020 saw minor changes to the rule changes introduced for the first lockdown in March 2020. The HFCC ran another series of 90 minute 'Hope QSO Parties' in January 2021. This series consisted of two SSB events, two CW events, two RTTY events and two FT4 events. This final series HQP was enjoyed by 230 entrants. The relaxation of the lockdown rules permitted VHF NFD to occur in its traditional format.

The VHFCC will be issuing a short rules consultation using SurveyMonkey in November to seek entrant's views on a variety of topics (TBA). The results of the survey will be used to help set the VHF Contest rules for 2022.

No Contest Forums (VHF and HF) were run at the virtual RSGB Convention.

The CSC has adjudicated all RSGB HF and VHF contests in a timely manner with the results often being available within a week of the end of the log submission period. The HQP results were generally available only two or three days after the end of each event.

The CSC continues to be responsible for processing all Special Contest Callsign (SCC) applications and for issuing the Notice of Variation (NoV) to the successful applicants on behalf of Ofcom. The Chair of CSC is responsible for this activity. There are 241 SCC NoV currently issued, an increase of 29 over the past year.

Ian Pawson, G0FCT
Chair, RSGB Contest Support Committee