



RSGB Contest Committees Report to Spectrum Forum

Review of 2022

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

The HFCC and VHFCC are responsible for the contest strategy for the 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 changes to rules for the RSGB HF and VHF contests introduced to allowing contesting to safely continue during the COVID-19 pandemic have been largely removed.

Three new contest series have been introduced, one at HF and two at VHF. The HF contests are a series of short (90 minute) weekday evening events using FT4 on 80m, 40m and 20m. The two VHF contests are weekday evening FT8 contests on 144MHz and 432MHz coordinated with similar events in Europe.

During June, the HFCC and VHFCC ran a Tournament to celebrate Queen Elizabeth II Platinum Jubilee. The theme of the Tournament was the number 70, and it comprises three separate contests of 70 minutes duration, two on HF and one of VHF. The overall Tournament Champion was G0JJG.

Contest Forums (VHF and HF) were run at the 2022 RSGB Convention. Feedback from the Contest Forum will be used to help produce a rules consultation using SurveyMonkey in November to seek entrant's views on a variety of topics. The results of the survey will be used to help set the Contest rules for 2023.

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 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 259 SCC NoV currently issued, an increase of 18 over the past year.

Ian Pawson, G0FCT
Chair, RSGB Contest Support Committee