

John Moyle Memorial National Field Day 2007

24 Hour Portable Operation – Multiple Operator

Call Sign	Operators	Mode	Band	Contacts	Score	Award
VK2SRC	Multi	Phone	All	565	7170	*
VK3CNE	Multi	Phone	All	523	5568	*
VK4WID	Multi	Phone	All	336	2216	*
VK2HZ	Multi	Phone	All	171	2020	*
VK2MA	Multi	Phone	All	251	1662	*
VK4WIS	Multi	Phone	All	429	1218	
VK5ARC	Multi	Phone	All	179	1044	
VK4BAR	Multi	Phone	All	306	908	
VK5BRL	Multi	Phone	All	264	906	
VK4WAT	Multi	Phone	All	419	838	
VK2FRE	Multi	Phone	All	57	816	
VK2AWX	Multi	Phone	All	280	746	
VK1YBQ	Multi	Phone	All	296	592	
VK2BOR	Multi	Phone	All	116	586	
VK3III	Multi	Phone	All	67	442	
VK8DA	Multi	Phone	All	30	60	
VK3ER	Multi	Phone	VHF	325	7082	*
VK3LY	Multi	Phone	VHF	129	4170	*
VK3ZPF	Multi	Phone	VHF	126	1560	*
VK2EH	Multi	Phone	VHF	39	850	
VK2ATZ	Multi	All	HF	1019	2034	*
VK4IZ	Multi	All	HF	874	1738	*
VK5BAR	Multi	Phone	HF	461	922	*
VK4TI	Multi	Phone	HF	391	782	*
VK4WIT	Multi	Phone	HF	171	342	*
VK4KKN	Multi	Phone	HF	167	334	
VK7OTC	Multi	Phone	HF	134	268	
VK6SCS	Multi	Phone	HF	106	212	
VK2WZ	Multi	Phone	HF	30	60	

24 Hour Portable Operation – Single Operator

Call Sign	Operators	Mode	Band	Contacts	Score	Award
VK1DA	Single	Phone	All	117	3366	*
VK5AR	Single	Phone	All	119	1966	*
VK4TGL	Single	Phone	All	60	944	*
VK2ZTY	Single	Phone	All	108	435	
VK2UVP	Single	Phone	All	10	28	
VK4TRX	Single	Phone	VHF	22	266	*
VK5MFW	Single	Phone	HF	433	864	*
VK4JM	Single	Phone	HF	124	248	*
VK4EV	Single	Phone	HF	91	182	*
VK3UBM	Single	Phone	HF	66	132	
VK3MV	Single	CW	HF	24	48	**

Six Hour Portable Operation – Multiple Operator

Call Sign	Operators	Mode	Band	Contacts	Score	Award
VK3AWS	Multi	Phone	All	137	1262	*
VK2WG	Multi	Phone	All	348	920	*
VK2BTW	Multi	Phone	All	104	376	*
VK4NRL	Multi	Phone	HF	104	204	*
VK4WIM	Multi	Phone	HF	70	130	*

Six Hour Portable Operation – Single Operator

Call Sign	Operators	Mode	Band	Contacts	Score	Award
VK3HY	Single	Phone	VHF	58	1362	*
VK3PRA	Single	Phone	VHF	25	182	*
VK4JAZ	Single	Phone	VHF	14	80	*
VK5OQ	Single	Phone	All	65	256	*
VK5JQ	Single	Phone	All	23	108	*
VK6ZN\7	Single	Phone	HF	121	242	*
VK2IO	Single	Phone	HF	69	138	*
VK4FHYH	Single	Phone	HF	55	110	*
VK2FDMB	Single	Phone	HF	50	100	
VK6AVO	Single	Phone	HF	32	64	
VK3ECH	Single	Phone	HF	15	30	
VK2AYD	Single	CW	HF	15	30	*

* Certificate Awarded

** President's Cup

Home Station – 24 Hour

Call Sign	Operators	Mode	Band	Contacts	Score	Award
VK4FIGA	Home	0	0	222	350	*
VK3KE	Home	0	0	212	346	*
VK2HBG	Home	0	0	208	303	*
VK2CZ	Home	0	0	170	220	
VK4HTM	Home	0	0	118	214	
VK4FABC	Home	0	0	138	202	
VK3AAK	Home	0	0	85	159	
VK3AVV	Home	0	0	60	111	
VK2TZA	Home	0	0	103	102	
VK4AN	Home	0	0	55	97	
ZL1TPH	Home	0	0	26	51	
ZL2CQ	Home	0	0	16	28	

Home Station – 6 Hour

Call Sign	Operators	Mode	Band	Contacts	Score	Award
VK2ZEN	Home	0	0	105	155	*
VK2KDP	Home	0	0	65	109	*
VK2EI	Home	0	0	64	108	*
VK3BML	Home	0	0	63	100	
VK2JAM	Home	0	0	22	41	
VK5RG	Home	0	0	6	11	

Comments on John Moyle Memorial National Field Day 2007

This year's entries came from every Australian mainland call areas and Tasmania. However there were only two entries from across the Tasman from ZL. An effort will be made in 2008 to suggest to the NZART to inspire some more interest among amateurs in ZL.

I have included all of the results that I received in total and if any are missing, they are completely lost and I can only offer my apologies to anyone affected. I believe that all logs submitted are included in the scoring. I am sorry if your log is missing, but it did not get to me despite my most careful procedures.

Based upon submitted logs there were some 12,535 contacts amounting to some 64,028 points claimed. This was pretty heavy contesting, but it resulted in only some 76 logs being submitted. This is around the same as previous years. Unfortunately, the number of stations who went to the bother of going out and setting up as a portable station and then not bothering to submit a log as an entry is a disappointment. Perhaps we can put in a little bit more effort next year? Some multiple operators got very big scores and perhaps a revision of the rules for large club stations is worth considering.

Band	UHF		VHF		HF	
	Contacts	Points	Contacts	Points	Contacts	Points
10 GHz	1 (0)	30 (0)				
5.7 GHz	1 (0)	30 (0)				
2.4 GHz	4 (2)	120 (100)				
23cm	94 (140)	1670 (1469)				
70 cm	777 (854)	12375 (10317)				
2m			1545 (1528)	24410 (23185)		
6m			436 (487)	6813 (6556)		
10m					25 (33)	49 (66)
15m					125 (82)	248 (164)
20m					1646 (831)	3276 (1642)
40m					6041 (4647)	11402 (8974)
80m					1831 (1812)	3596 (3494)
160m					9 (31)	18 (62)
Total	877 (996)	14225 (11886)	1981 (2105)	31223 (29741)	9677 (7436)	18580 (14402)

Table should be read – **2007 results in bold** (with (2006 results) in brackets)

Many of the portable stations that went to the effort to send in a log got a certificate. I believe that people who made the effort to set up a portable station and operate should be acknowledged. The rules need a revision to reward such effort?

Only four Foundation licence operators bothered to submit a log. (One from VK2 and three from VK4.) There were many more than this logged during the contest. Perhaps they can be better advised next year? All logs foundation operators were awarded a certificate. It is interesting to note that there were no logs from any Foundation licence operators in VK3.

Activity was carried out on all bands permitted under the rules. There was very noticeably increased activity on HF, but the frequencies followed the declining sunspot cycle. This is very close to the bottom and so conditions are likely to improve substantially next year. In the higher Microwave bands there was very limited activity. Maybe it follows a weather cycle, rather than the solar cycle? VHF and UHF activity hardly altered, with the higher scoring reflecting the higher points allowed for increased numbers of longer distance contacts.

The participation across the various Call Areas was patchy. There was one interesting observation from these results is that the weather was a possible explanation of the very poor turn out of portable stations in VK3 and the much improved turn out in VK2 & VK4.

Call Area	Portable		Home		Total	
VK1	2	1	0	0	2	1
VK2	17	18	7	5	24	23
VK3	11	12	4	5	15	17
VK4	16	13	4	3	20	16
VK5	7	11	1	3	8	14
VK6	3	1	0	1	3	2
VK7	1	1	0	1	1	2
VK8	1	3	0	0	1	3
ZL	0	0	2	0	2	0
	58	60	18	18	76	78

The scoring on VHF may need further revision as the scores produced on VHF seems to exceed the scores on HF, where the effort required to get a high score, far out weighs the comparative effort on VHF. However, this is this not the nature of contesting where HF takes time and effort to work the number of stations required, while VHF and UHF requires the vagaries of weak signals to guarantee a contact?

VK3 had a lower number of stations operating either as a portable or home station. Maybe next year we can get a few more stations especially portable ones in VK3? Perhaps the weather could be kinder next time?

There were many more electronic logs submitted this year. This has been due largely to the excellent work by Mike Subocz (VK3AVV) and his worthy program VKCL (VK Contest Log). Those that submitted a log in the VKCL export format were extremely easy to work with. Those that simply forwarded the text output of VKCL were also rather simpler to work with than a paper log by hand.

Unfortunately there were still a few individuals who submitted their log only handwritten on paper, while this can be integrated into the scoring it cannot be manipulated electronically and was harder to use. Finally there were a few who sent a log submission in an electronically unreadable form and they were asked to resubmit their logs which they subsequently did and were included.

This year, the rules stated that EXCEL is the preferred submission format. A sample linked EXCEL logging report was prepared and sent to those who requested this file. Pleasingly many logs used this easy-to-use sample as the basis of their submission. (Contact me at yk3zux@hotmail.com if you would like a copy of my linked spreadsheet in EXCEL for next year.) Other suitable file submission formats are WORD or the ADI output file from VK Contest Log. Text files or paper files can also be used.

There were a few who complained about the scoring process again this year. These complaints fell into three main categories.

1. The comparative difference in score and scoring between HF and VHF/UHF contacts.

Table of alternative categories

Operators		Modes			Bands		
	Time						
Multi	24	Phone	CW	All	HF	VHF	All
Multi	6	Phone	CW	All	HF	VHF	All
Single	24	Phone	CW	All	HF	VHF	All
Single	6	Phone	CW	All	HF	VHF	All

Home	24
Home	6

SWL	24
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In fact within the John Moyle Contest, the rules allow for some 27 possible alternative categories as shown above. Each category is actually completely independent from every other category and so there are in fact 27 parallel contests. In this way it is completely different from any other contest presently in Australia.

For this reason it is not possible to have overall winner in this contest, as scores from any category especially between different bands and different modes are not comparable. Only scores within the same category are correctly comparable. Hopefully this will explain the most common source of concern.

2. The second most contentious area is the 'Non Phone' modes.

In this contest CW is the only 'non-phone' mode allowed for within the rules. All other forms such as TTY, PSK, JT65 etc are simply treated as CW. However, many comments were received as to whether these 'Digital Modes' could be used. There are many concerns regarding these computer based modes. Mainly to do with the very large scores that could be amassed with a bit of planning and the use of automatic calling CQ.

- (a) What assurance can be given that the contacts were in fact using a human operator and not simply a fully automatic station?
- (b) Do these modes allow for the exchange of correctly formatted numbers as required by the rules? (Some modes use specially shortened calling cycles and their own detailed exchange methods)
- (c) Would a further 'Digital Mode' be required in the rules to cope with the range of options?
- (d) What distinct modes among the many available options are acceptable?
- (e) What format would the log output require to be to present the contact exchange information in an acceptable form?
- (f) Would a separate 'Digital Only Contest' be the better solution by creating a more even playing field?

I look forward to comments and feedback on these options.

3. Next, we have a rather non contentions issue of scoring for CW (hand) contacts.

A few people made comments that they had wanted to make CW contacts and others were not prepared or not able to exchange numbers in CW. In addition there were very few logs actually submitted claiming CW contacts.

The comment was made that CW is probably dead or at least close to dying.

A further suggestion was made to allocate a higher point score to a CW contact.

While CW is no longer a precondition for obtaining an Amateur licence, it is a skill that is widely distributed among existing operators and a skill that should be nurtured among the newer licence holders. It is my view that to enhance the number of CW contacts a higher point scoring could be allocated for contacts completed in CW compared to a 'Phone' contact.

I would like to consider increasing the number of points allocated for CW contacts, but I prefer some feedback from you before including any changes in the rules for 2008.

4. The number of people who submitted logs claiming 'All Modes' and only logged contacts using SSB or FM.

The Modes allowed in the rules are PHONE (SSB or FM) and CW (Manual or Digital Mode).

The PHONE Modes are SSB, DSB, FM or AM. That is the modulation is an audio signal derived in the first instance from a microphone.

The alternative is CW, either hand or computer derived that simply turns the carrier on and off. The plethora of other 'Digital Modes' are discussed above (2).

This should reduce the possible confusion next year? (VK Contest Log will need a wider choice of options as some of the confusion came about from the program.)

5. The complexity of the VHF/UHF scoring system that differs from all of the other contests conducted in these bands in Australia.

It is agreed that the different scoring system between the John Moyle Memorial National Field Day Contest, compared with the Ross Hull and the Spring & Summer Field Day contests, makes for a marked degree of confusion. I have received quite a number of comments in this regard and I intend to discuss with the other contest managers these contests possibility of a comparable method of scoring on VHF and UHF.

The rules have been evolved over time and reflect a changing climate as far as VHF/UHF operations. The relative ease of setting up an efficient station with modern equipment may overly reward the effort involved?

It is maybe time to reconsider the scoring principles involved and the method of calculating scores. I welcome your feedback on the topic.

6. Finally there was discussion about the massive scores accumulated by multi-operator club stations being so much higher could possibly be achieved by a single operator.

It is my view Multi-operator stations and Single operator stations already are separate categories and so are not competing against each other. Looking at the scoring above it is clear that a capable single operator can produce a very creditable score.

I do not think any difference in scoring rate between single and multi stations will achieve anything more than providing more confusion. I however, look forward to any further comments.

If you have any contribution to the topic, the Rules for this contest available at www.wia.org.au/contests already contains my contact information and feel free to contact me with your submission. If sufficient interest is raised it can be assembled into a topic for subsequent publication in AR?

Well done to all of those that participated in the contest and well done those who bothered to submit a log. It is hoped that the number of logs to be submitted next year will continue the current trend of increased log numbers.

I wish to thank those who did send in photographs of their equipment set-up and personnel involved for inclusion in the AR magazine. These have been submitted to AR along with this report and give Peter Freeman vk3kai@qsl.net anything else you have for later use for his magazine.

Denis Johnstone (VK4AIG/VK3ZUX)
Contest Manager

Breakdown of Contacts by Call Area and Band

	10G P	10G C	5.7G P	5.7G C	2.4G P	2.4G C	23cm P	23cm C	70cm P	70cm C	2m P	2m C	6m P	6m C
VK1	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	1168 0	44 0	2048 0	66 0	154 0	9 0
VK2	30 0	1 0	30 0	1 0	0 0	0 0	230 0	15 0	3071 2412	161 111	7941 5640	373 252	1952 1464	94 64
VK3	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	90 0	30 0	1432 731	75 69	6091 3590	371 321	9726 9778	618 674	4077 4258	249 325
VK4	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 520	0 58	1189 2560	108 272	2653 3465	317 333	422 160	61 20
VK5	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 100	0 2	0 218	0 13	856 1753	93 149	2490 4276	170 256	208 670	23 76
VK6	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0
VK7	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 2	0 0	0 10	0 5	0 4	0 2
VK8	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 1	2 16	1 8	0 0	0 0
ZL	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0

Numbers in Bold are 2007 and others are 2006

Breakdown of Contacts by Call Area and Band

	10m P	10m C	15m P	15m C	20m P	20m C	40m P	40m C	80m P	80m C	160m P	160m C
VK1	2 0	1 0	0 0	0 0	24 10	12 5	486 112	243 56	76 2	38 1	0 0	0 0
VK2	3 4	2 2	40 10	20 5	726 172	365 89	4231 3277	2333 1695	1277 1312	660 695	0 40	0 20
VK3	0 8	0 4	4 8	2 4	167 120	85 60	644 1120	346 598	317 416	163 215	6 6	3 3
VK4	40 52	20 26	192 116	97 58	1658 833	837 419	3959 2719	2076 1364	1278 1158	644 580	12 14	6 7
VK5	2 2	1 1	10 4	5 2	366 120	184 60	1663 1379	833 719	474 373	237 189	0 2	0 1
VK6	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	126 87	63 48	298 110	149 81	94 132	47 66	0 0	0 0
VK7	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	108 18	54 9	96 141	48 76	64 75	32 53	0 0	0 0
VK8	2 0	1 0	2 26	1 13	50 282	25 141	4 116	2 58	0 26	0 13	0 0	0 0
ZL	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	42 0	21 0	21 0	11 0	16 0	10 0	0 0	0 0

Numbers in Bold are 2007 and others are 2006