

John Moyle Memorial National Field Day 2009

24 Hour Portable Operation – Multiple Operator

Call Sign	Operators	Mode	Band	Score	Contacts	Place /Award
VK3CNE	Multi	Phone	All	2364	387	1 /*
VK4WIS	Multi	Phone	All	2256	506	2 /*
VK2HZ	Multi	Phone	All	1771	460	3 /*
VK2BV	Multi	Phone	All	885	298	4 /*
VK4WAT	Multi	Phone	All	630	235	5 /*
VK5NI	Multi	Phone	All	566	143	6 /*
VK2FRE	Multi	Phone	All	470	66	7 /*
VK6ARG	Multi	Phone	All	462	173	8 /*
VK2TG	Multi	Phone	All	400	200	9 /*
VK3III	Multi	Phone	All	375	57	10 /*
VK4WSS	Multi	Phone	All	169	44	11 /*
VK3FRC	Multi	Phone	VHF	3004	225	1 /*
VK3UHF	Multi	Phone	VHF	2587	262	2 /*
VK3JTM	Multi	Phone	VHF	2469	147	3 /*
VK3LY	Multi	Phone	VHF	2090	107	4 /*
VK2EH	Multi	Phone	VHF	1993	131	5 /*
VK3APC	Multi	Phone	VHF	1190	211	6 /*
VK3ER	Multi	All	All	4573	589	1 /***
VK2SRC	Multi	All	All	3291	654	2 /*
VK2MA	Multi	All	All	1982	427	3 /*
VK2WG	Multi	All	All	1945	307	4 /*
VK5WI	Multi	All	All	1534	331	5 /*
VK4GHL	Multi	All	All	941	409	6 /*
VK2AWA	Multi	All	HF	3774	1465	1 /*
VK4IZ	Multi	All	HF	2758	1200	2 /*
VK2BTW	Multi	All	HF	402	203	3 /*
VK4CHB	Multi	All	HF	394	194	4 /*
VK2AWX	Multi	Phone	HF	1162	581	1 /*
VK2AOJ	Multi	Phone	HF	1096	548	2 /*
VK1LW	Multi	Phone	HF	1000	500	3 /*
VK4WIT	Multi	Phone	HF	602	302	4 /*
VK6SH	Multi	Phone	HF	444	222	5 /*
VK2LE	Multi	Phone	HF	332	166	6 /*
VK2MB	Multi	Phone	HF	160	80	7 /*
VK8DA	Multi	Phone	HF	122	61	8 /*

*** President's Cup

/* Certificate Awarded

Six Hour Portable Operation – Multiple Operator

Call Sign	Operators	Mode	Band	Score	Contacts	Award
VK3AWS	Multi	Phone	All	1119	274	1 /*
VK5LZ	Multi	Phone	HF	238	119	1 /*
VK7WCN	Multi	Phone	HF	120	60	2 /*
VK4WIM	Multi	Phone	HF	118	61	3 /*

24 Hour Portable Operation – Single Operator

Call Sign	Operators	Mode	Band	Score	Contacts	Award
VK4OE	Single	Phone	All	2057	174	1 /*
VK2DLR	Single	Phone	All	206	44	2 /*
VK3DAG	Single	Phone	VHF	1510	77	1 /*
VK1DA	Single	Phone	VHF	1201	102	2 /*
VK4HAM	Single	Phone	HF	854	427	1 /*
VK5MFW	Single	Phone	HF	836	418	2 /*
VK6ZN	Single	Phone	HF	394	197	3 /*
VK1WJ	Single	Digital	HF	30	17	1 /*

Six Hour Portable Operation – Single Operator

Call Sign	Operators	Mode	Band	Score	Contacts	Award
VK5ZT	Single	Phone	VHF	252	38	1 /*
VK2FKAM	Single	Phone	VHF	210	23	2 /*
VK1PE	Single	Phone	VHF	14	7	3 /*
VK4ADC	Single	Phone	All	581	152	1 /*
VK5AGZ	Single	Phone	All	550	94	2 /*
VK2FDMB	Single	Phone	All	168	58	3 /*
VK4FHYH	Single	Phone	All	95	43	4 /*
VK4GI	Single	Phone	All	20	10	5 /*
VK3HJA	Single	Phone	HF	290	145	1 /*
VK4EV	Single	Phone	HF	202	101	2 /*
VK2IO	Single	Phone	HF	154	77	3 /*
VK3PHY	Single	Phone	HF	152	76	4 /*
VK3ZPF	Single	Phone	HF	110	55	5 /*
VK3FI	Single	Phone	HF	102	51	6 /*
ZL4RO	Single	Phone	HF	64	32	7 /*
VK3VTH	Single	Phone	HF	32	16	8 /*

Home Station – 6 Hour

Call Sign	Operators	Mode	Band	Score	Contacts	Award
VK2KDP	Home	0	0	255	169	1 /*
VK2DAG	Home	0	0	196	128	2 /*
VK3XXS	Home	0	0	158	102	3 /*
VK3HJ	Home	0	0	62	38	4
VK4JRO	Home	0	0	61	36	5
VK2IRP	Home	0	0	51	30	6
VK2ASU	Home	0	0	50	53	7
VK1DSH	Home	0	0	47	29	8
VK3IL	Home	0	0	23	12	9
ZL2IW	Home	0	0	9	5	10
VK2JTV	Home	0	0	6	5	11
VK4FNQA	Home	0	0	2	1	12

/* Certificate Awarded

/* Participation Certificate

*** President's Cup

Home Station – 24 Hour

Call Sign	Operators	Mode	Band	Score	Contacts	Award
VK4VDX	Home	0	0	633	437	1 /*
VK5HRT	Home	0	0	582	376	2 /*
VK2HBG	Home	0	0	544	362	3 /*
VK2FADE	Home	0	0	444	301	4 /*
VK5LSB	Home	0	0	428	281	5 /*
VK2FEDS	Home	0	0	412	301	6
VK4HO	Home	0	0	390	244	7
VK4FABC	Home	0	0	306	206	8
VK4ATH	Home	0	0	258	158	9
VK7FWAY	Home	0	0	247	162	10
VK2FAJA	Home	0	0	245	154	11
VK2HAB	Home	0	0	234	141	12
VK3XOR	Home	0	0	225	146	13
P29NB	Home	0	0	218	155	14
VK3HBA	Home	0	0	215	144	15
VK2AFY	Home	0	0	200	140	16
VK3BBB	Home	0	0	186	111	17
VK3FSIM	Home	0	0	182	114	18
VK7AD	Home	0	0	164	100	19
VK2ZCM	Home	0	0	133	87	20
VK4AHM	Home	0	0	129	73	21
VK4MON	Home	0	0	126	73	22
VK3KTM	Home	0	0	124	124	23
VK4MHZ	Home	0	0	123	74	24
VK3KIS	Home	0	0	101	61	25
VK3XID	Home	0	0	98	58	26
VK2ZTY	Home	0	0	84	46	27
VK4FWCC	Home	0	0	85	55	28
VK4CL	Home	0	0	83	47	29
VK2HAQ	Home	0	0	81	50	30
VK4HG	Home	0	0	74	73	31
VK2UVP	Home	0	0	66	37	32
VK4XZ	Home	0	0	63	32	33
VK5FXYL	Home	0	0	49	30	34
VK4VP	Home	0	0	46	25	35
VK4TGL	Home	0	0	44	34	36
VK2YJS	Home	0	0	43	28	37
VK3EI	Home	0	0	38	19	38
VK5LBJ	Home	0	0	38	24	39
VK7TK	Home	0	0	31	17	40
VK3BUH	Home	0	0	30	18	41
VK4ZW	Home	0	0	29	19	42
VK4AU	Home	0	0	28	18	43
VK3DYL	Home	0	0	26	13	44
VH3HSR	Home	0	0	19	13	45
VK3GDM	Home	0	0	13	8	46

Short Wave Listener – 24 Hour

Call Sign	Operators	Mode	Band	Score	Contacts	Award
ZL2AYZ	Portable	0	0	230	115	1 /*

Comments on John Moyle Memorial National Field Day 2009

This year's entries came from every Australian mainland call areas, as well as from Tasmania and New Zealand. The total number of logs submitted was 123. This was a significant increase from 104 logs received last year. The disappointing thing is that the increase was largely due to the increased number of home stations submitting logs. It was good to see several ZL stations take part this year and a few submitted logs. Well done to all

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

Based upon submitted logs, there were some 20,773 contacts, amounting to some 71,041 points claimed. This was pretty heavy contesting, but unfortunately it resulted in only 123 logs being submitted.

Unfortunately, the numbers of stations who went to the considerable trouble of going out and setting up as a portable station and then not bothering to submit a log as an entry, is still a disappointment. Some multiple operator stations got very big scores this and perhaps it simply reflects the great and varied planning and implementation efforts required to assemble and operate a multi operator station without operation on one band wiping out the efforts on another band?

Band	S/UHF		VHF		HF	
	Contacts	Points	Contacts	Points	Contacts	Points
24 GHz	0 (3)	0 (30)				
10 GHz	4 (22)	20 (670)				
5.7 GHz	6 (12)	30 (372)				
3.4 GHz	2 (21)	10 (650)				
2.4 GHz	29 (30)	390 (660)				
23cm	324 (224)	3254 (4576)				
70 cm	1053 (1116)	9417 (17801)				
2m			2008 (2222)	19417 (38718)		
6m			643 (648)	6306 (11049)		
10m					101 (62)	190 (122)
15m					117 (372)	220 (742)
20m					3647 (2206)	7073 (4921)
40m					8971 (5792)	17284 (10867)
80m					3817 (4538)	7329 (8360)
160m					51 (172)	101 (340)
Total	1418 (1428)	13121 (24759)	2651 (2870)	25723 (49767)	16704 (12962)	32197 (24722)

Table should be read – **2009 results in bold** (with (2008 results) in brackets)

Microwave activity was not at the same level as observed last year; obviously the dreadful weather looks like it curtailed all enthusiasm in this range of frequencies. Perhaps next year the weather might be a bit kinder to everyone?

The other major change noticed this year was the slight increase in Portable Station operation but a very significant increase of Home Station operation. This is not in line with the spirit of the contest, which is to foster portable station operation. Clearly there were many portable station operators who did not bother to submit a log and are strongly encouraged to do so next year.

The scoring in the UHF range is well down from last year. The reason for this seems to be the greatly reduced UHF activity. The VHF range the number of contacts is about the same but the lower scores reflect the changes in the rules to the scoring system

Activity was carried out on all bands permitted under the rules. There was very noticeably increased activity on HF, and the frequencies in use followed the low sunspot cycle. This is still at the bottom of the cycle and conditions did not improve substantially this year. In the higher UHF and Microwave bands there was considerably less activity than last year. Maybe it follows a weather cycle, rather than the solar cycle?

There were very high temperatures in VK3 and VK5 in the week before the contest which probably limited the number of operators planning to operate portable because of the possibility Total Fire Ban? However those hardy souls that did venture out portable were subjected to cold wet and windy weather and risked having equipment blown away or at least damaged. In general though VHF and UHF activity was around the same as last year and one can only guess what the activity would have been with more benign weather.

The participation across the various Call Areas was patchy. The greatest changes were in the great increase in the number Home Station logs submitted.

Call Area	Portable		Home		Total	
	2009	2008	2009	2008	2009	2008
VK1	4	3	1	0	5	3
VK2	18	16	17	18	35	34
VK3	15	13	16	9	30	22
VK4	14	17	17	11	31	28
VK5	6	7	4	2	10	9
VK6	3	2	0	2	3	4
VK7	1	1	3	1	4	2
VK8	1	1	0	1	1	2
P2	0	0	1	0	1	0
ZL	1	0	1	0	3	0
	63	60	60	44	123	104
	2009	2008	2009	2008	2009	2008

The scoring on VHF was revised this year and it reduced the difference between scores produced on VHF and the scores on HF. However the effort required to get a high score, out weighs the comparative effort on VHF. However, this is this not the nature of contesting whereas HF takes time and effort to work the number of stations required, while VHF and UHF requires the vagaries of weak signals to achieve a contact?

Maybe next year we can get a few more portable stations out in the field especially in VK3 and VK5? Last year the weather was cold and wet which discouraged portable operation and this year the weather before the contest weekend was very hot and for several days before there was the chance of a Total Fire Ban? During the contest time there was very strong cold wind and rain. This sort of forecast would be a sure way to discourage portable operation from any remote location. Perhaps the weather could be kinder next time?

All 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? In line with last year the Foundation License logs were awarded a participation certificate for encouragement.

Only twelve Foundation Licensed operators bothered to submit a log. (Six were from VK2, one from VK3, four from VK4, one from VK5 and one from VK7.) There were many more than this logged during the contest. Perhaps they can be better advised next year? All logs submitted by foundation operators were awarded a certificate. Logs from club station showed a considerable number took part as part of the club station efforts.

For the first time in a number of years a shortwave listener – from over the pond in NZ – made the effort of setting up a portable station and managed to log some 115 contacts. Well Done!

Year	Logs	Contacts	Points
2009	123	20773	71041
2008	104	17258	98940
2007	76	12535	64028
2006	78	10865	61387
2005	67	8423	44080
2004	66	8602	49855

There were still only 76% of logs submitted electronically 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 any paper log completed by hand.

All logs submitted in an electronic form this year, were fully readable.

This year, there were still a few individuals or clubs who submitted their log only handwritten on paper, while they can be integrated into the scoring they cannot be easily manipulated electronically and are much harder to cross check and validate as the checking of these logs can only be done manually at considerable effort. This is especially true where the log is coming from a club station with many operators shown on the log as having taken part and the handwriting is anything but obvious and the log is many pages long and having a number of errors.

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. (Contact me at vk4ae@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

VKCL (VK Contest Log). Paper logs and scanned files of handwritten logs can also be used, but require considerable manual work on my part to input the data and are not encouraged.

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

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

In fact within the John Moyle Contest, the rules allow for some 31 possible alternative categories as shown below. Each category is actually completely independent from every other category and so there are in fact 31 parallel contests. In this way it is completely different from any other contest presently in Australia.

Table of alternative categories

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

Home	24
Home	6

SWL	24
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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 the past for this contest CW was the only ‘non-phone’ mode allowed for within the rules. All other forms such as TTY, PSK31, JT65 etc were previously simply treated as CW. However, many comments were received as to whether these ‘Digital Modes’ could be used.

The rules were changed to allow ‘Digital’ modes this year. A few stations actually made a modest score from such digital QSO’s. Only one single operator submitted a Digital Only Log.

The other area discussed was the use of ATV as a mode. However, only one log indicated that they had used ATV, so the weather might have got in the way again? The category ATV will also be included in future.

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. This was incorporated in the rules this year and will remain in next year. Some stations scored the CW contacts correctly. However, a reasonably common error was made by those stations that had not read the rules and only scored 2 points for a CW contact instead of the 4 points allowed. This also meant considerable effort correcting the scores.

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.

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

The Modes allowed in the rules are PHONE (SSB or FM), CW (Manual or Computer) and 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 alternatives are CW, either hand or computer derived that simply turns the carrier on and off and DIGITAL mode which use computers to complete the contact.

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 some 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 developing 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 again look forward to and welcome any feedback on this topic.

However, there is plenty of comments about the 'complex' scoring used and yet when pressed those who complain cannot come up with a better method that does not require the use of a computer to calculate the score. It must be remembered that almost 25% of logs are

still submitted handwritten on paper. A scheme that does not require a computer to calculate the score is still required.

6. Club Stations

Club Stations were the focus of a bit of flak this year. It was viewed by some that efforts put in by club stations gave them an unfair advantage. Quite a number of correspondents commented along a similar vein. It must be remembered that club stations are only competing with other club stations as the multiple operator category and so if the clubs are competing using more people then may the best organised club win.

There was one other comment made by a number of entrants that they felt that the club stations were running very high power. The ACMA rules are very clear on the power levels that can be used by any station – except in very special circumstances – and with official approval. Hence the use of higher power than permitted by the Amateur LCD is completely forbidden by law. Further the spirit of the contest is to operate in a completely portable fashion and not rely on other than portable power supplies.

7. Low Power Contest

A suggestion was made by a few stations that a QRP category could be allowed. The suggestion that only what can be carried in a back pack should be allowed for the operation of the station.

While a good idea in principle I feel that this would present a task of some difficulty as the lower powered station has to compete against stations whose signals are produced by the higher power level of a commercial transceiver.

However, the scores produced by the Foundation licences who submitted a log does indicate that plenty of contacts were made on the restricted lower power permitted by their LCD.

Now it is over to you. There are always ways to improve anything, but scrapping something because it does not suit you is not possible, but if benefits are shown to be available, changes can be made to better serve the amateur community. If you have any contribution to these topics, the Rules for this contest are available at the new WIA web site at <http://www.wia.org.au> which already contains my contact information and please 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 stations 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 so please give Peter Freeman vk3kai@qsl.net anything else you have for later use for the magazine.

Denis Johnstone (VK4AE/VK3ZUX)
Contest Manager

Breakdown of Contacts by Call Area and Band

SHF/UHF/VHF BANDS

	24 G P	24 G C	10G P	10G C	5.7G P	5.7G C	3.4G P	3.4G C	2.4G P	2.4G C	1.2G P	1.2G 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	0 0	0 0	45 0	7 0	313 30	31 21	829 160	69 6	39 0	9 0
VK2	0 0	0 0	10 30	2 1	20 30	4 1	0 0	0 0	15 0	3 0	573 554	59 42	1810 6081	206 332	6375 15057	603 767	1040 2894	104 156
VK3	0 30	0 3	10 440	2 16	10 192	2 8	10 340	2 14	375 430	26 25	2215 3202	221 161	5326 8345	550 471	8679 15725	877 878	4047 7136	397 368
VK4	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	353 300	27 9	1087 2175	140 192	2343 6340	274 404	872 827	104 102
VK5	0 0	0 0	0 230	0 6	0 180	0 4	0 310	0 7	0 230	0 5	68 520	10 12	863 826	121 93	1007 904	143 81	306 192	28 22
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	18 3440	5 460	168 530	30 85	2 0	1 0
VK7	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	16 0	12 0	0 0	0 0
VK8	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	2 2	1 1	0 0	0 0
P2	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	0 0	0 0	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	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0
2009 2008	0 30	0 3	20 670	4 22	30 372	6 12	10 650	2 21	390 660	29 30	3254 4576	324 224	9417 17801	1053 1116	19417 38718	2008 2222	6306 11049	643 648

Numbers in Bold are for 2009 and other details are from 2008

Breakdown of Contacts by Call Area and Band

HF BANDS

	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	244 28	124 14	579 134	293 67	238 22	119 11	3 0	2 0
VK2	9 12	6 7	18 73	12 37	1551 1332	781 693	8107 5059	3986 2711	3916 4097	2052 2141	42 208	21 106
VK3	22 0	13 1	10 0	7 0	512 185	280 96	2027 1194	1152 664	248 829	133 443	6 20	3 10
VK4	152 68	78 34	169 595	86 298	3264 1923	1639 983	4021 3027	2124 1600	1879 2190	965 1143	47 94	24 47
VK5	5 40	3 20	9 66	5 33	749 412	397 211	1617 1173	901 590	447 956	245 480	2 18	1 9
VK6	0 0	0 0	6 4	3 2	358 287	179 147	428 92	214 46	320 148	160 74	0 0	0 0
VK7	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	83 22	45 11	420 134	258 87	43 100	24 57	0 0	0 0
VK8	0 0	0 0	8 4	4 2	96 102	48 51	10 54	5 27	8 18	4 9	0 0	0 0
P2	0	0	0	0	216 0	154 0	2 0	1 0	0	0	0	0
ZL	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	73 0	37 0	320 0	115 0	0 0	0 0
2009 2008	190 122	101 62	220 742	117 372	7073 4291	3647 2206	17284 10867	8971 5792	7329 8360	3817 4358	100 340	51 172

Numbers in Bold are for 2009 and other details are from 2008