



# ROSS HULL MEMORIAL VHF-UHF CONTEST 2009

John Martin (VK3KM), contest manager

The next Ross Hull Contest will run through the month of January 2009. Logs will be due by February 15.

Since its heyday in the 1980s and 1990s, there has been a decline in contest activity. This year there have been major changes to the rules, which will simplify the log-keeping requirements and will hopefully generate renewed interest in the contest.

The first change is to replace the distance based scoring system with scoring based on grid squares. Rather than having to estimate the distance worked for each contact, entrants merely need to keep a tally of the contacts made and the grid squares worked on each band. This brings the Ross Hull scoring into line with the system that has been used for some years for the VHF-UHF Field Days.

The VHF-UHF and microwave sections have been merged into a single "All Band" section. The separate Digital Modes section has been retained.

The band multipliers remain the same as those used for the VHF-UHF Field Days. Analysis of logs from past years shows that these multipliers provide a good balance between the lower and higher bands – microwave contacts score higher points, but this is balanced by the fact that there are more stations to work on the lower bands.

The Ross Hull Contest is a DX contest, so it is held at the time of year when there are most likely to be band openings. But midsummer is also a time when amateurs have to find a balance between work, family commitments and holidays. The length of the contest period should allow everyone to find enough free time to spend in the shack. But the largest part of the score for each band will come from working new locator squares, so it isn't necessary to work the maximum number of stations every day.

## The Contest

The WIA maintains a perpetual trophy in honour of the late Ross A. Hull and his pioneering achievements in VHF and UHF operation. The name of each year's contest winner is engraved on the trophy, and other awards may be made in the various divisions of the contest. The contest is open to all amateurs.

## Duration

0000 UTC January 1, 2009 to 2400 UTC January 31, 2009.

In Eastern Summer Time, that is 11 a.m. on January 1 to 11 a.m. on February 1.

## Sections

A: All bands, non-digital modes.

B: All bands, digital modes.

Digital modes are defined as those in which the decoding of the received signal is done by a computer.

Entrants may submit logs for one or both sections.

## General Rules

One callsign and one operator per station. Stations may operate from any location. You may work stations within your locator square. You may claim one contact per station per band per UTC day, although a station may be worked more than once per UTC day if the station location has changed to a different locator square.

Repeater, satellite and crossband contacts are not permitted. No contest activity is permitted below 50.150 MHz. Recognised DX calling frequencies should be avoided where possible for contest activity. Suggested procedure is to call on .150 on each band, and QSY up to make the contest exchange. All rulings of the contest manager will be accepted as final.

## Contest Exchange

For Section A, Entrants must exchange RS (or RST) reports, a serial number, and the 4-digit Maidenhead locator they are operating from. Serial numbers need not be consecutive. The Maidenhead locator is optional if it has already been exchanged in a previous contact, for example a contact made on a different band on the same day. For propagation modes such as meteor scatter or short-lived sporadic E openings, it is sufficient to exchange callsigns plus two further digits that cannot be predicted by the other station.

For Section B, exchange callsigns plus two further digits that cannot be predicted by the other station.

## Logs

Logs must contain the following for each contact:

- Date and UTC time.
- Frequency and callsign of station worked.
- Reports and serial numbers sent and received.
- Grid locator of your station, and of the station worked.

Separate scoring columns for each band would be helpful.

## Scoring

For each band, score 1 point per contact, plus 10 points for each four-digit locator square worked.

Multiply the total by the band multiplier as follows:

6 m	2 m	70 cm	23 cm	Higher bands
x 1	x 3	x 5	x 8	x 10

Then total the scores for all bands.

## Cover Sheet

Logs must be supplied with a cover sheet containing:

- Operator's callsign, name and address.
- Station location (if different from the postal address).
- Section(s) entered.
- A scoring table set out as the example below.
- A signed declaration that the station has been operated in accordance with the rules and spirit of the contest, and that the contest manager's ruling will be accepted as final.

Please use the following format for your scoring table. In this example, the entrant has worked four grid squares and made 20 contacts on each band.

<b>Band</b>	<b>Locators Worked</b> (10 points each)	<b>+</b>	<b>QSOs</b> (1 point each)	<b>x</b>	<b>Multiplier</b>	<b>=</b>	<b>Band Total</b>
6 m	40	+	20	x	1	=	60
2 m	40	+	20	x	3	=	180
70 cm	40	+	20	x	5	=	300
etc.							
Overall Total						=	540

A cover sheet and scoring table has been included in the postings on the WIA web site. Copies can also be obtained from the e-mail address given below.

## Penalties

Minor errors may be corrected and the score adjusted. Repeated use of recognised DX calling frequencies (especially when the reports indicate strong signals) may lead to disqualification. Inclusion of any false log entries will lead to disqualification.

## Entries

Paper logs may be posted to the Manager, Ross Hull Contest, 3 Vernal Avenue, Mitcham, Vic 3132. Electronic logs can be e-mailed to [vhf-contests@wia.org.au](mailto:vhf-contests@wia.org.au). The following log formats are acceptable: ASCII text, Office 97 or later RTF, DOC, XLS or MDB.

Logs must be received by **February 14, 2006**. Early logs would be appreciated.

## Further Information on Maidenhead Locators

Each four-digit Maidenhead locator identifies an area which covers 1 degree of latitude and two degrees of longitude. Detailed explanation of the Maidenhead locator system can be found on the Ross Hull Contest page on the WIA web site. If you have your latitude and longitude but do not know which locator square you are in, a computer program is available for download on the same web page, or directly from the contest manager. This program will also calculate distance and bearings between two locations.

# WIA ROSS HULL MEMORIAL VHF-UHF CONTEST

Section entered:

- A** All bands  
 **B** All bands, digital modes

- *If entering more than one section, please make out a separate cover sheet for each section.*

## Declaration

The station was operated in accordance within the rules and spirit of the contest. I agree to accept the Contest Manager's decision as final.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Contest date:

Callsign:

Operator's name:

Station location:

Postal address:

Postcode:

## SCORING TABLE

Band	Locators Worked 10 points each	+	QSOs made 1 point each	=	Total	x	Band Multiplier	=	Band Total
50 MHz		+		=		x	1	=	
144 MHz		+		=		x	3	=	
432 MHz		+		=		x	5	=	
1296 MHz		+		=		x	8	=	
2.4 GHz		+		=		x	10	=	
3.4 GHz		+		=		x	10	=	
5.7 GHz		+		=		x	10	=	
10 GHz		+		=		x	10	=	
Higher Bands		+		=		x	10	=	

**FINAL TOTAL =** \_\_\_\_\_

**Any comments or suggestions:**



## ROSS HULL CONTEST – LIST OF WINNERS 1950 – 2009

1950 - 1951	VK5QR	R. Galle	1980 - 1981	VK6KZ	W. J. Howse
1951 - 1952	VK5BC	H. Lloyd	1981 - 1982	VK6KZ	W. J. Howse
1952 - 1953	VK4KK	A. K. Bradford	1982 - 1983	VK6KZ	W. J. Howse
1953 - 1954	VK6BO	R. J. Everingham	1983 - 1984	VK6KZ	W. J. Howse
1954 - 1955	VK4NG	R. Greenwood	1984 - 1985	VK3ZBJ	G. L. C. Jenkins
1955 - 1956	VK3GM	G. McCullough	1985 - 1986	VK3ZBJ	G. L. C. Jenkins
1956 - 1957	VK3ALZ	I. F. Berwick	1986 - 1987	VK3ZBJ	G. L. C. Jenkins
1957 - 1958	VK3ALZ	I. F. Berwick	1987 - 1988	VK5NC	T. D. Niven
1958 - 1959	VK3ALZ	I. F. Berwick	1988 - 1989	VK5NC	T. D. Niven
1959 - 1960	VK4ZAX	D. R. Horgan	1989 - 1990	VK3XRS	R. K. W. Steedman
1960 - 1961	VK3ARZ	W. Roper	1990 - 1991	VK3XRS	R. K. W. Steedman
1961 - 1962	VK5ZDR	M. J. McMahon	1991 - 1992	VK3XRS	R. K. W. Steedman
1962 - 1963	VK4ZAX	D. R. Horgan	1992 - 1993	VK3XRS	R. K. W. Steedman
1963 - 1964	VK5ZDR	M. J. McMahon	1993 - 1994	VK3XRS	R. K. W. Steedman
1964 - 1965	VK3ZER	R. W. Wilkinson	1994 - 1995	VK3XRS	R. K. W. Steedman
1965 - 1966	VK3ZDM	J. R. Beames	1995 - 1996	VK2FZ/4	A. Pollock
1966 - 1967	VK5HP	J. H. Lehmann	1996 - 1997	VK2FZ/4	A. Pollock
1967 - 1968	VK3ZER	R. W. Wilkinson	1997 - 1998	VK2FZ/4	A. Pollock
1968 - 1969	VK5ZKR	C. M. Hutchesson	1998 - 1999	VK3XPD	A. P. Devlin
1969 - 1970	VK3ZER	R. W. Wilkinson	1999 - 2000	VK3EK	R. G. Ashlin
1970 - 1971	VK4ZFB	E. F. Blanch	2000 - 2001	VK4TZL	G. R. McNeil
1971 - 1972	VK5SU	J. W. K. Adams	2001 - 2002	VK4TZL	G. R. McNeil
1972 - 1973	VK5SU	J. W. K. Adams	2002 - 2003	VK3EK	R. G. Ashlin
1973 - 1974	VK5SU	J. W. K. Adams	2003 - 2004	VK3EK	R. G. Ashlin
1974 - 1975	VK5SU	J. W. K. Adams	2004 - 2005	VK3UH	L. Mostert
1975 - 1976	VK5SU	J. W. K. Adams	2005 - 2006	VK4TZL	G. R. McNeil
1976 - 1977	VK4DO	H. L. Hobler	2006 - 2007	VK3KAI	P. L. Freeman
1977 - 1978	VK3OT	S. R. Gregory	2007 - 2008	VK1DA	A. Davis
1978 - 1979	VK4DO	H. L. Hobler	2009	VK3EK	R. G. Ashlin
1979 - 1980	VK3ATN	T. R. Naughton			



**Len Mostert VK3LM (ex VK3DLM, VK3UH)  
2004 - 2005 Contest Winner  
SK 2 January 2009**