



Wireless Institute of Australia  
**60<sup>th</sup> Annual  
ROSS HULL MEMORIAL  
VHF-UHF CONTEST 2010**

John Martin (VK3KM), contest manager

The next Ross Hull Contest will run through the month of January 2010. Logs will be due by Monday, February 15.

Last year's experiment with a locator based scoring system resulted in a number of comments and a clear indication that there should be a return to distance based scoring. It was also suggested that the scoring restrictions for 6 metres should be dropped, at least while we are still in the low part of the solar cycle.

So this year the scoring system returns to the pre-2009 pattern. The band multipliers remain unchanged, except that the multiplier for 6 metres has been increased.

The scoring will be based on the best seven UTC days nominated by the entrant. The length of the contest period should allow everyone to find enough free time to spend in the shack. Entrants can take advantage of band openings during the contest period, while still being able to take time off for other activities or commitments.

In past years some entrants have felt that it is necessary for them to operate on every contest day, otherwise how will they know whether each day could have been one of the best seven? The answer is that there is no need to punish yourself! There will be two good contest days on January 16 and 17, the weekend of the Summer VHF-UHF Field Day. And any day when there is opening will be an obvious candidate to be one of the best seven. So, the technique is to just operate as you normally would, but with a better than usual effort on days that are shaping up well. If you are unable to operate on as many as seven days, give it a try regardless. It could well turn out that your best five days could beat someone else's best seven.

### **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, 2010 to 2400 UTC January 31, 2010.

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 claim one contact per station per band per UTC day. 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 plus a serial number. Serial numbers need not be consecutive. *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.

While not an essential part of the contest exchange, Maidenhead locators may also be exchanged as an aid to distance calculations.

## 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.
- Approximate location or grid locator of station worked.

Separate scoring columns for each band would be helpful.

## Scoring

Scoring will be based on the best 7 UTC days nominated by the entrant.

For each contact, score 1 point per 100 km or part thereof (i.e. up to 99 km: 1 point, 100 – 199 km: 2 points, etc.)

Multiply the total by the band multiplier as follows:

6 m	2 m	70 cm	23 cm	Higher bands
x 2	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. If you wish you can cross-check by adding the daily totals across the table, but please make sure that you include the separate band totals.

Date	6 m	2 m	70 cm	23 cm	etc
	----	----	----	----	----
Day 1	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx
Day 2	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx
etc.					
	----	----	----	----	----
<b>Total</b>	<b>xxx +</b>	<b>xxx +</b>	<b>xxx +</b>	<b>xxx +</b>	<b>xxx = xxx (GRAND TOTAL)</b>

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). Acceptable log formats include: ASCII text, RTF, DOC, DOCX, XLS, MDB, PDF, or any Open Document format.

Logs must be received by February 15, 2010. Early logs would be appreciated.

## Note on Calculating Distances

Absolute accuracy is not required. You just need to know whether each station is above or below the nearest multiple of 100 km, so you can use a compass to draw 100 km circles around your location on a map. A more accurate method is to use six-digit Maidenhead locators and a computer program that can be obtained from the WIA web site.



## Wireless Institute of Australia

# ROSS HULL MEMORIAL VHF-UHF CONTEST 2010: RESULTS

Contest manager: John Martin VK3KM

Activity in this year's contest was again far less than hoped for. After the 2009 test run of a scoring system based on Maidenhead locators, the comments received indicated that the scoring system should revert to the traditional distance-based scoring, so as to allow the scores to fully reflect achievement in making DX contacts. The change was made for this year's contest, but unfortunately it did not lead to increased activity.

The other change made this year was to relax the scoring restrictions on 6 metres, by doubling the band multiplier and removing the scoring cap on sporadic E contacts. This brought about some increase in 6 metre activity, but it did not flow through and stimulate more activity on the higher bands. The aim of the scoring system has been to keep the scoring potential of all bands approximately equal, but at present they are quite unequal. The 6 metre scoring will be reviewed, especially as the solar cycle develops, but the most desirable fix for the scoring inequality would be an upsurge of contest activity on 2 metres and higher bands.

How to achieve this is still not clear. It is not difficult – one whole month in which to make DX contacts, but the scoring is based on up to seven contest days. Many entrants have achieved excellent scores while operating for less than seven days.

Congratulations to this year's winners, Ted Thrift VK2ARA and Rex Moncur VK7MO. Also noteworthy is Gavin Brain VK3HY for achieving the top score on 432 MHz, and Stephen Hayman ZL1TPH for making the top scores on 144 and 1296 MHz.

ROSS HULL CONTEST 2010						
Call	Name	50 MHz	144 MHz	432 MHz	1296 MHz	TOTAL
<b>Section A: All Bands</b>						
VK2ARA	Ted Thrift	<b>2638</b>	108	85	-	2831
VK3HY	Gavin Brain	472	183	<b>220</b>	152	1027
VK2AH	Brian Farrar	796	126	65	-	987
ZL1TPH	Stephen Hayman	-	<b>300</b>	-	<b>208</b>	508
VK2TG	Robert Demkiw	254	147	85	-	486
VK6ADI	Barrie Burns	289	129	-	-	418
VK5FMPJ	Patrick Morgan	-	6	-	-	6
<b>Section B: Digital modes, All Bands</b>						
VK7MO	Rex Moncur	-	530	-	-	530
VK5APN	Wayne Pearson	-	525	-	-	525
VK3HY	Gavin Brain	-	432	-	-	432
VK1WJ	Waldis Jirgens	-	165	-	-	165

## ROSS HULL CONTEST – LIST OF WINNERS 1950 – 2010

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. McMahan	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. McMahan	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	2010	VK2ARA	E. Thrift