



Wireless Institute of Australia

ROSS HULL MEMORIAL VHF-UHF CONTEST 2017

Contest manager: John Martin VK3KM

The next Ross Hull Contest will run through the month of January. Logs will be due by February 13.

If you participate in the Summer VHF-UHF Field Day, remember that you can count Field Day contacts (one per station per band per day) in your Ross Hull Contest log. There is no need to exchange separate serial numbers for the two contests.

The possible rule changes that were flagged some months ago did not receive a positive response, so the 2017 rules will be unchanged from those of 2016.

For me this will be contest no. 27, so it seems like a good time to take a break. So from John VK3KM, best wishes to my successor and to contest entrants in future years.

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 contest is open to all amateurs. Certificates are awarded to all entrants, including certificates for the top scoring amateurs in each licence class.

Duration

0000 UTC January 1 to 2400 UTC January 31.

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

Sections

- A: Best 7 days, analog modes.
- B: Best 7 days, digital modes.
- C: Best 2 days, analog modes.
- D: Best 2 days, 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 more than one section.

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, EME and crossband contacts are not permitted. Split frequency operation is allowed, for example on 50/52 MHz. Calling frequencies should be kept as clear as possible so as not to interfere with other stations making or listening for calls. If contact is established on a recognised DX calling frequency (i.e. 50.110, 144.100 etc), stations should QSY up to .150 or higher to make the contest exchange. All rulings of the contest manager will be accepted as final.

Contest Exchange

For Section A or C, Entrants must exchange RS (or RST) reports plus a serial number. Serial numbers need not be consecutive. *NOTE: 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 or D, 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					
	----	----	----	----	----					
2 Day Subtotals	xxx	+	xxx	+	xxx	+	xxx	+	xxx	= xxxx (2 DAY SUBTOTAL)
Day 3	xxx		xxx		xxx		xxx		xxx	
Day 4	xxx		xxx		xxx		xxx		xxx	
etc.										
	----	----	----	----	----					
7 Day Totals	xxx	+	xxx	+	xxx	+	xxx	+	xxx	= xxxx (7 DAY TOTAL)

A cover sheet and scoring table is 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, PO Box 2042, Bayswater Vic 3153. Electronic logs can be e-mailed to rosshull@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 13, 2015**. 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. Alternatively, you can use contest logging software that can calculate distances. If so, you will need to exchange 6 digit Maidenhead locators to get an accurate distance measurement. You can also calculate distances from six-digit Maidenhead locators using a computer program that is available on the Ross Hull Contest page of the WIA web site.

Contest web page: <http://www.wia.org.au/members/contests/rosshull/>

WIA ROSS HULL MEMORIAL VHF-UHF CONTEST

Section entered:

	A	Best 7 days, analog modes
	B	Best 7 days, digital modes
	C	Best 2 days, analog modes
	D	Best 2 days, digital modes

If entering both the analog and digital sections, please make out separate scoring sheets for each.

Declaration:

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

Signature: _____

Contest date	
Callsign	
Name	
Station location	
Postal address for notification of results	
Postcode	

SCORING TABLE

Best Days	Date	50 MHz	144 MHz	432 MHz	1296 MHz	2.4 GHz	3.4 GHz	5.7 GHz	10 GHz	24 GHz	47 GHz	Higher bands	Day Totals
1													
2													
Band totals - best 2 days													
3													
4													
5													
6													
7													
Band totals - best 7 days													

▲
Total points claimed

COMMENTS OR SUGGESTIONS:



Wireless Institute of Australia

ROSS HULL MEMORIAL VHF-UHF CONTEST 2017: RESULTS

Contest manager: John Martin VK3KM

This year the overall winner (Section A) is Ted Thrift, VK2ARA. The other section winners are Andrew Davis VK1DA and Hilary Bridel VK2IUW. Congratulations to them, and also to the other entrants who made very creditable scores. It is also pleasing to see several entries from amateurs who have not sent in a log before.

The Ross Hull Contest has been running for 67 years now. It has always been conceived as a DX contest, in honour of the late Ross A. Hull and his achievements in the study of tropospheric propagation, which helped amateurs to cover far greater distances than they had thought possible on the VHF and UHF bands.

It has also usually been quite a long contest: in earlier years it sometimes ran for as long as five or six weeks. This was so that the contest could take in the best part of the summer DX season, and it also allowed entrants to operate when they were free to do so. If the contest ran for only a few days, the odds are that it may not coincide with DX openings, or it might clash with other commitments. But with the long period combined with scoring based on the best seven days, or the best two days, just about everyone should be able to make up a competitive log at some time during the contest period. The approach is simple: operate as you normally would; work whatever DX comes along; and put it in your log. What better fun could you possibly have over the summer holidays?

As for next year, I have flagged the idea of taking a break. But I have to admit that the contest has become quite a habit. So, we'll see how things go!

Call	Name	50 MHz	144 MHz	432 MHz	1296 MHz	2.4 GHz	3.4 GHz	5.7 GHz	10 GHz	24 GHz	47 GHz	TOTAL
Section A: Analog modes, best 7 days												
VK2ARA	Ted Thrift	822	345	205	188	70	-	-	-	-	-	1630
VK2AH	Brian Farrar	616	351	210	200	-	-	-	-	-	-	1377
VK3WRE	Ralph Edgar	-	146	245	376	200	30	-	100	-	-	1127
VK1DA	Andrew Davis	76	411	435	152	-	-	-	-	-	-	1074
VK3ZYC	Jim Collins	34	258	225	112	60	-	10	10	-	-	709
VK3LM	Michael Binz	124	153	210	200	-	10	-	-	-	-	697
VK2XIC	Rob Heyer	60	111	175	192	80	-	-	-	-	-	618
VK2BLS	Darrell Harman	46	84	145	192	130	-	-	-	-	-	597
VK2FLJD	Jason Dickens	-	327	200	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	527
VK1RX	Al Long	34	273	200	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	507
VK4ADC	Doug Hunter	346	66	35	8	20	-	-	-	-	-	475
VK3AV	Bernard Petherbridge	56	108	85	64	40	20	-	-	-	-	373
VK7MO	Rex Moncur	-	-	-	370	-	-	-	-	-	-	370
VK7TW	Justin Giles-Clark	-	-	-	230	-	-	-	-	-	-	230
VK2IUW	Hilary Bridel	6	48	30	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	84
VK4LHD	Robert Garland	-	-	-	40	20	-	-	-	-	-	60
VK3UH	Ken Brown	-	9	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	19

Section C: Analog modes, best 2 days

VK1DA	Andrew Davis	72	384	420	152	-	-	-	-	-	-	1028
VK2ARA	Ted Thrift	416	111	55	48	-	-	-	-	-	-	650
VK3HY	Gavin Brain	88	99	85	88	70	60	60	40	-	-	590
VK3WRE	Ralph Edgar	-	66	115	176	120	30	20	60	-	-	587
VK2AH	Brian Farrar	286	105	65	48	-	-	-	-	-	-	504
VK4ADC	Doug Hunter	346	66	35	8	20	-	-	-	-	-	475
VK1RX	Al Long	34	252	185	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	471
VK3AV	Bernard Petherbridge	56	108	85	64	40	20	-	-	-	-	373
VK3ZYC	Jim Collins	34	132	90	48	10	-	-	-	-	-	314
VK2FLJD	Jason Dickens	-	240	65	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	305
VK3LM	Michael Binz	90	69	75	24	-	10	-	-	-	-	268
VK2XIC	Rob Heyer	16	36	60	64	30	-	-	-	-	-	206
VK2BLS	Darrell Harman	16	27	45	64	30	-	-	-	-	-	182
VK7MO	Rex Moncur	-	-	-	180	-	-	-	-	-	-	180

Call	Name	50 MHz	144 MHz	432 MHz	1296 MHz	2.4 GHz	3.4 GHz	5.7 GHz	10 GHz	24 GHz	47 GHz	TOTAL
VK7TW	Justin Giles-Clark	-	-	-	120	-	-	-	-	-	-	120
VK2IUW	Hilary Bridel	6	48	30	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	84
VK4LHD	Robert Garland	-	-	-	40	20	-	-	-	-	-	60
VK3UH	Ken Brown	-	9	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	19

Section B: Digital modes, best 7 days

VK2IUW	Hilary Bridel	244	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	244
VK4ADC	Doug Hunter	84	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	90
VK7MO	Rex Moncur	-	-	-	80	-	-	-	-	-	-	80
VK4LHD	Robert Garland	22	45	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	67

Section D: Digital modes, best 2 days

VK2IUW	Hilary Bridel	192	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	192
VK4ADC	Doug Hunter	84	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	90
VK4LHD	Robert Garland	22	45	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	67
VK7MO	Rex Moncur	-	-	-	40	-	-	-	-	-	-	40

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