2027 Summer VHF-UHF Field Day Rules

Roger Harrison VK2ZRH

Summer Event 2027 dates and times:	
Saturday 9th and Sunday 10th January Duration, all call areas other than VK6: 0100 UTC Saturday to 0059 UTC Sunday	Duration in VK6 only: 0400 UTC Saturday to 0359 UTC Sunday

Note well:

This event employs distance-based scoring, only.

These events now use the WIA's online **VK Contest Log Checker**, as used with many other WIA sponsored contests. Visit: www.vklogchecker.com

Entrants may also submit logs for the Ross Hull contest. Note that only one contact per UTC day per mode per band may be claimed for the Ross Hull.

Logging: you can choose to use either of two logging programs – **VKCL** (VKCL 4.15), the one you've known for so long – or **N1MM Logger+**, which has been adopted by some contestants since the 2025 Summer event. N1MM Logger+ is widely used across many other contests.

- The Rover category has been discontinued as a result of low support over past years.

These rules have been compiled to be compatible with N1MM Logger+ and the facilities afforded by the VK Contest Log Checker.

For contesters using the VKCL logger, the VHF log file output needs to be converted to Cabrillo 3.0 format before submitting to the VK Contest Log Checker. You can download a converter from: www.vk4sn.com/Contests/Contesting.

THE RULES

SECTIONS	**Cabrillo log file notes**
A: PORTABLE	CATEGORY-STATION: PORTABLE
Single Operator	
Multi Operator (M1, M2, or MM)	
B: HOME STATION [FIXED]	CATEGORY-STATION: FIXED
Single Operator	
Multi Operator, Single Station (M1)	

DURATION

1:	24 Hours	CATEGORY-TIME: 24-HOURS
2:	8 Hours	CATEGORY-TIME: 8-HOURS

You may operate for more than 8 hours and submit a log for the whole period.

The VK Log Checker will **select the best consecutive 8-hour period** and score only those contacts. Contacts outside the selected 8-hour period will be used in cross-checking other logs.

SUB-SECTIONS	**Cabrillo log file notes**
1: Single-band: 6m/2m/70cm/23cm. Pick one	CATEGORY-BAND: 2M
2: Four-band: 6m/2m/70cm/23cm. 2-3-4 bands	CATEGORY-BAND: VHF-3-BAND
3: All-bands: 6m and up.	CATEGORY-BAND: ALL

All-band – the bands you choose to operate on may include one or more of 6m/2m/70cm/23cm, and any combination of one or more higher bands, or even several bands above the lower four.

N1MM users: select VHF-3-BAND to signify entry in the Four-band section. As long as this shows as CATEGORY BAND: VHF-3-BAND, your log will be in the Four-band section.

Stations entering the All-bands sub-section cannot enter additional logs for the Four-bands or Single-band sub-sections.

SUMMARY

PORTABLE	24 HOUR	8 HOUR	Single Band 6 2 70 23c	Four Band 6 2 70 23c	All band	M1	M2	MM
SO	X	X	X	X	X			
MO	X	X			X	X	X	X
HOME								
SO	X	X	X	X	X			
MO	X	X			X	X		

Table compiled by Contest Committee Chair, Alan Shannon VK4SN.

Transmission Modes

CW, plus AM, FM, single sideband (*all voice modes are "phone"*), and digital modes (e.g. WSJT). Consequently, log the Mode as CW, PH, DG.

Contest Exchanges

1: Stations will exchange a serial number and a 6-character grid locator.

2: For multi-op stations, serial numbers start at No.1 on each band.

Duplicates & Re-work Period

1: Stations may be worked again on each band after two hours have elapsed since the last contact.

2: A station may be worked on any particular mode on a band, but must wait two hours from the last contact before next making contact.

Stations cannot repeat a contact using a different mode at the time of the initial contact; this would be a duplicate and the VK Log Checker will disqualify it as such. For example: stations cannot make two contacts in a row using CW and then PH, then repeat that two hours later. Only one of those contacts is valid.

3: If either station moves to a new grid square (4-digit square), repeat contacts may be made immediately.

4: If a station moves back into the previous grid square (4-digit square), the re-work period limit of two hours still applies to stations worked previously from that square.

Portable Stations

1: A station is classed as portable only if all its equipment is transported to a place that is not the normal location of any amateur station. A portable station can run as multi op.

2: Portable stations my change location during the field day, provided that the station is dismantled and reassembled at each move.

Home Stations

1: Home stations may be Multi Operator, single radio (M1). One operator, on air at any one time.

2: Use a single call for the entirety of the contest.

3: Multi op Home Station operators can't submit logs of their own under their call.

Multi Operator Stations

1: MO Stations must use one call sign only, either the club or the group call sign.

2: MO 2 stations (2 or more ops) can have only one signal on a band at a time.

3: MO station operators cannot submit individual logs under their own call.

4: MO stations are All-band only and not eligible for single- or 4-band entries.

5: If two or more operators set up a **joint portable station** with shared equipment for multiple bands at the one location, they may choose to enter Section A as separate stations under their own call signs, each submitting individual logs, or Section B under a single call sign and submitting one log. Where each operator of a joint portable station enters separately, contacts with each other cannot be claimed.

Operating Rules

1: Repeater, satellite, EME or cross-band contacts are not permitted.

2: You may operate for more than 8 hours and submit a log for the whole period. The VK Log Checker will select the best consecutive 8-hour period and score only those contacts. Contacts outside the selected 8-hour period will be used in cross-checking other logs.

3: Except for CW, no contest operation is allowed below 50.150MHz. Recognised DX calling frequencies must not be used for contest activity. Suggested procedure for SSB stations is to call on .150 or higher on each band and QSY up, to make the contest exchange.

4: There is no overall winner, only top scorers in each section/sub-section. Top-scorers are entered into the annual WIA Contest Champion Peter Brown VK4PJ Trophy. **Note:** Call signs for WIA Contest Champion points are taken from the OPERATORS: header field and must contain your everyday call sign. Visit: www.wia.org.au/members/contests/contestchampionrules/

5: A Square refers to the Maidenhead Locator system definition, as denoted by the 4-character locator.

6: Stations entering the All-bands sub-section cannot enter additional logs for the Four-bands or Single-band sub-sections.

7: A portable station cannot be located at the normal location of any amateur station.

Scoring

1: Scoring is distance-based only. Distances between stations is calculated from the sub-square centre.

2: All contacts are scored on the basis of one point per kilometre, multiplied by the scoring Multiplier for each band as in **Table 1**, with points/100km applied after 700 km for 6m, 2m and 70cm, to "flatten" scores for DX experienced under enhanced propagation conditions.

3: A 200 km contact on 432 MHz would be 200 x 2.7 = 540 points. A 1000 km contact on 50 MHz would be 703 x 1.7 = 1195.1 points.

4: Scores are rounded up to the nearest point.

5: There is no score for stations that contact each other in the same sub-square.

BAND	SCORING	MULTIPLIER
50 MHz	1 pt/km to 700 km, 1 pt/100 km thereafter	1.7
144 MHz	1 pt/km to 700 km, 1 pt/100 km thereafter	1
432 MHz	1 pt/km to 700 km, 1 pt/100 km thereafter	2.7
1296 MHz	1 pt/km	3.7
2.4 GHz	1 pt/km	4.4
3.4 GHz	1 pt/km	5.4
5.7 GHz	1 pt/km	6.4
10 GHz	1 pt/km	7.4
24 GHz & up	1 pt/km	10

NB: proposals to update this system are published in AR magazine # 6, 2025, pp 31-33.

Logs & Logging Software

VKCL logger users: there is now a converter program to convert VKCL's current VHF log output into Cabrillo V3.0, suitable for submission to vklogchecker.com. Both VKCL 4.15 and the converter program can be downloaded from: www.vk4sn.com/Contests/Contesting

N1MM Logger+ supports this contest. The UDC (User Defined Contest) must be installed to N1MM before setting up for these VHF/UHF contests. The UDC can be downloaded from vk4sn.com/Contests/N1MMVK [case sensitive; *read* the SETUP PDF!]

1: Compile your Cabrillo V3 log from the file menu in N1MM.
File – Generate Cabrillo File

2: Only one log can be submitted. Further submissions will overwrite the previous log.

3: Logs for the Single-band Sub-section entry may include other bands for checking purposes, but only scores for the indicated band, as shown in the Cabrillo header CATEGORY-BAND option.

4: Logs entered in the Four-band Sub-section must contain at least two bands and have no more than four bands overall. CATEGORY-BAND: VHF-3-BAND is the only option to use in N1MM, but VKCL users employing the converter may select VHF-4-BAND in the Cabrillo header.

5: A log with contacts on five (5) or more bands will be converted to an All-bands entry if submitted differently.

Submitting your log

1: Submit logs to: vklogchecker.com.

2: If your log contains errors, they will be displayed on-screen for your action and re-submission.

3: If log submission is successful, on-screen notification will confirm the section entered.

4: If you find that you made an error, correct it and then upload it again. This will overwrite the previous log.

5: The call sign used on-air appears in the Cabrillo CALLSIGN: field. In the OPERATORS: field, please use your normal, everyday call sign as this is used for accumulating the WIA Contest Champion points.

6: The deadline for log submission is midnight two weeks (14 days) after the contest.

Entrants may also submit logs for the Ross Hull contest. Note that only one contact per UTC day per mode per band may be claimed for the Ross Hull.

A verse for Summer

The winter solstice bell has rung
Cold winter's cloak has long been hung
Earth's orbit has ere passed the solstice point
And now we hear CQ-CQ all 'round the joint!

THE NEXT EVENT

2027 Winter VHF-UHF Field Day

Third weekend in June

Saturday 19th and Sunday 20th

www.wia.org.au/members/contests/vhfuhf/

E&OE