

VHF managers meeting

Meeting chair: Verner, OZ5TG

Meeting secretary: Mats, SM6EAN

Please see the "VHF manager meeting" PowerPoint presentation

• **Reporting in NAC with FT8 to be clarified**

- At least once the complete call sign and full 6-digit locator
 - Definition of own message in "TX5" for full call sign
 - Difficulty with call signs using "/XXX" + locator and FT8. Free text is only 13 characters.
- IARU rules should be revised using MG modes, e.g. FT8
- It has been agreed in IARU R1 that intercontinental contacts only need 4 character locator. Calculation then shall use "MM" as the full 6 character locator.
- To be further elaborated how a workaround until programs can be updated.

Conclusion

- At least once the complete call sign and full 6-digit locator
 - Definition of own message in "TX5" for full call sign
 - Difficulty with call signs using "/XXX" and FT8. It works in "99%" of the cases in a first "Step".
- All interested in digital modes please give us feedback, OZ5TG will coordinate inputs to this issue.
OZ5TG@mail.dk

• **What defines a QSO?**

- It should be in line with IARU definition
- Do we require a human brain to be involved in the QSO?
 - Do we want different classes for "no brain" QSO's (M2M), "brain" classes etc.?

Conclusion

- Definitions in IARU VHF Managers Handbook shall be used
- Update rules with "unmanned stations (e.g. computer controlled) is not accepted". OZ5TG will coordinate any inputs to this issue.

• **NAC and MGM?**

- Consider a FSK441 frequency on 10m for the NAC in Sweden and Finland.

Conclusion

- Proposal to be made. **Action Test managers?**

• **Status on 13cm (all)?**

- OZ: Current understanding is that the allocation runs out by end 2018.
- SM: 6 month temporary allocation will be given to end 2018. Unclear if new temporary allocations will be given

• **The new Region 1 VUSHF contest working group.**

- The group was created during the IARU R1 meeting in Landshut 2017. WG lead is Rob, S53WW.
- A lot of the group C5 input documents is concerning contests
- Contest managers around Europe does not seem to receive information from the WG

Conclusion

- Notice to Robbie that contest managers does not seem to get emails. **Action SM6EAN**

• **Unofficial callsigns in VHF (and up) contests (e.g. Donetsk).**

- For VHF contests, not using DXCC, it is acceptable to accept QSO's.

Conclusion:

- It was agreed to use IARU R1 Contest WG feedback: QSO OK as long as DXCC is not used for points.

• **Reverse beacons on VUSHF**

- See presentation by Palle, OZ1RH; "Beacons should be shut down! Disrupt beacons - use reverse beacons"
- An alternative is to monitor already existing beacons.

Conclusion:

- Traditional beacons can exist in parallel with reversed beacons. This would add to beacon monitoring.
- Existing reverse beacon tools can be updated and used already today.

• **Others questions from the floor**

- Is it the antenna locator that is to be specified in NAC? The answer is "Yes". Already in the rules.

• **Issues from LA**

- Due to lack of time, these (and other questions) were not handled. Mail will be sent out to VHF-managers for comments.
 - Common Nordic definition of a Hotspot (DV)
 - Criteria for establishing a Hotspot
 - Power and coverage (antenna)
 - Common Nordic definition of a Repeater (FM/DV)
 - Criteria for establishing a Repeater
 - Special license / Callsign, or not
 - Common configuration of APRS (Digipeater and IGate)
 - Reference «New n-N Paradigm» by Bob Bruninga / WB4APR
 - Common understanding of capabilities and use
 - ◆ Ensure no-one establishes a «Receive-only» IGate

• **WRC-19 - Overview IARU initiatives**

- See presentation by SM6EAN in the VHF managers meeting PowerPoint.