

Subject	Update to IARU-R1 ATV Contest Rules in the VHF Handbook - Text		
Society	RSGB	Country:	UK
Committee:	C5	Paper number:	ZL23_C5_18
Author:	David Crump G8GKQ		

Text for the VHF Managers Handbook

- and see separate paper for the proposal

2 RULES IARU REGION I ATV CONTEST

2.1 Goal

Stimulation of ATV activity by organizing a yearly international ATV contest.

2.2 Terms and Definitions

ATV contest: Competition of licensed or receive-only ATV stations in a certain period of time, on each VHF/UHF/Microwave band on which ATV transmissions are allowed, using the mode(s) authorised for that band. The distance between stations that make contacts on several bands defines the number of earned points.

Repeater: A public (amateur) service that (re)transmits received signals that are intended to be received by more than one person.

Station: Any person (or group of persons using one call sign) within IARU Region 1 that is able to transmit and/or receive Amateur Television signals from their own location or remotely, without being a repeater. No more than one transmitter may be in use at the same time. The equipment used by one station must not be shared with another station participating in the contest.

Rover station: Any station that is not fixed to one location that moves at least a minimum of five kilometres. Every time location is changed the moving station should be considered as a new station with the same call sign. For that reason, a new log sheet and four digit code should be used by the moving station. Roving stations are limited to 4 locations (which may include their home location) during the contest.

Four digit code: Four random chosen digits. The digits shall neither be all the same (e.g. 2222) nor all consecutive (e.g. 4567 or 5432).

Contact: Contacts are considered to be valid when a four digit code that is transmitted by another ATV station is received. Contacts made via repeaters or transponders are not considered as a contact.

IARU locator: The six, eight or ten digits of the Maidenhead IARU locator which is related to the longitude and latitude coordinates of the actual position of the antennae that are used during the contact.

Vision report: The internationally recognized codes P0 to P5:

	Analogue	Digital
P0	No picture received	No picture received
P1	Synchronisation with little picture content	Only occasional blocks visible
P2	Only large images (call sign etc.) perceivable	Sufficient blocks to read call signs
P3	Picture noisy but some detail resolved	Some blocking
P4	Picture slightly noisy, but with good detail and resolution	Occasional blocking
P5	Noise-free picture	Solid picture

Log sheet file: A log sheet has a format not smaller than A4. An Excel spreadsheet containing all the information that is needed to judge the contacts made and claimed points. It consists of a standard cover sheet and data sheets for every individual band

- A standard cover sheet contains the essential information required to judge the contest entry. The following information shall be submitted:
 - name and address of the (first) operator,
 - station call sign,
 - IARU locator,
 - bands used, with the transmitted four-digit code group used for each band,
 - claimed score for each band.

The coversheet should show the signature typed name of the (first) operator certifying the correctness of the log(s) submitted. In case of digital delivery of the log, The typed name is the alternative of the signature.

- Data sheets for every individual band containing the following columns in the order named:
 - date,
 - time in UTC,
 - call sign of the station worked/seen,
 - report sent: P# report followed by serial number,
 - report received: P# report followed by serial number,
 - (seen) four digit code,
 - IARU locator received,
 - number of points claimed.

It is strongly recommended to use the Excel sheet that is developed especially for this purpose (see Appendix 3B).

2.3 Responsibilities

Contestants: Operate within the letter and spirit of the contest and in accordance with the licensees licensing of the country of operation. Stations operating under special high power licenses shall do so "hors concours". Completion and delivery of their entry to the National ATV Manager.

National ATV manager, National VHF manager or the National Contest Committee: Judge logs in time, send the results within four weeks after the contest to the IARU ATV manager.

IARU ATV contest manager: Organize, publish blank log file at least 3 weeks before the contest, judge logs in time, issue results within six weeks after the contest.

2.4 Contest

Date of contest: The contest will be held in the second full weekend of June.

Duration of the contest: The contest will commence at 12:00 UTC on the Saturday and will end at 18:00 UTC on the Sunday. It is recommended that the national societies will run their ATV contests at the same time as the IARU Region 1 ATV contest takes place.

Contacts: For contest scoring purposes a participating station may be worked or viewed only once on each band. A roving station is considered as a new station every time it has changed its location.

Contest exchanges: The following information shall be exchanged during a contact:

- Four digit code. For each band used, a transmitting station shall transmit the four digit code that shall not change throughout the contest. Roving Stations that have changed their location should change their transmitted codes for each new location. There is no requirement for stations contacted to change their codes. For roving stations that changed location, both transmissions should be verified

by a new four digit code. For new contacts with stations that were logged before; the roving station should request the involved stations to transmit a new four digit code and mention those digits as remarks in their log sheet.

- THIS FOUR DIGIT CODE SHALL BE EXCHANGED IN VIDEO ONLY AND SHALL NOT BE TRANSMITTED BY ANY OTHER MODE THAN VISION.
- Call sign
- Vision report,
- IARU locator (the location of the receiving or transmitting antennae does define the location of the station),
- Contact serial number, starting with 001 on each band used and increasing by one for each successive contact on that band, starting from one for the new log sheet in use by roving stations).

Scoring. A two-way exchange of the four-digit code group by vision using a permitted transmission mode together with the exchange of the other information shall score:

Band	Points per km	Permissible Modes
50 MHz	2	Digital ATV
435 MHz	2	AM and Digital ATV
1.3 GHz	2	Digital ATV
2.4 GHz	2	All fast-scan ATV Modes
3.4 GHz	2	All fast-scan ATV Modes
5.7 GHz	2	All fast-scan ATV Modes
10 GHz	2	All fast-scan ATV Modes
24 GHz	4	All fast-scan ATV Modes
47 GHz and higher	10	All fast-scan ATV Modes

- for contacts on the 435 MHz band: 2 points/kilometre
- for contacts on the 1.3 GHz band: 4 points/kilometre
- for contacts on higher bands: 10 points/kilometre

If only one station received the four-digit code group, and the other information was exchanged, the scores for both stations shall be reduced by 50%.

Note: for scoring purposes all valid contacts shall be deemed to have taken place over a distance of at least 5 kilometres, even if the two stations in contact have the same or adjacent IARU locators.

Entries: The entries must be set out on completed log sheets files. A copy of the log files shall be sent to the national ATV Manager, national VHF Manager or the national Contest Committee, not later than the third Monday following the contest weekend. The submission of the log files implies that the entrant accepts these contest rules. Stations in countries without national coordinators should send log files directly to atv@iaru-r1.org. The logs will be send at atv@iaru-r1.org, they will be forwarded to the organizing society

Judging of entries: The judging of the entries shall be the responsibility of the IARU Contest Manager organizing society, whose decision shall be final. Entrants deliberately contravening any of these rules or flagrantly disregarding the IARU Region 1 band plans shall be disqualified. Minor errors may result in loss of points. The claimed contact will be disqualified for an obviously wrongly stated locator, call sign, code number or a time error of more than 10 minutes.

Awards: The winner on each band and the overall leading station shall receive a certificate. The IARU Contest Manager organizing society may also send certificates to all entrants if they

wish-se.