

Third Edition of the *70-MHz and Cross-Band Contest*

GENERAL

After the previous editions of the *70-MHz and Cross-Band Contest*, the Rome branch (“Sezione di Roma”) of the Italian Amateur Radio League - ARI re-proposes the Contest for year 2013, with the main aim to promote the utilization of the 70-MHz band that is getting available in a growing number of countries.

DATE

The 2013 edition takes place on Sunday 9th of June.

TIME

The contest starts at 07:00 UTC and ends at 19:00 UTC (12 hours in total).

THE PLACE

Four meters (70 MHz) and six meters (50 MHz).

SECTIONS

There are three sections:

Section #1 “70-MHz stations”. Stations willing to participate under this section: must be located in a country where the 70 MHz band is authorized; must make all contacts transmitting on 70 MHz only, and receiving either on 70 MHz (*in-band QSOs*) or on 50 MHz (*cross-band QSOs*).

Section #2 “50-MHz stations”. Stations willing to participate under this section: must be located in a country where the 50 MHz band is authorized; must make all contacts transmitting on 50 MHz only, and receiving on 70 MHz only (*cross-band QSOs*).

Section #3 “70-MHz SWL stations”. Stations willing to participate under this section: can be located in any country; may only report 70-MHz receptions of stations participating in the Contest.

Each station shall initially decide the Section in which he intends to participate, and then operate according to the rules of that Section. It is then not allowed to participate in the Contest with part of QSOs made according to the rules of Section #1 and part according to rules of Section #2.

For each section no distinction exists among fixed / portable, single / multi-operator, European / non-European, QRP / QRO stations, or operational mode.

ALLOWED MODES

USB
CW

CONTEST CALL

on USB: “CQ four contest”

on CW: "CQ FC"

EXCHANGE

A contest exchange consists of:

Call-sign;

RS(T);

four-character *WW Locator* (e.g. JN61);

DXCC country (only if the country cannot be easily determined on the basis of call prefix).

FREQUENCIES

70-MHz transmissions may only take place in the authorized band segments and anyway within the 69.900 - 70.500 MHz range. Split-frequency contacts within that range are allowed;

50-MHz transmissions may only take place in the 50.250 - 50.300 MHz range. It may be convenient to transmit on a 5-kHz channelization (i.e. precisely on 50.250, 50.255, 50.260 ... MHz).

SCORE

The score is obtained multiplying the number of worked Contest stations by the total number of worked DXCC countries (including your own country) and then by the total number of worked *WW Locators*:

Score: worked Contest stations * worked DXCC Countries * worked *WW Locators*

A station may be worked just once, with no distinction between USB and CW. Repeated contacts or hears do not then count for the score.

For stations participating in Section #1: when counting the number of worked DXCC countries and *WW Locators* no distinction shall be made between *in-band* and *cross-band* contacts.

OTHER RULES

All licence conditions must be observed

Use of the DX cluster is permitted, however *self-spotting* is not allowed (except, sporadically, for any station having permit to transmit only below 70.000 MHz).

Use of *Internet chats* during the Contest is not allowed.

Non valid contacts are:

those made via active repeaters or passive reflectors (EME).

those made with the aid of a PC (e.g. PSK, JT or other digital modes), except for CW.

ENTRIES

Participation in the Contest is formalized by delivering via e-mail the *Contest Summary*

Sheet and the *Contest Log* within July 30th 2013 to the Contest Manager Giovanni Zangara IW0BET (e-mail: iw0bet@libero.it). **as e-mail subject 70 Mhz contest**. It is the entrant responsibility to verify the delivery acknowledgment, and to solicit it if not received within two days.

II *Contest Summary Sheet* (on PC file, whatever common text format) must show:

- Callsign used;
- Name of callsign licensee;
- Contest section;
- Operator(s);
- Station *WW Locator*;
- E-mail address;
- Regular mail address;
- Working conditions;
- Operational condition (fixed, portable ...);
- Total number of worked stations (after discarding duplicates);
- Total number of worked DXCC countries;
- Total number of worked *WW Locators*;
- Declared score.
- Signature.

Contest Log

For each contact / heard, the *Contest Log* shall show:

- Date;
- Correspondent call-sign;
- Transmit band (or receive band for SWLs);
- Transmit mode (or receive mode for SWLs);
- Given RS(T);
- Received RS(T);
- Correspondent *WW Locator*;
- Correspondent DXCC country;
- If a duplicate contact;
- For stations participating in Section #1: whether the contact is *in-band* or *cross-band*.

The *Contest Log* shall be submitted on PC file in ADIF format. You are kindly required to comply with the ADIF utilization criteria indicated in the Attachment. Submission of file in PDF format instead of ADIF is also acceptable though discouraged.

In absolutely exceptional cases the *Contest Summary Sheet* and the *Contest Log* may be instead submitted via regular mail to the following address: A.R.I. - Sezione di Roma, CP 361, 00187 Roma San Silvestro - Italy.

SCORE

The Contest Scores will be published within September 30th 2013 on the Sezione ARI di Roma web site <http://www.ariroma.it/>.

PRIZES

Prizes consist in personalized plaques and certificates offered by the Contest sponsor, namely Sezione ARI di Roma. In particular:

- a personalized plaque will be given to the Section #1 participant achieving the highest score in absolute;

- a personalized plaque will be given to the Section #2 participant achieving the highest score in absolute (provided that at least two Section #2 logs are submitted);

- a certificate will be given to the Section #1 participant achieving the highest score of his DXCC country (provided that there will be at least two Section #1 competitors of that country). Same thing for participants in Section #2 and Section #3.

DISQUALIFICATION

An entrant may be subjected to disqualification if:

- not strictly observing his licence conditions;

- not strictly observing the Contest frequency limitations;

- claiming contacts / hears that did not actually take place;

- not showing the duplicate contacts / hears in his log;

- self-spotting his call-sign on the DX cluster;

- utilizing the *Internet chats*.

The Contest Manager decision is final.

Attachment - *Contest Log* file specifications

Please make sure that your log program generates at least the following ADIF fields:

Date: field QSO_DATE
Time: field TIME_ON
Correspondent call-sign: field CALL
Transmit band: field BAND
Transmit mode: field MODE
Given RS(T) : field RST_SENT
Received RS(T) : field RST_RCVD
Correspondent *WW Locator*: GRIDSQUARE
Correspondent DXCC country: field DXCC
QSO type: field COMMENT

In the QSO type (COMMENT field) please write:

CB for *cross-band* contacts;
and / or DUP for duplicate contacts.

For an easy management of ADIF files, you are advised to use the free *ADIF Master* program which can be downloaded at <http://www.dxshell.com/>

CONTEST MANAGER
IW0BET
Giovanni Zangara