

John Moyle Memorial National Field Day 2008

24 Hour Portable Operation – Multiple Operator

Call Sign	Operators	Mode	Band	Contacts	Score	Place /Award
VK3ER	Multi	Phone	All	837	11410	1 /*
VK2SRC	Multi	Phone	All	482	7944	2 /*
VK2MA	Multi	Phone	All	759	6106	3 /*
VK2HZ	Multi	Phone	All	409	3740	4 /*
VK4WIS	Multi	Phone	All	331	2436	5
VK2WG	Multi	Phone	All	441	2076	6
VK3BML	Multi	Phone	All	212	1820	7
VK3AWS	Multi	Phone	All	240	1804	8
VK2AOA	Multi	Phone	All	161	1206	9
VK6ARG	Multi	Phone	All	231	1074	10
VK4WSS	Multi	Phone	All	95	712	11
VK4JWH	Multi	Phone	All	236	696	12
VK2BTW	Multi	Phone	All	56	344	13
VK8DA	Multi	Phone	All	81	162	14
VK3FRC	Multi	Phone	VHF	319	7520	1 /*
VK3UHF	Multi	Phone	VHF	217	4310	2 /*
VK2EH	Multi	Phone	VHF	135	3910	3 /*
VK4WIE	Multi	Phone	VHF	177	3316	4 /*
VK5SR	Multi	Phone	VHF	105	2878	5
VK3JTM	Multi	Phone	VHF	68	1482	6
VK2BV	Multi	All	All	368	2000	1 /*
VK2ATZ	Multi	All	HF	1311	2618	1 /*
VK4IZ	Multi	All	HF	1114	2220	2 /*
VK2AWX	Multi	Phone	HF	937	1834	1 /*
VK4BAA	Multi	Phone	HF	647	1290	2 /*
VK5BP	Multi	Phone	HF	369	738	3 /*
VK2AOJ	Multi	Phone	HF	239	478	4
VK4CHB	Multi	Phone	HF	296	592	5
VK6SH	Multi	Phone	HF	134	268	6
VK4WIT	Multi	Phone	HF	117	234	7
VK2LE	Multi	Phone	HF	104	208	8
VK7WCN	Multi	Phone	HF	120	60	9

Six Hour Portable Operation – Multiple Operator

Call Sign	Operators	Mode	Band	Contacts	Score	Award
VK3XPD	Multi	Phone	VHF	131	2590	1 /*
VK3SAA	Multi	Phone	VHF	143	2104	2 /*
VK4WIM	Multi	Phone	HF	9	16	1 /*

24 Hour Portable Operation – Single Operator

Call Sign	Operators	Mode	Band	Contacts	Score	Award
VK4OE	Single	Phone	All	114	2442	1 /*
VK4TRX	Single	Phone	All	181	828	2 /*
VK5KBJ	Single	Phone	All	307	798	3 /*
VK2YJS	Single	Phone	All	33	302	4
VK2FREK	Single	Phone	All	47	130	5 /*
VK3ECH	Single	Phone	VHF	77	1214	1 /*
VK3YLV	Single	Phone	VHF	42	754	2 /*
VK5MFW	Single	Phone	HF	341	682	1 /*
VK4ART	Single	Phone	HF	275	548	2 /*
VK5UKK	Single	Phone	HF	173	346	3 /*
VK4JM	Single	Phone	HF	139	278	4
VK5FAJP	Single	Phone	HF	120	240	5 /*
VK4EV	Single	Phone	HF	90	180	5
VK3MV	Single	CW	HF	22	44	1/* /**

Six Hour Portable Operation – Single Operator

Call Sign	Operators	Mode	Band	Contacts	Score	Award
VK3DCQ	Single	Phone	VHF	95	1442	1 /*
VK1XYZ	Single	Phone	VHF	8	190	2 /*
VK5AGZ	Single	Phone	All	58	236	1 /*
VK4FHYH	Single	Phone	All	46	176	2. /*
VK1AI	Single	All	HF	51	102	1 /*
VK1WJ	Single	All	HF	41	82	2 /*
VK3ZPF	Single	Phone	HF	82	164	1 /*
VK4VCH	Single	Phone	HF	82	162	2 /*
VK2FGAZ	Single	Phone	HF	69	138	3 /*
VK2FDMB	Single	Phone	HF	65	130	4 /*
VK4TGL	Single	Phone	HF	4	8	5

Home Station – 6 Hour

Call Sign	Operators	Mode	Band	Contacts	Score	Award
VK2ZEN	Home	0	0	122	178	1 /*
VK2KDP	Home	0	0	110	169	2 /*
VK7HAY	Home	0	0	95	136	3 /*
VK3KFE	Home	0	0	46	82	4
VK2DAG	Home	0	0	22	71	5
VK4DGU	Home	0	0	12	24	6
VK2FY	Home	0	0	15	24	7
VK2ZTM	Home	0	0	11	19	8
VK8AV	Home	0	0	9	18	9
VK3HV	Home	0	0	9	15	10
VK4FNQA	Home	0	0	4	7	11 /*

/* Certificate Awarded
 /* Participation Certificate
 /** President's Cup

Home Station – 24 Hour

Call Sign	Operators	Mode	Band	Contacts	Score	Award
VK4VDX	Home	0	0	299	443	1 /*
VK2LCD	Home	0	0	238	353	2 /*
VK2AFY	Home	0	0	247	343	3 /*
VK4FABC	Home	0	0	166	263	4 /*
VK3BBB	Home	0	0	111	200	5
VK3YXC	Home	0	0	122	188	6
VK2ENG	Home	0	0	106	185	7
VK4KEL	Home	0	0	104	181	8
VK3FSTU	Home	0	0	113	180	9 /*
VK2HBG	Home	0	0	105	161	10
VK3FABV	Home	0	0	101	158	11 /*
VK3CNE	Home	0	0	101	157	12
VK2BOR	Home	0	0	85	104	13
VK2ASU	Home	0	0	82	138	14
VK2EAH	Home	0	0	73	130	15
VK4BBX	Home	0	0	64	110	16
VK5EMI	Home	0	0	61	101	17
VK2ZTY	Home	0	0	49	94	18
VK4HDX	Home	0	0	47	84	19
VK4AR	Home	0	0	41	82	20
VK4DMC	Home	0	0	46	80	21
VK3IO	Home	0	0	42	77	22
VK2UVP	Home	0	0	42	74	23
VK4ZW	Home	0	0	45	74	24
VK2FMEL	Home	0	0	38	65	25 /*
VK4ION	Home	0	0	32	57	26
VK3KTM	Home	0	0	28	47	27
VK5HLS	Home	0	0	19	38	28
VK6ZMS	Home	0	0	19	34	29
VK6VVV	Home	0	0	16	29	30
VK2BJT	Home	0	0	11	20	31
VK2JNA	Home	0	0	10	15	32
VK2ZZ	Home	0	0	8	14	33

Short Wave Listener – 24 Hour

Call Sign	Operators	Mode	Band	Contacts	Score	Award
Craig Edwards	Portable	0	0	45	90	1 /*

Comments on John Moyle Memorial National Field Day 2008

This year's entries came from every Australian mainland call areas and Tasmania. However this year there were no entries from across the Tasman from ZL. An effort will again be made in 2009 to suggest to the NZART to inspire some more active interest among ZL amateurs. Especially since VK4VCH, who was in New Zealand as a tourist and operated portable in ZL3. All of her contacts were from other than ZL stations. A few did take part and gave out contacts to other stations, but not that many and no logs were submitted.

I have included all of the results that I received in the totals and if any are missing, they are completely lost. I can only offer my apologies to anyone so affected. I am sorry if your log is missing, but it did not get to me despite my most careful procedures and cross checking.

Based upon submitted logs, there were some 17,260 contacts, amounting to some 99,248 points claimed. This was pretty heavy contesting, but unfortunately it resulted in only 104 logs being submitted. This is considerably higher than in previous years.

Unfortunately, the numbers of stations who went to the considerable trouble of going out and setting up as a portable station and then not bothering to submit a log as an entry, is still a disappointment. Some multiple operator stations got very big scores this and perhaps it simply reflects the great and varied planning and implementation efforts required to assemble and operate a multi operator station without operation on one band wiping out the efforts on another band?

Band	S/UHF		VHF		HF	
	Contacts	Points	Contacts	Points	Contacts	Points
24 GHz	3 (0)	30 (0)				
10 GHz	22 (1)	670 (30)				
5.7 GHz	12 (1)	372 (30)				
3.4 GHz	21 (0)	650 (0)				
2.4 GHz	30 (4)	660 (120)				
23cm	224 (94)	4576 (1670)				
70 cm	1116 (777)	17801 (12375)				
2m			2222 (1545)	38718 (24410)		
6m			648 (436)	11049 (6813)		
10m					62 (25)	122 (49)
15m					372 (125)	742 (248)
20m					2206 (1646)	4291 (3276)
40m					5792 (6041)	10867 (11402)
80m					4358 (1831)	8360 (3596)
160m					172 (9)	340 (18)
Total	1428 (877)	24759 (14225)	2870 (1981)	49767 (31223)	12962 (9677)	24722 (18580)

Table should be read – **2008 results in bold** (with (2007 results) in brackets)

This year we had some stations operating on the higher microwave bands up to and including 24 GHz as well as many there were many more contacts on the other microwave bands than in previous years. This is a good outcome and hopefully an indicator for the future?

The other major change noticed this year was the slight increase in Portable Station operation but a very significant increase of Home Station operation. This is not in line with the spirit of the contest, which is to foster portable station operation. Clearly there were many more portable station operators who did not submit a log and are strongly encouraged to do so next year.

Activity was carried out on all bands permitted under the rules. There was very noticeably increased activity on HF, but the frequencies followed the declining sunspot cycle. This is very close to the bottom and so conditions are likely to improve substantially next year. In the higher Microwave bands there considerably more activity than last year, but mainly in the southern states. Maybe it follows a weather cycle, rather than the solar cycle?

There were very high temperatures in VK3 and VK5 which probably limited the number of operators because of the possible Total Fire Ban? VHF and UHF activity increased considerably as well, with the higher scoring reflecting the increased numbers contacts and of the longer distance contacts.

The participation across the various Call Areas was patchy. The greatest changes were in the great increase in the number Home Station logs submitted.

Call Area	Portable		Home		Total	
	2008	2007	2008	2007	2008	2007
VK1	3	2	0	0	3	2
VK2	16	17	18	7	34	24
VK3	13	11	9	4	22	15
VK4	17	16	11	4	28	20
VK5	7	7	2	1	9	8
VK6	2	3	2	0	4	3
VK7	1	1	1	0	2	1
VK8	1	1	1	0	2	1
ZL	0	0	0	2	0	2
P2	0	0	0	0	0	0
	60	58	44	18	104	76
	2008	2007	2008	2007	2008	2007

The scoring on VHF may need further revision as the scores produced on VHF are higher than the scores on HF, where the effort required to get a high score, out weighs the comparative effort on VHF. However, this is not the nature of contesting whereas HF takes time and effort to work the number of stations required, while VHF and UHF requires the vagaries of weak signals to achieve a contact?

Maybe next year we can get a few more portable stations out in the field in VK3? Last year the weather was cold and wet which discouraged portable operation and this year the weather over the contest weekend was very hot and for several days before there was the

chance of a Total Fire Ban? This would be a sure way to discourage portable operation from any remote location. Perhaps the weather could be kinder next time?

Many of the portable stations that went to the effort to send in a log got a certificate. I believe that people who made the effort to set up a portable station and operate should be acknowledged. The rules need a revision to reward such effort? In line with last year the Foundation License logs were awarded a participation certificate for encouragement.

Only ten Foundation Licensed operators bothered to submit a log. (Four were from VK2, two from VK3, three from VK4 and one from VK5.) There were many more than this logged during the contest. Perhaps they can be better advised next year? All logs submitted by foundation operators were awarded a certificate.

For the first time in a number of years a shortwave listener – from the Top End – made the effort of setting up a portable station and managed to log some 45 contacts. Well Done! Perhaps we will receive a Foundation Log from him next year?

There were many more electronic logs submitted this year. This has been due largely to the excellent work by Mike Subocz (VK3AVV) and his worthy program VKCL (VK Contest Log). Those that submitted a log in the VKCL export format were extremely easy to work with. Those that simply forwarded the text output of VKCL were also rather simpler to work with than any paper log completed by hand.

This year, there were still a few individuals or clubs who submitted their log only handwritten on paper, while this can be integrated into the scoring it cannot be easily manipulated electronically and are much harder to use. All logs submitted in an electronic form this year, were fully readable.

This year, the rules stated that EXCEL is the preferred submission format. A sample linked EXCEL logging report was prepared and sent to those who requested this file. (Contact me at vk4aig@hotmail.com if you would like a copy of my linked spreadsheet in EXCEL for next year.) Other suitable file submission formats are WORD or the ADI output file from VKCL (VK Contest Log). Paper logs and scanned files of handwritten logs can also be used, but require considerable manual work on my part to input the data and are not encouraged.

There were a few who complained about the scoring process again this year. These complaints and comments fell into several main categories.

1. The comparative difference in score and scoring between HF and VHF/UHF contacts.

In fact within the John Moyle Contest, the rules allow for some 27 possible alternative categories as shown below. Each category is actually completely independent from every other category and so there are in fact 27 parallel contests. In this way it is completely different from any other contest presently in Australia.

Table of alternative categories

Operators		Modes			Bands		
	Time						
Multi	24	Phone	CW	All	HF	VHF	All
Multi	6	Phone	CW	All	HF	VHF	All
Single	24	Phone	CW	All	HF	VHF	All
Single	6	Phone	CW	All	HF	VHF	All

Home	24
Home	6

SWL	24
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For this reason it is not possible to have overall winner in this contest, as scores from any category especially between different bands and different modes are not comparable. Only scores within the same category are correctly comparable. Hopefully this will explain the most common source of concern.

2. The second most contentious area is the 'Non Phone' modes.

In this contest CW was the only 'non-phone' mode allowed for within the rules. All other forms such as TTY, PSK31, JT65 etc were previously simply treated as CW. However, many comments were received as to whether these 'Digital Modes' could be used. There are many concerns regarding these computer based modes. Mainly to do with the very large scores that could be amassed with a bit of planning and the use of automatic calling CQ.

- (a) What assurance can be given that the contacts were in fact using a human operator and not simply a fully automatic station?
- (b) Do these modes allow for the exchange of correctly formatted numbers as required by the rules? (Some modes use specially shortened calling cycles and their own detailed exchange methods)
- (c) Would a further 'Digital Mode' be required in the rules to cope with the range of options?
- (d) What distinct modes among the many available options are acceptable?
- (e) What format would the log output require to be to present the contact exchange information in an acceptable form?
- (f) Would a separate 'Digital Only Contest' be the better solution by creating a more even playing field?

There were no comments raised last year when the results were published and so a trial was included in the rules this year for these modes, but no logs were submitted so the matter remains a moot point. I intend to leave them in the rules for 2009.

3. Next, we have a rather non contentions issue of scoring for CW (hand) contacts.

A few people made comments that they had wanted to make CW contacts and others were not prepared or not able to exchange numbers in CW. In addition there were very few logs actually submitted claiming CW contacts.

The comment was made that CW is probably dead or at least close to dying.

A further suggestion was made to allocate a higher point score to a CW contact.

While CW is no longer a precondition for obtaining an Amateur licence, it is a skill that is widely distributed among existing operators and a skill that should be nurtured among the newer licence holders.

As only one log was submitted in the CW only category so it is clear that a change will be required in the rules to promote a little more interest in the mode. It is my view that to enhance the number of CW contacts a higher point scoring could be allocated for contacts completed in CW compared to a 'Phone' contact. This will be introduced in the 2009 contest.

4. The number of people who submitted logs claiming 'All Modes' and only logged contacts using SSB of FM.

The Modes allowed in the rules are PHONE (SSB or FM) and CW (Manual or Digital Mode).

The PHONE Modes are SSB, DSB, FM or AM. That is the modulation is an audio signal derived in the first instance from a microphone.

The alternative is CW, either hand or computer derived that simply turns the carrier on and off.

Only five logs were submitted with all mode and one with CW only.

5. The complexity of the VHF/UHF scoring system that differs from all of the other contests conducted in these bands in Australia.

It is agreed that the different scoring system between the John Moyle Memorial National Field Day Contest, compared with the Ross Hull and the Spring & Summer Field Day contests, makes for a marked degree of confusion. I have received quite a number of comments in this regard and I intend to discuss with the other contest managers these contests possibility of a comparable method of scoring on VHF and UHF.

The rules have been evolved over time and reflect a changing climate as far as VHF/UHF operations. The relative ease of setting up an efficient station with modern equipment may overly reward the effort involved?

It is maybe time to reconsider the scoring principles involved and the method of calculating scores. I again look forward to and welcome any feedback on this topic.

6. Finally there was discussion about the massive scores accumulated by multi-operator club stations being so much higher could possibly be achieved by a single operator.

It is my view Multi-operator stations and Single operator stations already are separate categories and so are not competing against each other. Looking at the scoring above it is clear that a capable single operator can produce a very creditable score.

I do not think any difference in scoring rate between single and multi stations will achieve anything more than providing more confusion. I however, look forward to any further comments.

7. Finally there is the very low number of CW only logs and the award of the President's cup.

As there was only one entrant who submitted a CW Only log they automatically collect the President's cup. Not in any way to discourage CW operation it is considered that this award may have reached the end of its useful life as it is not really a contest when if you all you only have to have the stamina to make a few contacts and submit a log?

Perhaps, as suggested by this year's winner, that there is a good argument that the President's Cup should be awarded to the club Station with the highest overall score, or the highest individual score? I welcome any submissions on this topic and we can put a case to the President for a change of rules in this matter.

Now it is over to you.

If you have any contribution to these topics, the Rules for this contest available at the new WIA web site at <http://www.wia.org.au> which already contains my contact information and feel free to contact me with your submission. If sufficient interest is raised it can be assembled into a topic for subsequent publication in AR?

Well done to all of those stations that participated in the contest and well done those who bothered to submit a log. It is hoped that the number of logs to be submitted next year will continue the current trend of increased log numbers.

I wish to thank those who did send in photographs of their equipment set-up and personnel involved for inclusion in the AR magazine. These have been submitted to AR along with this report so please give Peter Freeman vk3kai@qsl.net anything else you have for later use for the magazine.

Denis Johnstone (VK4AIG/VK3ZUX)
Contest Manager

Breakdown of Contacts by Call Area and Band

SHF/UHF/VHF BANDS

	24 G P	24 G C	10G P	10G C	5.7G P	5.7G C	3.4G P	3.4G C	2.4G P	2.4G C	1.2G P	1.2G C	70cm P	70cm C	2m P	2m C	6m P	6m C
VK1	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	30 1168	21 44	160 2048	6 66	0 154	0 9
VK2	0 0	0 0	0 30	0 1	0 30	0 1	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	554 230	42 15	6081 3071	332 161	15057 7941	767 373	2894 1952	156 94
VK3	30 0	3 0	440 0	16 0	192 0	8 0	340 0	14 0	430 90	25 30	3202 1432	161 75	8345 6091	471 371	15725 9726	878 618	7136 4077	368 249
VK4	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	300 520	9 58	2175 1189	192 108	6340 2653	404 317	827 422	102 61
VK5	0 0	0 0	230 0	6 0	180 0	4 0	310 0	7 0	230 0	5 0	520 0	12 0	826 856	73 93	904 2490	81 170	192 208	22 23
VK6	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	344 0	46 0	530 0	85 0	0 0	0 0
VK7	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0
VK8	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	2 2	1 1	0 0	0 0
ZL	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0
2008 2007	30 0	3 0	670 30	22 1	372 30	12 1	650 0	21 0	660 120	30 4	4576 1670	224 94	17801 12375	1116 777	38718 24410	2222 1545	11049 6813	648 436

Numbers in Bold are for 2008 and other details are from 2007

Breakdown of Contacts by Call Area and Band

HF BANDS

	10m P	10m C	15m P	15m C	20m P	20m C	40m P	40m C	80m P	80m C	160m P	160m C
VK1	0 2	0 1	0 0	0 0	28 24	14 12	134 486	67 243	22 76	11 38	0 0	0 0
VK2	12 3	7 2	73 40	37 20	1332 726	693 365	5059 4231	2711 2333	4097 1277	2141 600	208 0	106 0
VK3	2 0	1 0	0 4	0 2	185 167	96 85	1194 644	664 346	829 317	443 163	20 6	10 3
VK4	68 40	34 20	595 192	298 97	1923 1658	983 837	3027 3959	1600 2076	2190 1278	1143 644	94 12	47 6
VK5	40 2	20 1	66 10	33 5	412 366	211 184	1173 1663	590 833	956 474	480 237	18 0	9 0
VK6	0 0	0 0	4 0	2 0	287 126	147 63	92 298	46 149	148 94	74 47	0 0	0 0
VK7	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	22 108	11 54	134 96	87 48	100 64	57 32	0 0	0 0
VK8	0 2	0 1	4 2	2 1	102 50	51 25	54 4	27 2	18 0	9 0	0 0	0 0
ZL	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 42	0 21	0 21	0 11	0 16	0 10	0 0	0 0
2008 2007	122 49	62 25	742 248	372 125	4291 3267	2206 1646	10867 11402	5792 6041	8360 3596	4358 1831	340 18	172 9

Numbers in Bold are for 2008 and other details are from 2007