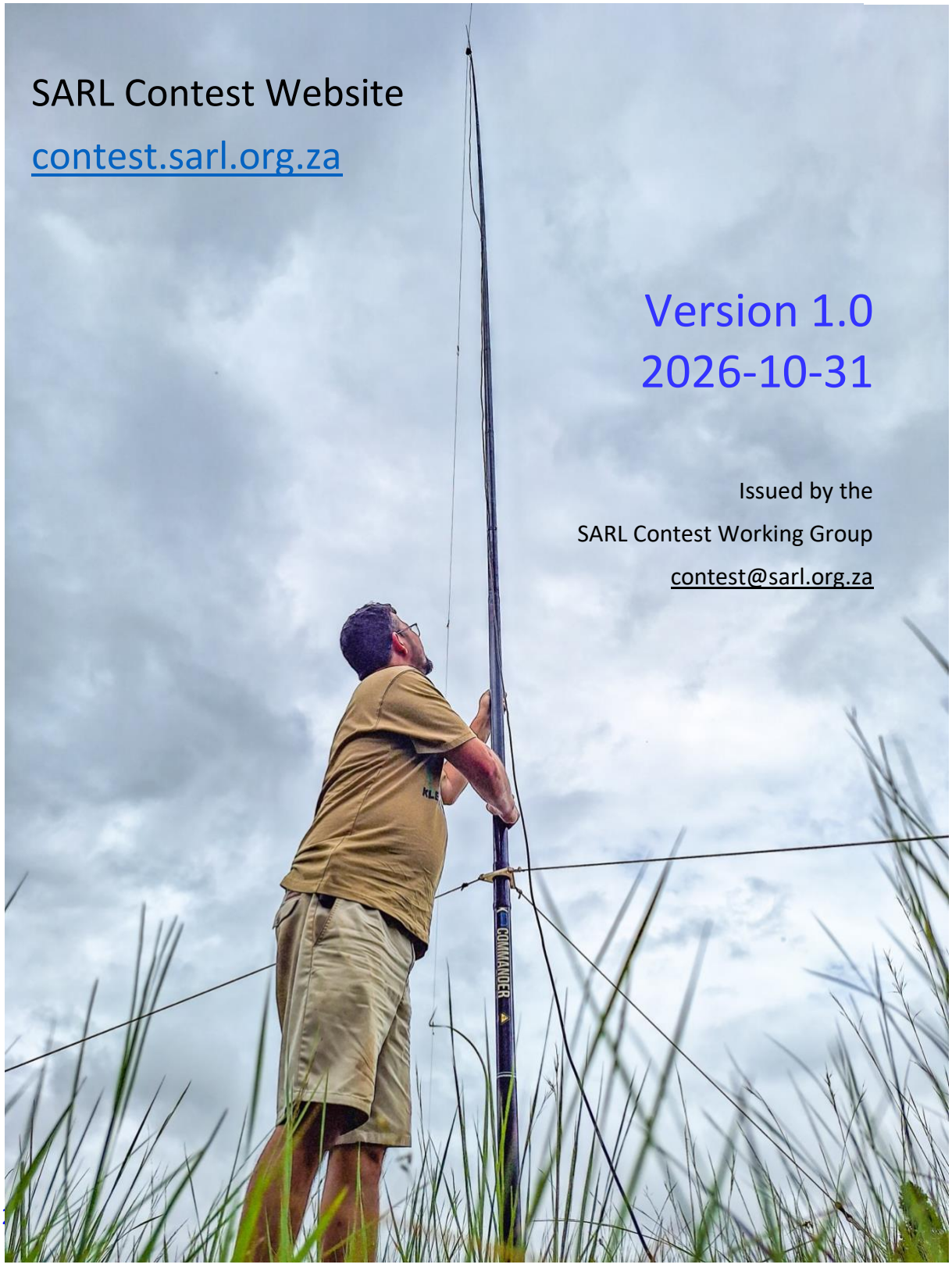
The South African Radio League Die Suid-Afrikaanse Radioliga

The 2027 South African Radio League Contest Manual

SARL Contest Website

contest.sarl.org.za



Version 1.0
2026-10-31

Issued by the
SARL Contest Working Group
contest@sarl.org.za

The 2027 South African Radio League
Contest Manual or "The Blue Book"

This is the twenty-third edition of the Blue Book, the South African Radio League Contest Manual containing the rules of the following contests and activities. The first contest manual was published with a **blue** cover – that is where the term Blue Book comes from.

Each contest's rules need to be read in conjunction with the General Rules contained herein.

We would like to express our grateful appreciation to the willingness of the sponsor clubs to run the various contests for the year 2027.

The Contest Working Group has implemented a log upload page which must be used for all log submissions in 2027 at https://mysarl.org.za/contests/uploads.php.

Please circulate the Blue Book amongst your amateur friends and send your comments to contest@sarl.org.za

Good contesting,

SARL Contest Working Group

Relevant links:

- SARL Contest Resources Page is at contest.sarl.org.za and contains resources useful to contesters (this Manual, contest calendars and individual contest log sheets)
- To become a member of the Contest Information WhatsApp group – e-mail a request including your call sign and mobile number to contest@sarl.org.za
- Add the SARL Contest Calendar to your mobile's calendar application by using the link that can be found above the calendar window at https://mysarl.org.za/contest-resources/
- Contest specific excel log sheets for most contests are available for download at contest.sarl.org.za which points at https://mysarl.org.za/contest-resources/
- For aspiring and first time contesters look at the SARL General Contest Information Sheet available at the end of this manual
- HF Happenings Newsletter subscribe at HFHappenings+subscribe@groups.io
- Band Plans https://mysarl.org.za/bandplans/

This Contest Manual is an official South African Radio League document.

Daar is ongelukkig nie 'n Afrikaanse weergawe nie.

HYPERLINKS to Contests and QSO Parties

Click on a Contest or QSO party name below to go directly to the relative section.

SARL HF PHONE, DIGITAL AND CW CONTESTS	23
SARL NATIONAL FIELD DAY	26
SARL VHF/UHF FM MODE CONTEST	31
SARL EQUINOX 6M AFRICAN DX ENTITY CHALLENGE	33
SARL WEDNESDAY 80 M CLUB CONTEST	35
SARL SATURDAY 40 M CLUB CONTEST	37
SARL SATURDAY 20 M CLUB CONTEST	39
SARL HAMNET 40 M SIMULATED EMERGENCY CONTEST	41
SARL QRP CONTESTS	43
AFRICA FT4 DX CONTEST	45
AFRICA ALL MODE INTERNATIONAL DX CONTEST	47
SARL TOP BAND QSO PARTY	52
SARL 80 M QSO CHALLENGE	54
ZS1 QSO PARTY	56
ZS2 QSO PARTY	57
ZS3 QSO PARTY	58
ZS4 QSO PARTY	59
ZS5 QSO PARTY	60
SARL NEWBIE QSO PARTY	61
SARL YOUTH QSO PARTY	63
SARL YL QSO PARTY	64
ANTIQUE WIRELESS ASSOCIATION CW ACTIVITY DAY	65
ANTIQUE WIRELESS ASSOCIATION VALVE SSB QSO PARTY	66
HAMSAT-SA ZS QO-100 QSO PARTY	67
ISS CONTACT SESSION	68
EARLY MORNING COFFEE QSO PARTY	69
ZS SOTA ACTIVITY WEEKENDS	71
PEARS NATIONAL VHF/UHF CONTEST	72
HAPPY HOLIDAY HUNT EVENT	75

Date Ordered List of Contests

Times are UTC.

Contest	Day	Date	UTC start	UTC end	Multi day
Start of ISS Contact Session	Friday	2027/01/01	00:01		*
PEARS National VHF/UHF Contest - Session 1	Friday	2027/01/08	16:00	14:00	*
PEARS National VHF/UHF Contest - Session 2	Saturday	2027/01/09	14:00	12:00	*
SARL QRP Contest	Saturday	2027/01/16	07:00	09:00	
SARL Saturday 40 m Club Contest	Saturday	2027/01/23	15:00	16:00	
Antique Wireless Association CW Activity Day	Sunday	2027/02/07	13:00	15:00	
HamSat-SA ZS QO-100 QSO Party	Sunday	2027/02/14	13:00	15:00	
SARL Wednesday 80 m Club Contest	Wednesday	2027/02/17	17:00	18:00	
SARL HAMNET 40 m Simulated Emergency Contest	Sunday	2027/03/07	12:00	14:00	
SARL YL QSO Party	Saturday	2027/03/06	14:00	15:00	
SARL National Field Day	Saturday	2027/03/13	08:00	10:00	*
Start March Equinox 6m African DX Entity Challenge	Tuesday	2027/03/16	00:01		*
SARL Saturday 20 m Club Contest	Saturday	2027/03/20	11:00	12:00	
Africa All Mode International DX Contest	Saturday	2027/03/27	12:00	12:00	*
SARL 80 m QSO Party	Thursday	2027/04/01	17:00	20:00	
SARL QRP Contest	Saturday	2027/04/03	13:30	15:30	
Africa FT4 DX Contest	Saturday	2027/04/10	15:00	18:00	
ZS4 QSO Party	Sunday	2027/04/11	14:00	15:00	
End March Equinox 6m African DX Entity Challenge	Friday	2027/04/16		23:59	*
End of ISS Contact Session	Friday	2027/04/30		21:59	*
SARL Saturday 40 m Club Contest	Saturday	2027/05/01	15:00	16:00	
Antique Wireless Association SSB Valve QSO Party	Sunday	2027/05/02	13:00	17:00	
Early Morning Coffee QSO Party	Wednesday	2027/05/12	04:00	05:00	
ZS SOTA Activity Weekend	Saturday	2027/05/22	00:00	21:59	*
ZS3 QSO Party	Sunday	2027/05/16	14:00	15:00	
SARL Wednesday 80 m Club Contest	Wednesday	2027/05/19	17:00	18:00	
SARL Top Band QSO Contest	Thursday	2027/06/24	23:59	21:59	*
SARL VHF/UHF FM Mode Contest	Saturday	2027/06/12	10:00	13:00	
SARL Youth QSO Party	Wednesday	2027/06/16	12:00	13:00	
SARL Saturday 20 m Club Contest	Saturday	2027/06/19	11:00	12:00	
SARL Newbie QSO Party	Saturday	2027/07/03	11:00	16:00	
ZS5 QSO Party	Sunday	2027/07/04	14:00	15:00	
SARL QRP Contest	Saturday	2027/07/17	07:00	09:00	
ZS2 QSO Party	Sunday	2027/07/18	14:00	15:00	
SARL Saturday 40 m Club Contest	Saturday	2027/07/24	15:00	16:00	
ZS1 QSO Party	Sunday	2027/07/25	16:00	17:00	
SARL HF Phone Contest	Sunday	2027/08/01	14:00	17:00	
SARL YL QSO Party	Monday	2027/08/09	14:00	15:00	

SARL HF Digital Contest	Sunday	2027/08/08	13:00	16:00	
SARL Youth QSO Party	Saturday	2027/08/14	12:00	13:00	
SARL Wednesday 80 m Club Contest	Wednesday	2027/08/18	17:00	18:00	
SARL HF CW Contest	Sunday	2027/08/22	14:00	17:00	
SARL National Field Day	Saturday	2027/09/04	08:00	10:00	*
Africa FT4 DX Contest	Saturday	2027/09/11	15:00	18:00	
Start Sept Equinox 6m African DX Entity Challenge	Thursday	2027/09/16	00:01		*
ZS SOTA Activity Weekend	Saturday	2027/09/18	00:00	21:59	*
SARL 80 m QSO Party	Thursday	2027/10/07	17:00	20:00	
Antique Wireless Association SSB Valve QSO Party	Sunday	2027/10/03	13:00	17:00	
Early Morning Coffee QSO Party	Wednesday	2027/10/13	04:00	05:00	
End Sept Equinox 6m African DX Entity Challenge	Saturday	2027/10/16		23:59	*
SARL Wednesday 80 m Club Contest	Wednesday	2027/10/20	17:00	18:00	
SARL VHF/UHF FM Mode Contest	Saturday	2027/10/30	10:00	13:00	
SARL QRP Contest	Saturday	2027/11/06	13:30	15:30	
SARL Saturday 20 m Club Contest	Saturday	2027/11/13	11:00	12:00	
SARL Newbie QSO Party	Saturday	2027/11/20	11:00	16:00	
SARL Saturday 40 m Club Contest	Saturday	2027/11/27	15:00	16:00	
Start SARL Happy Holiday Hunt Event	Tuesday	2027/12/14	20:00		*
End SARL Happy Holiday Hunt Event	Saturday	2028/01/15		20:00	*

Add the SARL Contest Calendar to your own Calendar

Above the calendar can be found on the web page at https://mysarl.org.za/contest-resources/ where there is a link that will enable you to add the SARL Contest Calendar to your calendar. Any changes or updates made by the SARL will then show dynamically in your calendar.

Table of Contents Page

HYPERLINKS to Contests and QSO Parties	3
Date Ordered List of Contests	4
Add the SARL Contest Calendar to your own Calendar	4
The Amateur's Code / Die Amateur se Kode	7
Annual International Activities	8
Non-Competitive Activities	9
The SARL General Contest Rules	10
The DX Code of Conduct	22
SARL Awards	77
Abbreviated Club Callsigns List	80
African AF DXCC Entity List	82
SARL General Contest Information Sheet	85
Changes made 2026 to 2027	88

Update record

Version 1.0:

1. No updates – first issue

The Amateur's Code

CONSIDERATE…

Never knowingly operates in such a way as to lessen the pleasure of others.

LOYAL…

offers loyalty, encouragement and support to other amateurs, local clubs and the South African Radio League, through which Amateur Radio in South Africa is represented nationally and internationally.

PROGRESSIVE…

with knowledge abreast of science, a well-built and efficient station and operation above reproach.

FRIENDLY…

slow and patient operating when requested; friendly advice and counsel to the beginner; kindly assistance, cooperation and consideration for the interests of others. These are the hallmarks of the amateur spirit.

BALANCED…

radio is an avocation, never interfering with duties owed to family, job, school or community.

PATRIOTIC…

station and skill always ready for service to country and community.

Die Amateur se Kode

BEDAGSAAM...

Die amateur is ‘n ware heer. Hy sal nooit bewustelik of moedswillig die radiogolwe op so ‘n wyse vir sy eie genot aanwend om daardeur die genot vir ander te bederf nie.

LOJAAL...

Die Amateur is lojaal teenoor die Suid-Afrikaanse Radioliga en bied sy ondersteuning aan. Hy lê hom neer by die onderneming wat die SARL aan die owerheid beloof het.

PROGRESSIEF...

Die Amateur is progressief en sy stasie is in tred met die wetenskap. Sy bedienings praktyk is netjies en ordelik.

VRIENDELIK...

Die Amateur is vriendelik en verdraagsaam wanneer aan hom ‘n versoek gerig word. Hy verstrek geredelik raad aan alle amateurs en verleen hulp en samewerking in die gees van amateur radio.

EWEWIGTIG...

Die Amateur is ewewigtig en laat nie toe dat sy stokperdjie met sy gesinslewe, werk of gemeenskap inmeng nie.

PATRIOTIES...

Die Amateur is patrioties, sy kennis en stasie is altyd vir sy land en gemeenskap beskikbaar.

Annual International Activities

Contest	Date/s	Reference for details
CQ DX Marathon	1 January to 31 December	https://www.dxmarathon.com/
RSGB Commonwealth Contest (CW)	Second weekend of March	www.rsgbcc.org/hf/rules/2020/rberu.shtml
CQ World-Wide WPX Contest – SSB	Last weekend of March	https://cqwpx.com/
CQ World-Wide WPX Contest – CW	last weekend of May	https://cqwpx.com/
IARU HF World Championship	The second full weekend of July each year	www.arrl.org/iaru-hf-world-championship
IARU Region 1 Field day SSB	First (full) weekend in September	https://www.darc.de/der-club/referate/conteste/iaru-region-1-fieldday/rules/
CQ World-Wide RTTY DX Contest	last full weekend of September	www.cqwwrtty.com
CQ World-Wide DX SSB	Last weekend of October	https://www.cqww.com/
CQ World-Wide DX CW	Last weekend of November	https://www.cqww.com/
Youngsters on the Air December Month	1 to 31 December	https://contest.ham-yota.com/

Non-Competitive Activities

World Amateur Radio Day: 18 April

The World Amateur Radio Day is held on 18 April annually. https://www.iaru.org/on-the-air/world-amateur-radio-day .

International QRP Day: 17 June

Get on the air using QRP power and make as many contacts as you can. Utilise the various amateur modes.

International Lighthouse and Lightship Weekend: third weekend of August annually

The basic objective of the event is to promote public awareness of lighthouses and lightships and their need for preservation and restoration and at the same time to promote amateur radio and to foster international goodwill. Lighthouses are fast becoming an endangered species with the introduction of Global Positioning Systems and Satellite Navigation and the automation of the light source to solar power, which has resulted in the withdrawal of management personnel (Keepers). It is hoped that this event will highlight this situation and help prevent further desecration of these magnificent structures all around the world. https://illw.net/.

It is suggested that procedure for calling CQ should include “Lighthouse” or “lightship” depending on which the radio station is situated. The station will then immediately be identified as a “ILLW” station.

Logs to secretary@sarl.org.za for certificate requests.

Jamboree-on-the-Air/CQ Hou Koers: third weekend of October annually

Radio amateurs and members of the Voortrekker, Scout and Guide movements, allowing the youth and their leaders to exchange greetings with Voortrekkers, Scouts and Guides in South Africa and beyond the borders.

SARL General Contest Rules

1. General

1.1 These contest rules apply to all South African Radio League and Club contests with effect from 1 January 2027. Contestants must also comply with the specific rules of each contest.

1.2 Complaints or suggestions regarding rules may be submitted in writing to the Contest Working Group at contest@sarl.org.za. Kindly ensure that reasons are provided motivating a change to a contest or a rule as this supports fair consideration of a proposal. Submissions will be collated and considered for possible future revision of the Contest Manual.

1.3 All operations shall be conducted in accordance with the limitations of the entrant's Radio Amateur licence and within the rules and spirit of the contest.

2. Advertising the Contest

Should a contest sponsor want something additional advertised about their contest they should send it to news@sarl.org.za two weeks ahead of the contest.

3. Proposed Events or Contests

Proposals for any new contests or other on-the-air activities may be submitted to the South African Radio League Contest Manager by 31 July annually for consideration and inclusion in the following year's Contest Manual and Official Calendar of Events. For contest sponsoring see item 18 Contest Suggestion Procedure.

4. Definitions

These general definitions and their limitations will apply unless the contest in question states otherwise.

4.1 Operator Types

4.1.1 SO - Single Operator. A SO station is a station manned by one individual operator transmitting not more than one signal on one running frequency at any time. (Sun City - SC11_C4_03)

4.1.2 SOSB - Single Operator Single Band. A SOSB station is a SO station operated on one single amateur band.

4.1.3 SOMB - Single Operator Multi Band. A SOMB station is a SO station operating on any of the bands specified in the contest rules.

4.1.4 MO - Multi-operator. A station operated by more than one person, either for the entire duration of the contest or part of the time, under one call sign. There is no limitation on the number of operators that may be used. One operator must act as Entrant and submit the entry under the single callsign that the station operated under.

4.1.5 MOMT - Multi Operator Multi Transmitter. A MOMT station is a MO station transmitting not more than one signal per band at any time.

4.1.6 MOST - Multi Operator Single Transmitter. A MOST station is a multi-operator station transmitting not more than one signal on not more than one running frequency on a band at any time. (Sun City - SC11_C4_01)

4.1.7 MCST – Multi-Call Sign Single Transmitter. A MCST station is a multi-call sign station transmitting not more than one signal on not more than one running frequency on a band at any time. This category can be used for example by husband-and-wife teams and by Clubs training novices in the art of contesting.

4.2 QRP - Power limited to 5-watt PEP output.

4.3 QRPP - Power limited to 1 watt PEP or less output.

4.4 SWL - Short Wave Listener. A single person using only one receiver.

4.5 Station Equipment: Includes all devices used to emit and receive radio waves (transmitters, receivers and antennas) used for a contest. All equipment for a station must be located within a circle with a radius of 500m. All antennas used by the entrant must be physically connected to the transmitters and receivers used by the entrant. Remote operation of a station is permitted.

4.6 Station Types

4.6.1 Fixed Station: A station, which is operated from and located at the registered main station address of a licensee as shown on a radio station licence, regardless of the call sign being used for the contest. Except in the case of MCST stations normally shared by several licensees (eg relatives), only one call sign may be used by the station for the duration of the contest.

4.6.2 Field Station: A temporary station, operated from a location other than that of the registered main station address of a licensed amateur. Antennas may not be supported by any permanent man-made structure or building. The power for the station shall be drawn from a source, other than the mains supply, such as batteries, portable generator, solar power, wind power or some alternative source of power. Storage batteries may be recharged during the contest by any of the above alternative power sources, including a motor vehicle, but a mains supply may not be used for this purpose.

4.6.3 Backyard Stations. Such stations are located in the garden/outside the home and must comply with the requirements of a Field Station. All equipment (including antennas) must lie within a circle whose diameter does not exceed 100 metres. All contacts must be made with transmitter(s) and receiver(s) operating independent of mains power.

4.6.4 Portable Field Station: A Field Station that is in its entirety carried by the operator to the place of operation.

4.7 Electronic Log. This constitutes a log sheet file submitted via the upload page at https://mysarl.org.za/contests/uploads.php.

4.8 “Unique” QSO - a QSO with a counterparty where the counterparty’s callsign appears in only one of the logs received for the contest.

5. Contacts

5.1 Definition of a valid QSO:

A valid contact is one where both operators during the contact have:

1. Mutually identified each other
2. Received a report and
3. Received a confirmation of the successful identification and the reception of the report.

It is emphasized that the responsibility always lies with the operator for the integrity of the contact. (Sun City SC11_C4_Rec12).

5.2 A contact consists of the acknowledgement of receipt of a call sign and contest data such as RS(T) report and any required exchange such as consecutive incrementing serial number commencing from 001.

5.3 Each QSO claimed for competition credit must include contemporaneous direct initiation by the operator on both sides of the contact. Initiation of a contact may be locally or by remote. Contemporaneous = existing at or occurring in the same period of time and the operator must be in control of all the processes. In plain English – a live, air breathing radio amateur must be at both ends of the QSO.

5.4 Note that if the contest exchange includes the RS(T) report, the RS(T) must be logged as given during the exchange. It is acceptable to include DX stations outside of the ZS call areas. If the DX station does not reply with the correct contest exchange, the RS(T) exchange is the minimum, it is still incumbent upon the contestant to send the full contest exchange.

5.5 Contestants must log the information that they are supplied in the exchange, irrespective of whether the corresponding contestant is providing questionable, incorrect or false information. If a contestant realises or suspects that the exchanged information is incorrect during the QSO then it is up to the contestant to query this at the time, and irrespective to log what was finally provided during the QSO. Where there is verifiable proof that one of the parties provided incorrect information, that party may be penalised (not the receiving party).

5.6 Duplicate contacts must be logged, with zero points claimed, as the counterparty contestant may score a different duplicate.

5.7 A QSO that started before the end-time bound of the contest, but completes after the end of the contest may be logged for points provided that the QSO is concluded and logged within 60 seconds of the completion time of the contest. This does not apply to digital modes where the time logging is automatic and all QSOs must be completed within the contest's duration bounds.

5.8 Cross-band, repeater, digipeaters and gateway contacts do not count.

5.9 Proof of making a contact may be required.

5.10 International Contesters submitting a log for a SARL contest must minimally have a QSO with a station based in the target area of the SARL contest in their log to qualify for participation in the contest. These areas being variously ZS/ZR/ZU, SADC DX entities and/or African DX entities, depending on the SARL contest scope.

6. Electronic Logs

6.1 UTC time must always be used in Logbooks and Log Sheets.

6.2 Participants may only submit electronic logs in Excel. Where specific contest rules allow for it; Cabrillo logs complying to the SARL standard may be submitted, or a format as defined/required specifically for the contest. Each contest's rules specifically indicate what electronic log sheet format or formats may be submitted for that contest, where the rules are silent then the default format of an excel log sheet is required.

6.3 Contest specific Excel log sheets for most contests are available for download at contest.sarl.org.za

6.4 See the SARL Cabrillo format standard (available in the Contest Software and Logging sections on mysarl.org.za) for details of the required header contents and QSO format for a Cabrillo file for each contest where Cabrillo logs may be submitted.

6.5 Where a contest requires only Excel log submission, Cabrillo and other formats like ADIF/.adi must be converted and entered into the Excel log sheet and submitted. There is an ADIF to excel converter available in the contest section of mysarl.org.za.

6.6 For contests requiring serial numbers, a single consecutive numbering sequence starting with 001 (or 0001), shall be used for all contacts. However, a multi-operator station transmitting on several bands simultaneously may at their discretion use separate number sequences for each band.

6.7 The following declaration is to be included in the Excel log file:

I declare that this station was operated in accordance with the Amateur Radio Regulations, Terms of my Licence and the Rules of the Contest. I have read and accept to abide by the contest specific and contest general rules in the latest version of the SARL Contest Manual. I accept decisions of the Contest Working Group relating to this log. By submitting my contest log, I agree to these conditions and that my name, callsign, log, adjudicated contest score and any submitted photographs, may be published by the SARL and/or contest sponsor.

Irrespective of the above, all logs received from individuals, clubs and teams relating to the contests in the SARL Contest Manual will be deemed to have consented to the above, unless the submitter specifically indicates otherwise.

7. Log Submission

All contest log sheets for the contests in this SARL Contest Manual must be uploaded using the SARL Contest Log Upload page on the SARL website at https://mysarl.org.za/contests/uploads.php.

Immediate email confirmation from contest@sarl.org.za, with the uploaded log attached, will be sent to the contestant (and the contest evaluator) after the upload of a log.

In the event of the log upload page being **unavailable,** logs should be emailed to contest@sarl.org.za and the attached log file name MUST contain the callsign operated on air and the contest name.

8. Log Submission Closing Date, Evaluation and Announcement of Results

This applies to all contests, whether SARL contests or Club Sponsored contests and is the standard operating procedure for all contests.

8.1 Contest entry log sheets in Excel format or a format as specified by in a the contest's rules (eg Cabrillo or ADIF) shall be uploaded at https://mysarl.org.za/contests/uploads.php after the contest ends or during the 5 days thereafter, with the deadline being 23:59 CAT/SA time on the 5th day. As an example, if a contest ends at 18:00 UTC on a Saturday then logs must be uploaded by 21:59 UTC (23:59 SA time) on the Thursday thereafter.

No new log submissions will be accepted after this deadline.

This submission period applies to all South African Radio League contests. If the Contest Sponsor has requested a different log submission period this will reflect in that contest's rules.

8.2 Log Quality Check and Correction

8.2.1 All uploaded logs will be put through a quality check by the contest's evaluator. Logs that fail the quality check will be returned to the contestant for correction, with a description of the errors found, in the three days after the log submission deadline.

8.2.2 A contestant whose log is returned for correction has 48 hours from the time the log was returned to them to correct it and upload it again at https://mysarl.org.za/contests/uploads.php. Only logs returned for correction may be uploaded after the submission deadline in 8.1.

8.2.3 Where a corrected log is not received within the 48 hours, the log as originally submitted will be evaluated in terms of General Rule 14.2.

8.3 All logs received by the log upload system will be transferred to the contest sponsor / responsible evaluator for evaluation immediately after the log submission period closes.

8.4 The Contest Sponsor / responsible evaluator shall compile a list of the uploaded, evaluated, corrected and accepted scores within fourteen days of the closing log submission date of the contest or party, unless the contest's own rules specify otherwise.

8.5 The log evaluator must respond to each log submitted, by 'replying all' to the upload confirmation e-mail (which they receive as CC), attaching a corrected log or providing a statement in the e-mail that the log was accepted as submitted and also state that the results will be available at https://mysarl.org.za/contest-results/.

8.6 The full contest results must then be e-mailed to contest-results@sarl.org.za which automatically sends on the results to the Contest Working Group, the editor of HF Happenings and the SARL News compilers/editors for publication.

8.6.1 The results should be attached to the e-mail in two formats – a pdf file for public distribution and an Excel or MSword file for use as input to SARL publications.

8.6.2 The two files should contain the full contest/party results and any details about the contest that the contest sponsor would like published.

8.6.3 Individual log details to be provided in the following order:

1st [first name] [call sign] [points achieved]

2nd [first name] [call sign] [points achieved] …

For all the logs received and evaluated, excluding check logs.

Additional details where necessary, such as club affiliation, to be appended at the end of each line.

8.7 The Contest Working Group will publish the pdf results of the contest in the SARL Contest Information WhatsApp group as well as at https://mysarl.org.za/contest-results .

8.8 The contest sponsor will be responsible for awarding the prizes for their contest.

9. Locators

In all contests where stations are required to transmit their location as part of the exchange, the Maidenhead Grid Locator System shall be used. A grid locator consists of two letters followed by two numbers. For certain contests, the requirement is to exchange six character grid square information.

To determine your Maidenhead grid locator (grid square) look at https://mysarl.org.za/contest-software-and-logging/ where there are links and references to mobile applications.

10. Prizes, Awards and Certificates

10.1 Unless stated differently in the contest specific rules, the following will apply to all South African Radio League contests.

10.2 SARL Awards and Trophies will only be awarded to South African Radio League members. A SARL member being an ICASA licensed Radio Amateur or licensed Club who submit contest logs and are members of the SARL as defined in Rule 1 of the SARL Constitution and Rules May 2026 or later if amended.

10.3 Where a contestant in terms of the rules for a contest qualifies for a certificate they may apply to the sponsor of the contest for a PDF Format certificate. This must be done within 2 months of the end of the contest. Some contest sponsors may issue certificates for their contest to all who qualify for certificates. For the SARL own contests, namely those that do not have a sponsor club, certificate requests should be sent to contest@sarl.org.za.

10.4 To increase the awareness and participation of the younger amateurs (under 26s), it has been decided that for all the South African Radio League contests to give separate recognition for the best performing youngsters in 1st, 2nd or 3rd places. The Under 26 (U26) group still compete with the main field and stand a chance to win a place in the standings as per normal. All youngsters that qualify as Under 26 must state their age when submitting their log so that they can be recognised.

11. Contest preferred spectrum

11.1 The following frequencies is an extract from the IARU Region 1 band plan available on the SARL website.

When the revised IARU HF Band Plan is implemented (giving the digital modes more space), the list below will be updated.

The frequencies below are the dial frequency that the operator sees and logs.

160 metres
CW: 1 810 – 1 838 kHz
SSB: 1843 – 2 000 kHz
PSK: 1 838 – 1 840 kHz

80 metres
CW: 3 510 – 3 560 kHz
SSB: 3 603 - 3 650 kHz and 3 700 – 3 800 kHz (3 651 to 3 699 contest free segment)
PSK: 3 580 – 3 582 kHz
RTTY: 3 582 – 3 620 kHz

40 metres
CW: 7 000 – 7 040 kHz
SSB: 7 063 – 7 100 kHz and 7 130 – 7 200 kHz (7 101 to 7 129 contest free segment)
PSK: 7 040 – 7 047 kHz
RTTY: 7 042 – 7 060 kHz

20 metres
CW: 14 000 – 14 060 kHz
SSB: 14 125 – 14 300 kHz
PSK: 14 070 – 14 072 kHz
RTTY: 14 080 – 14 099 kHz

11.2 The FT4 and FT8 working frequencies are the default working frequencies in WSJT-X for 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 and 6 meters.

11.3 Contest activity shall not take place on the 137 and 479 kHz, 5, 10, 18 and 24 MHz bands. Non-contesting radio amateurs are recommended to use the contest-free HF bands (2 200, 630, 60, 30, 17 and 12 m) during local and the largest international contests. (DV05_C4_Rev_07; VIE16_C4_REC_06 and LA17_C4_REC_06).

11.4 QRP centres of activity

The following are the band plan frequencies for centres of QRP activity. Contesters are asked to refrain from using higher power on these frequencies.

1 836 CW, 3 560 CW, 3 690 SSB, 7 030 CW, 7 090 SSB, 14 060 CW, 14 285 SSB, 21 060 CW, 21 285 SSB, 28 060 CW and 28 360 SSB.

12. The South African provinces

EC	Eastern Cape	ZS2
FS	Free State	ZS4
GP	Gauteng	ZS6
KN	KwaZulu-Natal	ZS5
LP	Limpopo	ZS6
MP	Mpumalanga	ZS6
NC	Northern Cape	ZS3
NW	North West	ZS6
WC	Western Cape	ZS1
MI	Prince Edward and Marion Islands	ZS8
AN	SANAE Base on Antarctica	ZS7

13. Dispute Resolution

13.1 Written disputes shall be submitted by email to the South African Radio League Contest Manager at contest@sarl.org.za within seven (7) days of the announcement or publication of the list of claimed scores for the contest concerned. The Contest Manager shall convey the objection to the SARL Contest Working Group or if applicable to the Sponsor Club for comment.

13.2 The SARL Contest Working Group or Sponsor Club shall present its decision to the South African Radio League Contest Manager within seven days of receipt of such objections and its decision shall be final.

14. Penalties and Disqualification

14.1 Any entrant found to be operating in contravention of the Rules or in any way, not operating within the spirit of the contest may be disqualified. The Contest Working Group's decision in this regard and in the interpretation of any other rule shall be final. Reports of persistent poor signal quality, such as an overdriven transmitter, excessively distorted signal, splatter and/or excessive harmonics, or poor operating practice shall be deemed to fall into this classification.

14.2 Log Quality Check, Corrections and Penalties

14.2.1 Each uploaded log will be put through an initial quality check by the log evaluator. This check will look for correctable errors such as incorrect file format, superseded log sheet version, missing or incorrectly formatted fields, QSO times outside the contest period, unmarked duplicate contacts, and call signs, or exchanges in an invalid format.

14.2.2 A log that fails the quality check will be returned to the contestant for correction in terms of General Rule 8.2.

14.2.3 After the contestant has had the opportunity to correct their log, any remaining unmarked duplicate contacts or contacts containing incorrect or invalid; times, call signs, grid locators or exchanges will be removed from the entrant’s log. This includes errors found during cross-checking against other contestants' logs.

14.2.4 In addition to 14.2.3 the Contest Working Group may impose a penalty of three valid contacts of equal value for every contact removed from the entrant’s log. A reduction in claimed score of more than 20% shall result in exclusion from the results.

14.3 Any entrant excluded in terms of this rule 14.2.4 may appeal to the Contest Working Group in writing within seven (7) days of notice of the publication of a contest's results, providing full details of reasons to overturn the decision. The Working Group shall announce its final decision no later than seven (7) days after receipt of the appeal.

14.4 Entries that do not contain the required information on Log and Summary Sheets, or that are illegible may be rejected or reclassified as check logs and will not be eligible for awards.

14.5 Where a contestant's log contains multiple unique QSOs, namely that:

14.5.1 The counterparty to each unique QSO did not submit a log and

14.5.2 No other contestant submitted a log indicating that they worked the counterparty.

14.5.3 The Contest Working Group can, at its sole discretion, remove the unique QSOs from the log and if excessive in number disqualify the contestant.

14.6 Wide spectrum recording may be initiated by the contest organizers for purposes including, but not limited to, contest monitoring, review and adjudication.

15. Limitations

15.1 Operators of a multi-operator station may not be claimed as contacts by that station.

15.2 Contacts with or between call signs appearing as operators on any of the summary sheets forming an entry of a multi-operator station shall not count for points or multipliers.

15.3 Contacts with call signs being family members residing with the operator shall not count for points or multipliers.

15.4 Contacts between co-located operators shall not count for points or multipliers.

15.5 Stations may be worked only once. Working various alternative calls owned by a station or working a club station and then logging various operators from that club station is not permitted.

15.6 Working various family members with their own call signs from the same transmitter is not permitted.

15.7 The problem of "unique" QSOs is a difficult one. To ensure fairness and good sportsmanship like behaviour, all participants, including those who are not actively competing, such as those stations "handing out points", should be encouraged to make as many QSOs as they possibly can and not only make contacts with a single operator and or their club members and/or friends. Multiple unique call signs found in a single log sheet will be subject to 14.5 above. Unique QSO stations and Stations "handing out points", thus being 'No Log (NL)' stations, may be approached to encourage their fuller contest participation and to send in logs in future, to increase the integrity of the contest/s that they participate in.

15.8 The use of e-mail, telephone or social media to solicit QSOs during a contest is not permitted, unless expressly allowed for in a contest's rules.

15.9 A contest may not be combined with any other activity such as, but not limited to, SOTA, POTA or HOTA activations, unless the contest expressly allows for this.

16. Logbook for Amateur Radio Station Contesting

Your attention is drawn to the Radio Frequency Spectrum Regulations 2015, GG-38641 dated 30 March 2015 (or later if amended) which details what logging activity a licensed radio amateur must undertake.

16.1 For contest logging it is suggested that the contester:

16.1.1 Familiarise themselves what additional detail needs to be logged for each QSO in the contest, such as the class of field day station or club abbreviated callsign. The exchange detail is in each contest's specific rules in this Contest Manual.

16.1.2 Download the SARL supplied excel log sheet from the contest-resources page on mysarl.org.za before each contest and check that the detail required per QSO is in their logging program or paper log sheet.

16.1.3 Prepare their paper log / computer logging program / download the SARL issued excel log sheet ahead of time.

16.1.4 Using a computer logging program that is linked to your rig reduces logging errors in that the programs typically track the rig's frequency and mode.

16.1.5 For contest specific exchanges it is suggested that QSO information fields in a logger are used to record details eg the 1AGP in the National Field Day.

16.2 Computer log formats and conversion for log submission

16.2.1 SARL uses excel log sheets for most contests. These are available for download on mysarl.org.za

16.2.2 Most SARL contests require excel format logs. Some require Cabrillo format logs. Contestants with ADIF logs need to convert them to excel logs as the ADIF logs only have QSO information in them and lack the ability to contain contester details and contest specific exchanges.

16.2.3 Most log programs can export a selected section of a contest's QSOs, from a log in ADIF or CSV format.

16.2.3.1 CSV format files can be opened in Excel or Open Office and the relevant columns copied and pasted into the SARL Excel sheet

16.2.3.2 ADIF files, such as exported by Log4OM and in the WSJT-X logfile can be converted using the excel sheet available for download in the contest resources section of mysarl.org.za. Alternatively ADIF editors can open an ADIF (.adi) file and export it as a CSV file.

16.2.4 Specialised contest logging programs like N1MM+ have macros/UDC files which define the QSO information for each contest and then export a Cabrillo format output. Cabrillo is an international log submission format used by many Radio Leagues, SARL has adopted it for some contests.

Where Cabrillo files are accepted for SARL contests, such as AAMDX, these can be uploaded directly. Alternatively the Cabrillo log can be data imported into Excel with the delimiters set as spaces and the necessary QSO information then copied out column by column and pasted into the SARL excel log sheet for contests where Excel spreadsheets are required.

17. Coordinated Universal Time (UTC)

Coordinated Universal Time is the primary time standard by which the world regulates clocks and time. It is within about 1 second of mean solar time at 0° longitude and is not adjusted for daylight saving time. It is effectively a successor to Greenwich Mean Time (GMT).

Radio amateurs keep their logbooks in UTC.

All logs submitted for SARL contests must have the QSO time in UTC.

18. Contest Suggestion Procedure

18.1 Contest Suggestion Submission

18.1.1 Provide a clear and concise description of your contest suggestion, including the proposed aim, format, rules, duration, proposed date/dates and any other relevant details, ideally following the format used for contests in this Contest Manual.

18.1.2 Include your contact information (name, email, and optionally, phone number) for follow-up purposes.

18.1.3 Provide the name of your club and indicate which office bearer at the club will act as the formal sponsor of the contest.

18.2 Submitting the Suggestion

18.2.1 Send your contest suggestion via email to the SARL Contest Working Group who are responsible for contest development within SARL through contest@SARL.org.za.

18.2.2 If there is a specific person or working group mentioned in the published rules or on the SARL website, direct your suggestion accordingly. Otherwise, send it to the SARL Contest Working Group or the general SARL contact email address.

18.3 Review and Evaluation

18.3.1 The SARL Contest Working Group will review your contest suggestion.

18.3.2 They will consider factors such as the aim of the contest, feasibility, alignment with the objectives of SARL, uniqueness, appeal to participants, and practicality.

18.4 Feedback and Communication

18.4.1 You will receive an e-mail acknowledging of your contest suggestion to confirm its receipt.

18.4.2 Depending on the workload and processes of the SARL Contest Working Group, it may take some time for a detailed response.

18.4.3 If further clarification or information is needed, you will be contacted for additional input.

18.5 Decision and Implementation:

18.5.1 The SARL Contest Working Group will assess your suggestion along with other factors, including the contest calendar, available resources, and strategic considerations.

18.5.2 They will decide whether to implement the suggested contest as proposed, modify it, or to not proceed with it.

18.5.3 If your suggestion is accepted, the SARL Contest Working Group will work on incorporating it into the contest calendar, rules, and promotional materials for the following year, provided the contest suggestion is received and agreed by the SARL before the end of July.

18.6 Notification:

18.6.1 Once a decision is reached, the SARL Contest Working Group will notify you of the outcome.

18.6.2 If your contest suggestion is selected for implementation, they will provide information on its inclusion and any necessary follow-up steps.

19. mySARL.org.za Log Upload Facility

The SARL has implemented a log upload facility on the mySARL.org.za website at https://mysarl.org.za/contests/uploads.php. It can also be accessed via the contest tab on the mysarl.org.za homepage.

From January 2027, logs for all Contests contained in the SARL Contest Manual must be submitted via the upload facility, unless other specific instructions are given in the contest's own rules in the contest manual.

The upload facility requires that the callsign worked on air, the contestant's email address be supplied and that the contest for which the log is being submitted is selected and the log provided for upload.

Currently supported upload formats are: txt, xlsx, xls, ods, adif, adi, log, tgz, cbr and zip. If multiple files, such for national field day where a log and pictures need to be submitted, then the files need to be zipped together and a single .zip format file uploaded.

Once the uploaded file is received by the server, the contestant will receive a confirmation email from contest@sarl.org.za, with the uploaded file as an attachment.

The contest evaluator will receive a CC copy of the contestant's confirmation email. The evaluator will use this copy to 'reply all' when corresponding with the contestant eg to return a corrected log. Changes to a contest evaluator/s email/s to be sent to contest@SARL.org.za.

The SARL upload administrator will at the close of the log submission period extract all the uploaded logs and send then as a .zip file to the log evaluator/s of a contest.

DX Code of Conduct

I will listen and listen and then listen again before calling

I will only call if I can copy the DX station properly

I will not trust the DX cluster and will be sure of the DX station's call sign before calling

I will not interfere with the DX station, or anyone calling and will never tune up on the DX frequency or in the QSX slot

I will wait for the DX station to end a contact before I call

I will always send my full call sign

I will call and then listen for a reasonable interval

I will not call continuously

I will not transmit when the DX operator calls another call sign, not mine

I will not transmit when the DX operator queries a call sign that does not look like mine

I will not transmit when the DX station requests geographic areas other than mine

When the DX operator calls me, I will not repeat my call sign unless I think they have copied it incorrectly

I will be thankful if and when I do make a contact

I will respect my fellow radio amateurs and conduct myself so as to earn their respect

John ON4UN (SK) and Mark ON4WW

DX Gedragskode

Ek sal luister, luister en nog luister

Ek sal alleenlik roep indien ek die DX hoor.

Ek sal nie die DX Kluster blindelings vertrou nie en eers seker maak van die DX se ware roepsein voordat ek roep

Ek sal nie steurings veroorsaak vir die DX of enigeen wat hom roep nie en ook nie opstem op die DX of die QRX frekwensie nie

Ek sal wag totdat die DX klaar is met sy kontak voordat ek roep

Ek sal altyd my volle roepsein stuur

Ek sal roep en redelike periode wag

Ek sal nie aanhoudend roep nie

Ek sal nie uitsaai wanneer die DX ‘n ander roepsein as myne roep nie

Ek sal nie uitsaai indien die DX ‘n roepsein bevraagteken wat nie soos myne klink nie

Ek sal nie uitsaai indien die DX ‘n ander Geografiese area roep nie

Indien die DX my roep, sal ek nie my roepsein herhaal behalwe as ek dink hy het dit verkeerd gehoor nie

Ek sal dankbaar wees indien ek die kontak gemaak het

Ek sal my mede Amateurs respekteer en myself handhaaf om sodoende hulle respek te verdien.

Vertaal deur en met dank aan Raoul, ZS1C

SARL HF Phone, Digital and CW Contests

1. Aim

The aim of the three HF Contests is for participants to contact as many amateurs in Southern Africa as possible on the 20, 40 and 80 m amateur bands.

2. Dates

2.1. HF Phone Contest on (1st Sunday) 1 August 2027 14:00 to 17:00 UTC

2.2. HF Digital Contest on (2nd Sunday) 8 August 2027 13:00 UTC to 16:00 UTC

2.3. HF CW Contest on (4th Sunday) 22 August 2027 14:00 to 17:00 UTC

3. Mode and Frequencies

3.1. SSB:

14 125 to 14 350 kHz
7 063 to 7 100 and 7 130 to 7 200 kHz. The segment from 7 100 to 7 130 is contest free
3 603 to 3 650 and 3 700 to 3 800 kHz. The segment from 3 651 to 3 699 kHz is contest free

3.2. CW:

14 020 to 14 030 kHz
7 000 to 7 040 kHz
3 510 to 3 560 kHz

3.3. FT4 and FT8 as Digital modes:

The default frequencies for FT4 and FT8 in WSJT-X for the three contest frequencies of 20m, 40m and 80m.

4. Categories

4.1. Single Operator Single Radio - Single Band (overlay YL or Youth)

4.2. Single Operator Single Radio - All Band (overlay YL or Youth)

4.3. Multi Operator - Single Band (overlay YL or Youth)

4.4. Multi Operator - All Band (overlay YL or Youth)

4.5. Individual competitors and club stations are encouraged to compete.

5. Exchange

5.1. CW and SSB: RS, RSQ or RST report and a consecutive serial number starting at 001.

5.2. FT4 and FT8 minimally a signal strength report and RRR/73/RRR73 and a serial number in each direction between the two parties.

To enable the serial number in version 2.6 (or later) of WSJT-X, under 'File>Settings>Advanced' select 'EU VHF Contest' under Special operating activity and check the 'CQ with individual contest name' and enter 'SARL' into the contest name block.

Note that this is a contest mode and that the exchanges are different to standard exchanges, so QSOs with stations operating with the 'normal' default exchanges will not work through to conclusion RR73/73 of the QSO. In order to complete QSOs with stations in 'default' mode, the contester will have to switch off the contest mode.

5.3. Each QSO claimed for competition credit must comply with the rules found under General Rule "5. Contacts".

6. Scoring

6.1. Each QSO counts one (1) point

6.2. Add two (2) points for each call area on each band.

6.3. Add two (2) points for each station contacted on all three bands.

6.4. Call Areas
Area 1: ZS1, ZR1 and ZU1 - Western Cape
Area 2: ZS2, ZR2 and ZU2 - Eastern Cape
Area 3: ZS3, ZR3 and ZU3 - Northern Cape
Area 4: ZS4, ZR4 and ZU4 - Free State
Area 5: ZS5, ZR5 and ZU5 - KwaZulu-Natal
Area 6: ZS6, ZR6 and ZU6 - Gauteng, Mpumalanga; Limpopo and North-West
Area 7: V5 - Namibia
Area 8: 3DA, 7P, 7Q, 9J, C9, A2, D2, Z2, ZD7, ZD9, ZS7, ZS8, FR, 3B8, 5R, FH and D6
Area 9: Stations in the rest of the world.

7. Log Sheets

7.1. Upload logs at https://mysarl.org.za/contests/uploads.php after the contest ends or during the 5 days thereafter.

7.2. Logs to be an Excel spreadsheet or in Cabrillo format.

7.3. The Cabrillo file must carry the required header information and exchanges as per the SARL Cabrillo specification.

7.4. Excel log sheets are available at contest.sarl.org.za.

8. SARL HF Phone, Digital and CW Awards (Refer to General Rule 10)

Certificates will be issued on application for:

8.1. Participation.

8.2. The highest scoring V5 station.

8.3. The first three places of each category and leg of the contest.

8.4. To be eligible to receive the above certificates an entered log must have at least one QSO where one or both of the parties is/are operating from Area 1 to Area 8 (see 6.4 above) and appears in the contest results.

8.5. The SARL Trophies will be awarded as per 9. below to SARL members.

9. SARL HF Phone, Digital and CW Contest Trophies

The following trophies will be awarded by the SARL Contest Working Group and presented to the recipients at the SARL Annual Dinner along with an award letter and PDF certificate:

Phone Contest

The Silent Keys Memorial Trophy SSB. Awarded to the SARL member who achieves the highest score during the annual HF Phone Contest.

Joseph White Trophy. Awarded to the SARL member who as a Single Operator Single Band achieves the highest score on any one band, during the annual HF Phone Contest.

The AKYAB Trophy. Awarded to the SARL member who, in his/her first year of licensed activity, achieves the highest score during the annual HF Phone Contest. Candidates for this trophy shall state the date of the issue of the licence on the summary sheet.

Digital Contest

The SARL Digital Trophy. Awarded to the SARL member who achieves the highest score during the annual HF Digital Contest.

CW Contest

The Silent Keys Memorial Trophy CW. Awarded to the SARL member who achieves the highest score during the annual HF CW Contest.

The Anon Trophy. Awarded to the SARL member who as a Single Operator Single Band achieves the highest score on any one band, during the annual HF CW Contest.

Combined

The HOS Trough. Awarded by the Contest Working Group to the SARL member who achieves the highest aggregate score in the three HF Contests.

The Fred Mills Trophy. Awarded to the SARL member who achieves the highest score in the three HF Contests and who has never won a SARL HF Contest Trophy before.

The SAWRC Trophy. Awarded to the YL SARL member amateur who achieved the highest aggregate score in the three annual SARL HF Contests.

The SARL Youth Trophy. Awarded to the young SARL member amateur 25 years or younger who achieved the highest aggregate score in the three annual SARL HF Contests.

The Club Participation Award (Branch Participant Trophy). Awarded to the SARL affiliated club who achieves the highest participation in the three HF Contests.

SARL National Field Day

1. Aim

To work as many stations in the Southern African SADC region as possible on all the HF amateur bands (excluding the 60, 30, 17 and 12 m bands). In doing so, to learn to operate in abnormal situations in less-than-optimal conditions. A premium is placed on developing skills to meet the challenges of emergency preparedness as well as to acquaint the public with the capabilities of Amateur Radio.

The focus of National Field Day is QSOs with SADC based stations, QSOs with stations outside the SADC region score less points.

To encourage General Stations to participate and contact field stations a specific award of Field Station Master Contactor will be made to General Stations that contact all the field stations listed in the 'Friday List' (per leg and overall).

2. Date and Times

2.1. 08:00 UTC on Saturday 13 March to 10:00 UTC on Sunday 14 March 2027 (2nd full weekend of March)

2.2. 08:00 UTC on Saturday 4 September to 10:00 UTC on Sunday 5 September 2027 (1st full weekend of September)

3. Frequencies and Modes

3.1. 160, 80, 40, 20, 15 and 10 m.

3.2. The segment from 7 100 to 7 130 kHz is contest free

3.3. The segment from 3 651 to 3 699 kHz is contest free

3.4. The modes that may be used are Phone and CW.

3.4.1. Phone and CW modes on a band are considered as separate bands.

3.4.2. A station / call sign may be worked only once per band under this rule.

4. Entry Categories

4.1. Class A – Field Station, Multi operator. Stations must be located in places that are not regular station locations and must comply with the requirements of a Field Station and Station Equipment as defined in the general section of rules. A single licensee or trustee for the entry is responsible for the group entry under a single callsign. All equipment (including antennas) must lie within a circle whose radius does not exceed 500 metres. All contacts must be made with transmitter(s) and receiver(s) operating independent of mains power.

Class A Overlay – Single Transceiver station. Determined from a station's given exchange.

4.2. Class B – Field Station, Multi operator, QRP. All contacts must be made using an output power of 5 Watts or less. Other provisions are the same as Class A.

4.3. Class C – Field Station, Single Operator. Stations must be located in places that are not regular station locations and must comply with the requirements of a Field Station and Station Equipment as defined in the general section of rules. All equipment (including antennas) must lie within a circle whose radius does not exceed 500 metres. All contacts must be made with transmitter(s) and receiver(s) operating independent of mains power.

4.4. Class D – Field Station, Single Operator, QRP. All contacts must be made using an output power of 5 Watts or less. Other provisions are the same as Class C.

4.5. Class E – Ultra Light Portable Field Station. Light weight self-contained stations, operating QRP or low power. The operator must carry (port) the entire station, antenna included, to the operating site. The distance carried must not be less than 1 km.

4.6. Class F – Multi Call Sign Station. New 2027 - Stations must be located in places that are not regular station locations and must comply with the requirements of a Field Station and Station Equipment as defined in the general section of rules. Each operator must use their own callsign, no club or group call signs allowed and no operator may operate using another operator's callsign, each operator must submit their own callsign's log. All equipment (including antennas) must lie within a circle whose radius does not exceed 500 metres. All contacts must be made with transmitter(s) and receiver(s) operating independent of mains power.

4.7. Class G – General Stations. Stations operating from permanent or licensed station locations using mains power.

5. Call signs

5.1. Only one call sign per station is permitted, except Class F.

5.2. In the case of multi-operator stations using more than one transmitter, all operators shall use the same call sign, except Class F.

5.3. Class A to F stations, if mobile, must sign with the suffix /m. For this contest a station is considered as mobile if it is moving or can be driven away from or moved/walked away from its station location without disconnecting itself from an erected antenna and or station ground. If the mobile station is out of its 'home zone' it must include the zone as well eg /m5.

6. Establishment of Stations

Equipment for Field Stations may only be set up in the 24 hours prior to the starting time of the contest. This restriction applies to antennas, masts, towers and transmitting equipment, but excludes accommodation such as a caravan or tent. Once a Field Station has been established at a site, it may not move to an alternative site after the contest starts, excluding Class E stations.

Those operating field stations (Class A-F) should send their call sign, grid square and station class to contest@sarl.org.za by the Wednesday evening before each National Field Day weekend. The SARL Contest Working Group will publish a list of the notified field station call signs, grid squares and classes on the Contest Information WhatsApp group on the Friday before the start of the field day weekend. This is intended for use by General Stations when chasing field stations.

7. Exchange

7.1. The number of transmitters, the Field Day operating class and the Provincial or Country abbreviation.

7.2. Examples – A three-transmitter Class A Field Station in North-West would send "3ANW"; a general station using a single transceiver located in Cape Town would give the following exchange "1GWC;" A station in Lesotho (for example) will send 2ALS or 1GLS.

7.3. All DX stations (outside the SADC) are logged as "1GDX".

7.4. Each QSO claimed for competition credit must comply with the rules found under General Rule "5. Contacts".

8. Scoring

8.1. Scores are based on the total number of QSO points x the power multiplier x the number of provinces worked x the class multiplier.

8.2. QSO Points:

8.2.1. Class G to Class G – 1 point

8.2.2. Class A – F: QSO with Class G in SADC area – 3 points

8.2.3. Class A – F: QSO with any station outside SADC area – 1 point

8.2.4. Class A – F: QSO with Class A – F stations in SADC: 6 points

8.2.5 Class G: QSO with Class A – F stations in SADC: 3 points

8.2.6 Class G: QSO with any station outside SADC: 1 point

8.2.7 Each station may be contacted only once per band ie once per mode per band.

8.3. Power multipliers (for Class A to F):

8.3.1 Power 5W or less x 6

8.3.2 Power 50W or less x 4

8.3.3 Power 100W or less x 2

8.3.4 Power greater than 100W x 1

8.3.5 The power multiplier for an entry is determined by the maximum output power used by any transmitter used to complete any contact during the event.

8.3.6 Class G power multiplier is x 1 irrespective of the power emitted.

8.4. Class multiplier

8.4.1 Class G: General stations, class multiplier of 1

8.4.2 Class A – D and F: Field stations single and multi, class multiplier of 3

8.4.3 Class E: Field Station multiplier of 4

8.5. Provinces worked multiplier

A multiplier of two (2) for each one of the South African provinces, neighbouring SADC countries and DX worked – regardless of band.

EC – the Eastern Cape
FS – the Free State
GP – Gauteng
KN – KwaZulu-Natal
LP – Limpopo
MP – Mpumalanga
NC – the Northern Cape
NW – North-West
WC – the Western Cape
AO – Angola
AQ – SANAE Base
BW – Botswana
CD – Democratic Republic of Congo
KM – Comoros
LS – Lesotho
MG – Madagascar
MI – Marion Island
MW – Malawi
MU – Mauritius
MZ – Mozambique
NA – Namibia
SC – Seychelles
SZ – eSwatini
TZ – United Republic of Tanzania
ZM – Zambia
ZW – Zimbabwe
DX stations – DX (outside the SADC)



8.6. DX Stations - To qualify to enter this contest an entrant's log must contain at least one QSO where one of the parties to that QSO is operating from a location within the SADC area (all the entries in the table above, except DX) ie you must have a QSO with a SADC based station in your log.

8.7. 50 bonus points for submitting photographs of amateur radio in action – eg people operating the radio, erecting antennas. A photo of your rig does not qualify.

9. Miscellaneous Rules

9.1. A person may not contact for QSO credit any station from which they also participate.

9.2. Class A-F station batteries may be charged while in use. The batteries must be charged from a power source other than mains power.

9.3. There is no limitation to the number of transmitters or receivers that may be deployed. The use of more than one transmitter at the same time on a single band is prohibited.

9.4. This contest may not be combined with any other activity such as, but not limited to, SOTA, POTA or HOTA activations.

10. Log Sheets

10.1. Logs in Excel or Cabrillo shall be uploaded after the contest ends or during the 5 days thereafter. Upload logs at https://mysarl.org.za/contests/uploads.php. When uploading a log and any accompanying photos and files, these must all be zipped into a single file that is then uploaded.

10.2. The Cabrillo file must carry the required header information and exchanges as per the SARL Cabrillo specification.

10.3. The Excel log sheet is available at contest.sarl.org.za

10.4. Each station log for all Class A through F stations **must** be accompanied by photographs showing the station itself in a way that demonstrates that the class of station was achieved. Photographs showing items such as the radios, the structures in which operation was performed, generators, batteries, solar panels, team/person/persons operating the radio/s, the antennas used and the surroundings of the station. **Failure to provide these photograph/s** will result in the log being evaluated as a Class G station.

11. Certificates

Certificates will be issued, on application, for:

11.1. The first three places in Class A-F for each category and leg of the contest.

11.2. Class A-F Participation each leg of the contest.

11.3. General Station participation in each leg of the contest.

11.4. General Stations that manage to contact all the field stations listed in the ‘Friday List’ will each receive a Field Station Master Contactor award (per leg and overall).

SARL VHF/UHF FM Mode Contest

1. Aim

1.1. The VHF/UHF contest is a test of operator ability and station design.

1.2. To promote FM activity on the VHF/UHF bands.

1.3. To provide an opportunity for newly licensed radio amateurs to participate in a contest.

1.4. To encourage Amateurs to work greater distances than usual by operating Field Stations in favourable locations and by optimising equipment and operating techniques at both field and home stations.

1.5. To provide opportunities for Amateurs to activate and work new grid squares.

1.6. The Contest is open to all licensed Radio Amateurs in South Africa, Namibia (V5), Botswana (A2), Zimbabwe (Z2), Mozambique (C9), Lesotho (7P) and ESwatini (3DA). Only contacts with these states will count.

2. Dates and Time

2.1. From 10:00 UTC to 13:00 UTC on Saturday 12 June 2027 (2nd Saturday of June)

2.2. From 10:00 UTC to 13:00 UTC on Saturday 30 October 2027 (Last Saturday of October)

The dates are after the RAE Radio Amateur Examination so that the contest can serve as an introductory contest for recently licensed RAs.

3. Frequency

FM mode on the 6m, 2 m and 70cm bands

4. Contacts

4.1. Contacts must be two-way point to point. Stations shall exchange signal reports as well as their full six-digit Maidenhead locator. The Contesting station must obtain the grid position when they work a mobile station to enter in their log by getting an accurate area/address/location.

4.2. Self-spotting is limited to posting in a single WhatsApp Group the “SARL VHF-UHF Contest Sked&Info” established specifically for this contest. All contestants must post/share info and/or arrange skeds through this group only. This is to ensure transparency and to avoid secret arrangements such as between club members and between friends. No announcing on local repeaters or HF.

4.3. No WhatsApp confirmation of a QSO is allowed. The contact itself or any information related to the contact should be unassisted. No information may be sent between 3rd party stations or by any other medium to assist with completing of the contact.

4.4. Requests for addition to the “SARL VHF-UHF Contest Sked&Info” WhatsApp group are via an e-mail to contest@sarl.org.za and should be made more than 6 hours in advance of the start of any contest leg.

4.5. The Contester may work a station once on each of the three bands for points.

4.6. No EME, repeater, satellite or IRLP (Echo link etc.) contacts are allowed.

4.7. No points will be forfeited if a non-competing station cannot provide a grid locator. However, the receiving operator shall receive and record sufficient information (typically latitude and longitude) or the nearest street address and area to be able to obtain and enter the applicable grid location. If no grid is entered by the contester, no points will be awarded for that QSO.

4.8. No cross-band contacts are allowed.

4.9. Each QSO claimed for competition credit must comply with the rules found under General Rule "5. Contacts".

5. Scoring

5.1. Stations can claim one point per kilometre for a contact they worked.

5.2. Grid Multiplier: A grid is the first 4 digits of the Maidenhead grid locator.

5.3. Distances are calculated automatically when using the SARL VHF/UHF Log sheet.

5.4. The Distances on each band are summed and then multiplied by the number of different grids worked on that band to give the band score. This is done automatically for you when you use the SARL VHF/UHF FM Log Sheet.

5.5. The final score is the sum of the band scores.

6. Log Sheets

6.1. The VHF/UHF log and summary sheet is available in Excel format at contest.sarl.org.za.

6.2. The log and summary sheet will calculate distances and multipliers automatically. Do not type distances in on the log sheets. Please read the instructions on the Summary page of the SARL VHF/UHF Log Sheet. The moderator will assist in activating the Macros if you should experience any difficulty (sarlvhfuhfcontest@gmail.com).

6.3. Check your log sheet before submission, incorrect format and incomplete log sheets will not be considered for final results.

6.4. Excel log sheets to be uploaded at https://mysarl.org.za/contests/uploads.php after the contest ends or during the 5 days thereafter.

6.5. Log sheet for Multi operator, Club stations and Field Stations must have the names of all the active operators on the Summary section of the log sheet for certificate purposes.

7. Prizes, Awards and Certificates

7.1. Certificates will be issued, on application, for the first three places in the contest and on each band.

7.2. In an attempt to increase the awareness and participation of the younger amateurs (under 26s), it has been decided that for all the SARL contests to give separate recognition for the best performing youngsters i.e., 1st, 2nd or 3rd. The U26 group still compete with the main field and stand a chance to win a place in the standings as per normal. All youngsters that qualify (ie U26) must state their age when submitting their logs.

7.3. Participants will, on application, be given a pdf participant certificate.

SARL Equinox 6m African DX Entity Challenge

1. Aim

1.1. To QSO with as many DX entities as possible during a month period around each equinox.

1.2. To promote FT8 activity in the 6m band.

1.3. To encourage Amateurs to explore the 6m band and propagation characteristics.

1.4. To provide opportunities for Amateurs to DX into Africa and the African islands.

1.5. Encourage Amateurs to work towards a 6m DXCC.

1.6. The Contest is open to all licensed Radio Amateurs worldwide.

2. Dates

Two challenges, each one month long over each equinox:

2.1. From 00:01UTC on the 16th March to 23:59 UTC on 15th April.

2.2. From 00:01UTC on the 16th September to 23:59 UTC on 15th October.

3. Frequency

FT8 mode on the 6m band.

4. Contacts

4.1. Contacts must be two-way point to point. Stations shall exchange signal reports.

4.2. Self-spotting and the use of skeds is permitted.

5. Scoring

5.1. Two streams will be scored

5.1.1. a QSO stream of all DX entities worked in each leg

5.1.2. a QSL stream of the QSLed DX entities via ARRL LotW in each leg.

5.2. Three Categories

5.2.1. **ZS based** - 1 point for each ZS zone, 3 points for each African DX entity (Continent and Islands) and 4 points for each non-African DX entity.

5.2.2. **African DX entity based outside of ZS** - 2 points for each ZS zone, 3 points for each African DX entity (Continent and islands) and 4 points for each non-African entity.

5.2.3. **Based outside of African DX Entities** - 3 points for each African DX entity and 5 points for each ZS zone.

There are 6 active ZS/ZR/ZU zones in South Africa (1 through 6).

African DX Entities are listed as 'Cont=AF' on the ARRL DXCC List available at:

https://www.arrl.org/files/file/DXCC/2022_DXCC_Current.pdf (or later if changed) and also shown at the end of this manual in the African AF DXCC Entity List.

5.3. Submitted ARRL LotW QSO reports showing QSO and QSL status of contacts will be used to determine scores.

5.4. Each leg will be scored separately. An African DX Entity worked in each of the March equinox and September equinox legs will count in each leg.

5.5. 2nd and subsequent QSOs with a DX entity within a leg will be ignored during evaluation.

5.6. There will be three results published in each of the QSL and QSO streams:

5.6.1. March equinox leg

5.6.2. September equinox leg

5.6.3. Overall – a contestant's March-April and September-October logs will be combined and scored as per their category.

6. Log Sheets

6.1. ARRL LotW 6m QSO report in ADIF format (showing QSOs and their QSL status) for the Contestant's callsign for the month long period of each leg.

6.2. The form available at https://www.rickmurphy.net/lotwquery.htm can be used to extract 6m QSOs from ARRL LotW over the period of the challenge.

6.3. Upload the ADIF file at https://mysarl.org.za/contests/uploads.php within 45 days after the last day of each leg – by 31 May and 30 November respectively.

7. Prizes, Awards and Certificates

7.1. Certificates will be issued, on application, by category for the first three places in each stream in each leg and overall.

7.2. Participants, on application, will be given a pdf participant certificate.

SARL Wednesday 80 m Club Contest

1. Aim

The Wednesday 80 m Club contest is a Club activity, the scores of individual operators are added together to get a Club score. The Club with the highest score after the four (4) contests will be awarded the SARL 80 m Club Championship Trophy.

Encourage amateurs to achieve their Worked All ZS Grid Squares on 80 m.

2. Date and times

17:00 to 18:00 UTC on the third Wednesday of a month – Wednesday 17 February; Wednesday 19 May; Wednesday 18 August and Wednesday 20 October 2027.

3. Frequencies

3.1. Phone: 3 603 to 3 650 and 3 703 to 3 800 kHz may be used.

The segment 3651 to 3.700 is contest free.

3.2. CW: 3 510 to 3 560 kHz

3.3. RTTY: 3 580 to 3 600 kHz

4. Exchange

4.1. Your name, your Abbreviated Club Callsign and your 4-character grid square (eg KG30).

The list of Abbreviated Club Callsigns is available at the end of this Contest Manual, in Contest Resources at contest.sarl.org.za and a tab of the Excel log sheet. The abbreviated club callsign is derived from the club's ICASA issued callsign.

4.2. Each QSO claimed for competition credit must comply with the rules found under General Rule "5. Contacts".

5. Categories

5.1. Single Operator – a station operated by one person, who receives no assistance whatsoever from any other person in operating, log keeping, checking and so on.

5.2. Club call signs may be used, but the operator may not also be active under his/her own call sign.

5.3. MCST – Multi-Call Sign Single Transmitter. A MCST station is a multi-call sign station transmitting not more than one signal on not more than one running frequency on a band at any time. This category can be used for example by husband-and-wife teams and by Clubs training new amateurs in the art of contesting.

6. Scoring

6.1. 2 points for every SSB QSO

6.2. 4 points for every CW QSO

6.3. 5 points for a RTTY QSO

6.4. 2 points for the first QSO with each grid square

6.5. 1 point for each Club worked. SARL members who are not members of a club that is on the list of clubs may use 6SRL as their club exchange and this counts as 1 point. QSOs with 'no club' contestants get no club point.

6.6. DX QSOs – ZR/ZS/ZU QSOs with SADC DX entities qualify for scoring under rules 6.1 to 6.5 above. ZR/ZS/ZU QSOs with DX entities outside SADC only qualify for scoring under 6.1 to 6.3 above (no grid or club scores).

7. Log Sheets

7.1. Excel log sheets to be uploaded at https://mysarl.org.za/contests/uploads.php after the contest ends or during the 5 days thereafter.

7.2. The name of your Club must be shown in the log sheet.

7.3. The Excel log sheet is available at contest.sarl.org.za. The sheet is for use on a per leg basis and should be downloaded before each leg of the contest so that the contestant has the latest version of the sheet.

8. Awards, Certificates and Trophy

8.1. Certificates will be issued, on application, for the first three places in each category.

8.2. Participants, on application, will be given a pdf participant certificate.

8.3. **The SARL 80 m Championship Trophy**. (SARL Wednesday 80 m Club Contest)

Awarded by the Contest Working Group to the SARL affiliated club who achieves the highest combined score over all legs of the Wednesday 80 m Club Contest and presented at the SARL Annual Dinner along with an award letter and PDF certificate.

The club contest is an ideal opportunity to make QSOs that count towards the Worked All ZS Award and Worked All ZS Grids. Details can be found in the SARL AWARDS section at the end of the contest manual.

The abbreviated club callsigns can be found at the end of this document.

SARL Saturday 40 m Club Contest

1. Aim

The SARL 40 m Club Contest is a Club activity, the scores of individual operators are added together to get a Club score. The Club with the highest score after the four (4) contests will be awarded the SARL 40 m Club Championship Trophy.

Encourage amateurs to achieve their Worked All Grid Squares on 40 metres.

2. Date and times

15:00 to 16:00 UTC on the 4th Saturday of January, July and November and 1st Saturday of May - Saturday 23 January; Saturday 1 May; Saturday 24 July; Saturday 27 November 2027.

3. Frequencies

3.1. Phone – 7 063 to 7 100 and 7 130 to 7 200 kHz

The segment from 7 101 to 7 129 kHz is contest free.

3.2. CW – 7 000 to 7 040 kHz

3.3. RTTY – 7 040 to 7 060 kHz

4. Exchange

4.1. Your name, your Abbreviated Club Callsign and your 4-character grid square (eg KG30).

The list of Abbreviated Club Callsigns is available at the end of this Contest Manual, in Contest Resources at contest.sarl.org.za and a tab of the Excel log sheet. The abbreviated club callsign is derived from the club's ICASA issued callsign.

4.2. Each QSO claimed for competition credit must comply with the rules found under General Rule "5. Contacts".

5. Categories

5.1. Single Operator – a station operated by one person, who receives no assistance whatsoever from any other person in operating, log keeping, checking and so on

5.2. Club call signs may be used, but the operator may not also be active under his/her own call sign.

5.3. MCST – Multi-Call Sign Single Transmitter. A MCST station is a multi-call sign station transmitting not more than one signal on not more than one running frequency on a band at any time. This category can be used for example by husband-and-wife teams and by Clubs training new amateurs in the art of contesting.

6. Scoring

6.1. 2 points for every SSB QSO

6.2. 4 points for every CW QSO

6.3. 5 points for a RTTY QSO

6.4. 2 points for the first QSO with each grid square

6.5. 1 point for each Club worked. SARL members who are not members of a club that is on the list of clubs may use 6SRL as their club exchange and this counts as 1 point. QSOs with 'no club' contestants get no club point.

6.6. DX QSOs – ZR/ZS/ZU QSOs with SADC DX entities qualify for scoring under rules 6.1 to 6.5 above. ZR/ZS/ZU QSOs with DX entities outside SADC only qualify for scoring under 6.1 to 6.3 above (no grid or club scores).

7. Log Sheets

7.1. Excel log sheets to be uploaded at https://mysarl.org.za/contests/uploads.php after the contest ends or during the 5 days thereafter.

7.2. The name of your Club must be shown in the log sheet.

7.3. The Excel log sheet is available at contest.sarl.org.za. The sheet is for use on a per leg basis and should be downloaded before each leg of the contest so that the contestant has the latest version of the sheet.

8. Awards, Certificates and Trophy

8.1. Certificates will be issued, on application, for the first three places for each category.

8.2. Participants will, on application, be given a pdf participant certificate.

8.3. **The SARL 40 m Championship Trophy**. (SARL Saturday 40 m Club Contest)

Awarded by the Contest Working Group to the SARL affiliated club who achieves the highest combined score in the Saturday 40 m Club Contest and presented at the SARL Annual Dinner along with an award letter and PDF certificate.

The club contest is an ideal opportunity to make QSOs that count towards the Worked All ZS Award and Worked All ZS Grids. Details can be found in the SARL AWARDS section at the end of the contest manual.

The abbreviated club callsigns can be found at the end of this document.

SARL Saturday 20 m Club Contest

1. Aim

The SARL 20 m Club Contest is a Club activity, the scores of individual operators are added together to get a Club score. The Club with the highest score after the three (3) contests will be awarded the SARL 20 m Club Championship Trophy.

Encourage amateurs to achieve their Worked All Grid Squares on 20 m.

2. Date and times

11:00 to 12:00 UTC (13:00 to 14:00 CAT) on the 3rd Saturday of March and June and second Saturday of November - Saturday 20 March, 19 June and 13 November 2027.

3. Frequencies

3.1. CW: 14 000 – 14 060 kHz

3.2. SSB: 14 125 – 14 300 kHz

3.3. RTTY: 14 080 – 14 099 kHz

4. Exchange

4.1. Your name, your Abbreviated Club Callsign and your 4-character grid square (eg KG30).

The list of Abbreviated Club Callsigns is available at the end of this Contest Manual, in Contest Resources at contest.sarl.org.za and a tab of the Excel log sheet. The abbreviated club callsign is derived from the club's ICASA issued callsign.

4.2. Each QSO claimed for competition credit must comply with the rules found under General Rule "5. Contacts".

5. Categories

5.1. Single Operator – a station operated by one person, who receives no assistance whatsoever from any other person in operating, log keeping, checking and so on

5.2. Club call signs may be used, but the operator may not also be active under his/her own call sign.

5.3. MCST – Multi-Call Sign Single Transmitter. A MCST station is a multi-call sign station transmitting not more than one signal on not more than one running frequency on a band at any time. This category can be used for example by husband-and-wife teams and by Clubs training new amateurs in the art of contesting.

6. Scoring

6.1. 2 points for every SSB QSO

6.2. 4 points for every CW QSO

6.3. 5 points for a RTTY QSO

6.4. 2 points for the first QSO with each grid square

6.5. 1 point for each Club worked. SARL members who are not members of a club that is on the list of clubs may use 6SRL as their club exchange and this counts as 1 point. QSOs with 'no club' contestants get no club point.

6.6. DX QSOs – ZR/ZS/ZU QSOs with SADC DX entities qualify for scoring under rules 6.1 to 6.5 above. ZR/ZS/ZU QSOs with DX entities outside SADC only qualify for scoring under 6.1 to 6.3 above (no grid or club scores).

7. Log Sheets

7.1. Excel log sheets to be uploaded at https://mysarl.org.za/contests/uploads.php after the contest ends or during the 5 days thereafter.

7.2. The name of your Club must be shown in the log sheet.

7.3. The Excel log sheet is available at contest.sarl.org.za. The sheet is for use on a per leg basis and should be downloaded before each leg of the contest so that the contestant has the latest version of the sheet.

8. Awards, Certificates and Trophy

7.3. Certificates will, on application, be issued for the first three places for each category.

7.4. Participants will, on application, be given a pdf participant certificate.

7.5. **The SARL 20 m Championship Trophy**. (SARL Saturday 20 m Club Contest)

Awarded by the Contest Working Group to the SARL affiliated club who achieves the highest combined score in the 20 m Club Contest and presented at the SARL Annual Dinner along with an award letter and PDF certificate.

The club contest is an ideal opportunity to make QSOs that count towards the Worked All ZS Award and Worked All ZS Grids. Details can be found in the SARL AWARDS section at the end of the contest manual.

The abbreviated club callsigns can be found at the end of this document.

SARL HAMNET 40 m Simulated Emergency Contest

1. Aim

This SSB Contest is open to all Radio Amateurs in South Africa, Namibia, Botswana, Zimbabwe, ESwatini, Mozambique, Lesotho, Marion Island and South African Antarctica. Only contacts with these areas will count.

2. Date and Time

12:00 to 14:00 UTC on (the 1st Sunday) 7 March 2027

3. Frequencies

3.1. It is a 40m phone contest in the band segments 7 063 to 7 100 kHz and 7 130 to 7 200 kHz.

4. Categories

4.1. Single operator stationary mobile

4.2. Single operator Field Station

4.3. Multi-operator Field Station

4.4. Single operator base station

5. Antennas

Antennas are limited to antennas with less than unity gain relative to a dipole. Stationary Mobile stations shall use antennas that rely solely on their vehicles for support and shall not exceed a height of 5 metres above ground. Field Station antennas may not be erected and installed before the day of the contest and no permanent manmade structure may be used to either house equipment or for antenna supports.

6. Power

Stationary Mobile and Field Stations shall operate from the same site for the duration of the contest and all power used shall comply with the requirements for Field Stations in the general rules.

7. Exchange

7.1. Signal report followed by a three-figure number as per category

4.1 – starting with 201 for the first contact

4.2 – starting with 401 for the first contact

4.3 – starting with 601 for the first contact

4.4 – starting with 801 for the first contact

7.2. Non-participants start with 001 for the first contact

7.3. Each QSO claimed for competition credit must comply with the rules found under General Rule “5. Contacts”.

8. Scoring

8.1. Scoring consists of points accumulated from all contacts, multiplied by a multiplier.

8.2. Contact with a station in:

Category 4.1, 4.2 and 4.3 in own call area is 3 points

Category 4.1, 4.2 and 4.3 in another call area is 4 points

Category 4.4 or non-participant in own call area is 1 point

Category 4.4 or non-participant in another call area is 2 points

8.3. Areas are as defined in the following list

a. Area 1: ZS1
b. Area 2: ZS2
c. Area 3: ZS3
d. Area 4: ZS4
e. Area 5: ZS5
f. Area 6: ZS6
g. Area 7: 3DA, 7P, C9, Z2, ZS8 (eastern group)
h. Area 8: A2, V5, ZS7 (western group)

8.4. The multiplier consists of the number of call areas worked, multiplied by a power multiplier.

8.5. The power multiplier is 2 for an output power of over 50 W PEP and 3 for an output power of less than and equal to 50 W PEP.

9. Log Sheets

9.1. Excel log sheets to be uploaded at https://mysarl.org.za/contests/uploads.php after the contest ends or during the 5 days thereafter.

9.2. The Excel log sheet is available at contest.sarl.org.za.

10. Awards

10.1. Certificates will be issued for the first three places of each category.

10.2. Participants will be given a pdf participant certificate.

11. **Sponsor Club – HamNet** (contest@peham.co.za)



SARL QRP Contests

Aim

The QRP contests are intended to be fun activities to promote QRP operations and experimentation.



1. Dates and times

1.1. Summer Leg: 3rd Saturday of January - 16 January 2027 – from 07:00 to 09:00 UTC

1.2. Autumn Leg: 1st Saturday of April - 3 April 2027 – from 13:30 to 15:30 UTC

1.3. Winter Leg: 3rd Saturday of July - 17 July 2027 – from 07:00 to 09:00 UTC

1.4. Spring Leg: 1st Saturday of November – 6 November 2027– from 13:30 to 15:30 UTC

2. General Info

2.1. Any or all of three Modes: Phone SSB, JS8Call and/or CW.

2.2. Power Categories:

QRP for this contest is defined as <= 10w PEP for all modes.

2.2.1. QRP Contester QSO: Tx power <= 10w PEP.

2.2.2. QRP Chaser QSO: Tx power level > 10w PEP.

2.3. SSB transmit PEP power measured on power meter by sustained whistle test or CW carrier key down power meter reading. For JS8Call, power is the steady power meter reading while transmitting at the output setting used during the contest

2.4. A station may be worked only once per band per mode.

2.5. All those who participate and submit logs will receive a certificate.

2.6. This contest may not be combined with any other activity such as, but not limited to, SOTA, POTA or HOTA activations.

3. Frequency

3.1. 40m, 20m and 10m bands can be used at any time during the contest.

3.2. Comply with the contest-preferred frequency segments detailed in the general rules.

3.3. For Phone, consider operating around the QRP frequencies (7.090, 14.285, 28.360 MHz)

4. Exchange

4.1. Realistic RS(T) or SNR, 6-char Grid square and transmit power in watts (eg: 57, KG33uk, 10)

4.2. Each QSO claimed must comply with Contest Manual General Rule for Contacts.

5. Scoring

5.1. **QRP Contester Score:** Where TxPower<=10w (Sum of QSO's + number of QRP stations contacted + number of Zones worked + Station category + Radio category + number of unique grids worked + PowerDistance bonus + Photo point).

5.2. **QRP Chaser Score:** Where TxPower>10w (Sum of QSO's + number of QRP stations contacted + number of Zones worked + Station category + Radio category + number of unique grids worked + PowerDistance bonus + Photo point).

5.3. **Point Allocations:**

Each QSO: +1.

Each QRP station contacted: +1.

Each Zone worked: Each RSA Zone = +1 and if DX worked = +1.

Station category: Home = +0, Field = +3, Portable Field = +6.

Radio category: Commercial = +0, Commercial Kit Home Built = +3, Non-Commercial Home Brew = +6.

Each grid square worked = +1.

Photograph attached of station and operator in action = +1.

PowerDistance bonus per QSO: (1/power)*(distance/1000).

6. Leg Awards

6.1. QRP Leg Pro: Highest QRP Contester score.

6.2. QRP Leg Mode Pro: Highest QRP Contester score in a mode (Phone, JS8, CW).

6.3. QRP Leg Chaser Pro: Highest Chaser score.

7. Annual Awards

7.1. QRP Grand Champion: Highest scoring QRP contester across all modes after four legs.

7.2. QRP Mode Champion: Highest scoring QRP contester in a mode after four legs.

7.3. QRP Chaser Champion: Highest scoring Chaser station after four legs.

8. Log Sheets

8.1. Excel log sheets to be uploaded at https://mysarl.org.za/contests/uploads.php after the contest ends or during the 5 days thereafter.

8.2. Photo(s) of the station and operator in action must accompany every log entry.

8.3. If submitting multiple files or including photographs, please zip them all together and upload the zip.

8.4. The decisions taken by the contest committee are final.

8.5. Find the Excel log sheet on the contest resources page of mysarl.org.za:

9. Sponsoring club – Sandton Amateur Radio Club (contest@zs6stn.org.za)

Let's have fun playing and experimenting with QRP radio

Africa FT4 DX Contest



1. Aim

1.1. To promote digital DX activity in Africa.

1.2. Provide opportunities for Amateurs to use the FT4 digital mode.

1.3. Contribute to the SARL All Africa Awards.

1.4. The DX Contest is aimed at all licensed Radio Amateurs in the countries in Africa and the Indian Ocean and Atlantic Islands close to Africa. A separate category is available to non-African contestants.

2. Dates and Times

2.1. 15:00 to 18:00 UTC on 2nd Saturday of April - 10 April 2027

2.2. 15:00 to 18:00 UTC on 2nd Saturday of September - 11 September 2027

3. Contacts

3.1. Contacts must be two-way point to point.

3.2. Contestants shall exchange signal reports as well as their four-digit maidenhead grid locator using the FT4 mode.

3.3. Self-Spotting will be allowed, eg you may announce that you are calling CQ on air, on a repeater frequency or an internet logger, a cluster or any group. The contact itself or any information related to the contact should be unassisted. No information may be sent between third party stations or by any other medium to assist with completing of the contact.

3.4. Each QSO claimed for competition credit must comply with the rules found under General Rule “5. Contacts” in the SARL Contest Manual.

4. Limitations

4.1. Single Operator FT4 mode.

4.2. Power shall be limited to 100 Watts.

4.3. All radio equipment used by a Contestant shall be on the same premises.

4.4. Fox in Fox & Hound mode or the dedicated Contest formats may not be used.

4.5. Multi-streaming transmission and simultaneous transmission on multiple bands is not allowed ie a station may only QSO with a single other station at any moment.

5. Mode and Frequencies

5.1. Mode: Standard FT4 format will be used as implemented in WSJT-X V2.2.2 or later or the equivalent in JTDX, MSHV. To operate in FT4 switch the Mode to FT4 in the program being used.

5.2. Only one signal may be transmitted by a Contestant at any one time.

5.3. Each exchange shall minimally be a signal strength report and RRR/73/RRR73 in each direction between the two parties.

5.4. Frequencies:

a. Contacts may be made on 80m, 40m and 20m.

b. The recommended dial frequencies will be 3576 kHz (USB) on 80 m, 7047.5 kHz (USB) on 40 m and 14080 kHz (USB) on 20 m –the default FT4 frequencies in WSJT-X.

6. Scoring

6.1. Points

African DXCC based Contestants

FT4 QSO	Points	Limit
Between African DXCC entities	6 Points	none
Within an African DXCC entity	4 Points	none
With any non-African DXCC entity	1 Point	1/3 of the total log items submitted

Non-African DXCC based Contestants

FT4 QSO	Points	Limit
With each African DXCC entity	4 Points	none

6.2. African DXCC Entities are all the DXCC entities in Africa including the Indian and Atlantic Ocean Islands where Africa is the nearest continent. The February 2022 ARRL list of DXCC Entities that are listed as Continent = AF is the definitive list of African DXCC Entities. An extract listing all AF DXCC Entities is available at the end of this document - African AF DXCC Entity List.

6.3. In recognition that contestants may employ a 'search and pounce' method to QSO there will be no penalty if the log does not contain the called party's grid location.

6.4. Each station may work each other station once on each of the 3 bands for points.

7. Log sheets

7.1. The Africa FT4 DX Excel log sheet is available at contest.sarl.org.za.

7.2. ADIF and Cabrillo format log files may be submitted.

7.3. The WSJT-X ADIF log file (see program documentation for the location of the .adi file) can be converted to excel format using the ADIF to excel convertor spreadsheet available on the SARL site. Alternatively, loggers like Log4OM have an CSV/excel export capability.

7.4. Log sheets to be uploaded at https://mysarl.org.za/contests/uploads.php after the contest ends or during the 5 days thereafter.

8. Awards

8.1. A certificate will be awarded to the 1st, 2nd and 3rd place in the competition for African based and Non-African based contestants respectively. Certificates of participation will be given to each contestant that has logged a minimum of 5 African DXCC Entity stations. Certificates will be in pdf format.

9. Sponsor club – West Rand Amateur Radio Club (contest@zs6wr.co.za)

Africa All Mode International DX Contest

Aim

The objective of this all-mode contest is to stimulate contesting from Africa. All participating stations worldwide may work any country during the contest period. African DXCC entities are defined as those valid per the ARRL DXCC AF listing published at the time of the contest.



1. Date

12:00 UTC on Saturday 27 March to 12:00 UTC on Sunday 28 March 2027 (The 4th full weekend of March). Both single and multi-operator stations may operate for the entire 24-hour period. There are no mandated breaks in operating time required.

This contest takes place the same weekend as the CQ WPX. Contestants also taking part in the CQ WPX, which runs for the whole weekend, can submit the portion of their CQ WPX log that covers the period of this contest.

2. Bands

160, 80, 40, 20, 15 and 10 metres, in accordance with your country and specific licensing requirements governing the portion(s) of these bands that you may use. No contest QSOs are allowed on 12, 17, 30 or 60 metres.

3. Modes

CW and SSB. Mixed-mode entrants may work the same station once on each mode per band.

4. Log Submissions and Deadlines

No paper entries will be accepted for contest or checking purposes.

Entries must be submitted in Cabrillo format only. Cabrillo log sheets to be uploaded at https://mysarl.org.za/contests/uploads.php after the contest ends or during the 5 days thereafter.

5. Awards

Certificates in PDF format will, on application, be sent to:

5.1. The top three overall scoring entrants

5.2. The highest scoring entrant in each category for the contest

5.3. The highest scoring entrant in each category per continent

5.4. The top three highest scoring South African entrants

5.5. All Rookies.

To be eligible to receive any of the above certificates, an entrant's log must contain at least one QSO where one of the parties to that QSO is operating from an African DXCC entity.

6. Results

Results will be posted on the South African Radio League website at www.sarl.org.za two weeks after the entry deadline.

7. Entry Categories

For all categories, the use of spotting nets and skimmers are permitted. For all categories, there are no restrictions on the number of band or mode changes made in any given period during the contest.

1. **Single Operator Single Transmitter**

1.1. **Single band**

1.1.1. Phone only

1.1.2. CW only

1.1.3. Mixed mode

1.2. **All band**

1.2.1. Phone only

1.2.2. CW only

1.2.3. Mixed mode

One person performs all operating and logging functions and without exception, only one transmitted signal is allowed at any given time.

A QRP overlay is available.

2. **Multi Operator Single Transmitter**

2.1. Mixed mode All band

3. **Multi Operator Multi Transmitter**

3.1. Mixed mode all band

Stations may be worked once per mode per band. In all categories, cross-mode, cross band and repeater contacts is not allowed.

8. Rookie Award

The rookie award in this contest aims to reward individual rather than team efforts, which show flexibility and skill in operating procedure for recently licensed amateurs. If the operator was first licensed as a radio amateur less than three (3) years before the start date of the contest they can indicate the date first licensed in the SOAPBOX field.

9. Contest Exchange

9.1. The exchange is your RS(T) (not checked during the log checking process), followed by an incremental serial number commencing at “001”. Changing modes or bands does not necessitate different serial number ranges, ie the serial number simply progresses from “001” upwards sequentially as you log QSOs in any category, for single or multi-op efforts. A complete exchange, consisting of an RS(T) and serial number, must be logged for each QSO.

9.2. Contestants who are also participants in CQ WPX must use their exchanged serial number as used in WPX. In other words a serial number that does not start at 001 is acceptable in this contest.

9.3. Each QSO claimed for competition credit must comply with the rules found under General Rule “5. Contacts”.

10. Power Levels

For the purposes of this contest, all entrants must adhere to the power levels (ex- pressed as Peak Envelope Power, or PEP) as set out below when determining their entry category. Additionally, all entrants must adhere to their specific licensing requirements regarding permitted power and other regulations, which take precedent over the contest-defined power levels when operating in the contest.

10.1. QRP is defined as 5 watts PEP or less as measured at the antenna port at the transmitter, or power amplifier (if used).

10.2. Low power is defined as more than 5 watts PEP but not more than 100 watts PEP measured at the antenna port either at the transmitter, or power amplifier (if used).

10.3. High power is defined as more than 100 watts PEP but not more than 1 500 watts PEP measured at the antenna port either at the transmitter, or power amplifier (if used).

11. Points, multipliers and scoring

11.1. Points

All QSO’s are awarded 1 point.

11.2. Multiplier

The multiplier increments by one for every AF-DXCC entity worked, for each of the two operating modes: CW and SSB on any of the six operating bands: 160m, 80m, 40m, 20m, 15m and 10m.

As a worked example:

Band	QSOs	Pts.	Mults	
14000	55	55	3	eg EA8 CW, V5 PH and ZS PH
21000	65	65	3	eg ZS, FR and 7Q all PH
28000	43	43	5	eg ZS, V5, EA8, 7Q and CN on CW
Totals	163	163	11	

Actual Score: 1793

11.3. Total score

The final score is the result of the total QSO points multiplied by the sum multipliers.

Example 163 QSO points X 11 multipliers = 1 793 (final score)

12. AF DXCC Entity Definition

12.1. For the purposes of this contest, Africa entities are considered as per the standard ARRL DXCC list as published at the time/year of the contest currently taking place. See the end of this document for a list of the AF DXCC Entities.

12.2. Ship-based and aeronautical stations only count 1 point when worked and do not count as multipliers regardless of them being in international or territorial waters during the contest period.

13. Cabrillo Information

The **required** information fields at the start of the Cabrillo file are the following.

HEADER information

Bold indicates required fields and italics the values/examples of what must be supplied by yourself.

CALLSIGN: *yourcall*

CONTEST: AF-ALL-MODE-DX

CATEGORY-OPERATOR: *SINGLE-OP or MULTI-OP*

CATEGORY-POWER: *LOW HIGH QRP*

NAME: *FirstName LastName*

EMAIL: *your e-mail address*

CATEGORY-BAND: will be determined automatically from the band or bands of the QSO records submitted *(SINGLE or ALL)*.

CATEGORY-MODE: will be determined automatically from the modes of the QSO records submitted *(SSB CW MIXED)*

QSO Required information fields and format.

```
--------info sent-------                                  -------info rcvd--------
QSO: freq  mo date       time call          rst exch   call          rst exch
QSO: ***** ** yyyy-mm-dd nnnn ************* nnn ****** ************* nnn ******
QSO: 28000 PH 2014-09-12 0531 ZS6A          59  001    W1AW/5        59  073
QSO: 28000 CW 2014-09-12 0531 ZS6A          59  001    W1AW/5        59  073
0000000001111111111222222222233333333334444444445555555555666666666677777777771
2345678901234567890123456789012345678901234567890123456789012345678901234567890123456789
```

A UDC file for N1MM+ is available at mysarl.org.za/contest-resources which makes Cabrillo logs compliant with the above format. Other logging programs do produce Cabrillo files, however please use a text editor to check that the required header information is present in your Cabrillo log and if not edit it into the file yourself.

Also consult the SARL Cabrillo Format Specification available in the contest section of mysarl.org.za.

14. General

14.1. Conditions of Entry: Each entrant agrees to be bound by the provisions set out in this document. The decisions of the South African Radio League Contest Working Group are final and binding.

14.2. The use of self-spotting on packet via any means is not permitted.

14.3. The use of non-amateur radio means of communications (eg telephone or internet) for soliciting a contact during the contest period is not permitted.

14.4. Where contest-preferred segments are incorporated into regional band plans, entrants must observe them.

14.5. Penalties and disqualifications: participants breaching the provisions as set out in this document may be subject to a points deduction as decided by the Contest Working Group, or in serious cases disqualification.

14.6. Duplicate QSOs will not attract any penalties but will also not count for additional points.

14.7. All transmitters and receivers must be located within a 500-metre diameter circle, including antennas.

14.8. The use of remote receiving or transmitting installations is prohibited.

SARL Top Band QSO Party

1. Aim

This is a fun activity to promote contacts on 160 metres between radio amateurs in Southern African SADC countries and to encourage radio amateurs to apply for the South African Radio League Top Band Award.

2. Date and Time

22:01 UTC Wednesday 23 June (00:01 CAT Thursday 24 June) to 21:59 UTC on Sunday 27 June 2027. (Thursday to Sunday in the third full week of June).

3. Frequency

3.1. CW: 1 810 – 1 838 kHz

3.2. Digital: 1 838 – 1 843 kHz

3.3. Phone: 1 844 – 2 000 kHz

4. Exchange

4.1. RS, RSQ or RST report and your 4-character grid square (eg KG30). In digital modes the counterparties grid square is not mandatory.

4.2. Each QSO claimed for competition credit must comply with the rules found under General Rule “5. Contacts”.

5. Participation

5.1. The event is open to all licensed amateurs in the SADC countries that have access to the 160-metre band.

6. Scoring

6.1. Each station can be worked once per mode over the duration of the contest ie once on Phone, once on digital and again with CW.

6.2. 2 points for every QSO.

6.3. 2 points for the first QSO with each grid square. The mode that the first QSO with a grid square is completed in gets the grid square points allocated to that mode. Later QSOs with the same grid square in other modes do not get the grid square points.

6.4. QSOs with SADC countries as well as international DX all qualify, so long as the required exchange is made.

6.5. QSOs with incorrectly logged callsigns will be disqualified (QSO and grid square).

6.6. Incorrectly logged grid squares (when compared to the counterparties log) will not be corrected and will not count for points.

6.7. Four categories of evaluation and award

6.7.1. CW

6.7.2. Phone (LSB)

6.7.3. Digital – any digital mode

6.7.4. Overall – combined points of the categories contested.

7. Miscellaneous Rules

7.1. General Rule 4.5 the '500m radius circle' on station equipment location applies, remote receivers are thus not allowed.

7.2. Simultaneous operation using a single callsign from a local and remote station is not permitted.

7.3. Due to the length of the contest, an operator may during the contest change the location from where they operate. Any subsequent location/s must be at least a 6 character grid square apart. Changes in operating station location must be indicated in the contestant's log.

7.4. Operators may not log QSOs with other stations which they are operating, eg an operator contesting with their personal callsign may not log a QSO with a club callsign which they are also operating during the contest. This rule does not apply to special event callsigns.

7.5. Should operators working from the same station location using their own callsigns wish to QSO with each other, one of the parties must move at least a 6 character grid square away.

8. Log Sheets

8.1. Excel log sheets to be uploaded at https://mysarl.org.za/contests/uploads.php after the contest ends or during the 5 days thereafter.

8.2. The Excel log sheet is available at contest.sarl.org.za.

9. SARL Top Band Certificate

The Top Band Certificate is sponsored by the South African Radio League. Its aim is to encourage more 160 m QSOs with southern African countries.

South African stations must submit proof of having contacted at least six different southern African call areas, of which at least five must be in the Republic of South Africa. The sixth contact can be from the remaining South African call area (ZS), or from any of the bordering countries (Botswana, Eswatini, Lesotho, Mozambique, Namibia, or Zimbabwe).

Further details can be found at https://mysarl.org.za/awards/.

10. Awards

10.1. Participants will be given a pdf participant certificate on request.

11. Sponsor club – West Rand Amateur Radio Club who can be contacted at contest@zs6wr.co.za

SARL 80 m QSO Challenge



1. Aim

The aim of these contests is to create an interest in and activity on the 80-m band. It is a phone only contest.

2. Date and times

2.1. 17:00 to 19:00 UTC on the 1st Thursday of April - 1 April 2027

2.2. 17:00 to 19:00 UTC on the 1st Thursday of October - 7 October 2027

3. Frequencies

3.1. Only frequencies in the segment 3 603 to 3 650 and 3 703 to 3 800 kHz may be used.

3.2. The segment 3 651 to 3 699 kHz is contest free

4. Exchange

4.1. Call sign, RS signal report and operator's name.

4.2. Each QSO claimed for competition credit must comply with the rules found under General Rule "5. Contacts".

5. Categories

5.1. Single Operator

5.2. Short Wave Listener (SWL)

6. Scoring

6.1. 10 points for every contact with a South African station

6.2. 1 point multiplier per first call sign worked in the following call areas:

6.2.1. Area 1: ZS1, ZR1 and ZU1 - Western Cape

6.2.2. Area 2: ZS2, ZR2 and ZU2 - Eastern Cape

6.2.3. Area 3: ZS3, ZR3 and ZU3 - Northern Cape

6.2.4. Area 4: ZS4, ZR4 and ZU4 - Free State

6.2.5. Area 5: ZS5, ZR5 and ZU5 - KwaZulu-Natal

6.2.6. Area 6: ZS6, ZR6 and ZU6 - Gauteng, Mpumalanga; Limpopo and North-West

6.3. 15 points for every contact with a station outside South Africa.

6.4. 2-point multiplier per first call sign worked in the following call areas.

6.4.1. Area 7: V5 – Namibia

6.4.2. Area 8: 3DA, 7P, 7Q, 9J, C9, A2, D2, Z2, ZD7, ZD9, ZS7, ZS8, FR, 3B8, 5R, FH and D6

7. Log Sheets

7.1. Log sheets in Excel format only shall be uploaded at https://mysarl.org.za/contests/uploads.php after the contest ends or during the 5 days thereafter.

7.2. When submitting your log, your call sign must appear at the start of the file name, eg 7P8DG-SARL-80m-QSO-Party.xlsx

7.3. Your name and surname, Club name and e-mail address must appear in the log sheet.

7.4. The Excel log sheet is available at contest.sarl.org.za.

8. Awards

8.1. Certificates will be issued for the first three places.

8.2. Participants will be given a pdf participant certificate.

Sponsor Club – ZS Link Group (zslinkgroup@gmail.com)

ZS1 QSO Party

1. Aim

This is a fun activity to promote contacts between radio amateurs in the Western Cape and radio amateurs in Southern African countries. The aim for stations outside ZS1 is to work as many ZS1 stations as possible.

2. Date and Time

16:00 to 17:00 UTC on the last Sunday of July – 25 July 2027.

3. Exchange

3.1. The exchange is RS(T) and provincial or country abbreviation.

3.2. Each QSO claimed for competition credit must comply with the rules found under General Rule "5. Contacts".

4. Frequency

4.1. It is a phone and CW contest on the 40 meter band
- 4.1.1. CW: 7 000 to 7 040 kHz
- 4.1.2. SSB: 7 063 to 7 100 and 7 130 to 7 200 kHz

5. Scoring

5.1. ZS1 stations:
- a. Contacts with stations in ZS1 – 1 point.
- b. Contacts with stations in other ZS call areas or Southern African countries – 2 points.

5.2. Other stations:
- a. Contacts with stations in ZS1 – 2 points.
- b. Contacts with stations in own or other ZS call areas (excluding ZS1) or Southern African countries – 1 point.

5.3. Contacts with any ZS1 club station (including Cape Town ARC ZS1CT, Overberg ARC ZS1OAR, Winelands ARC ZS1WRC, ZS1WK West Coast ARC or Boland ARC ZS1BAK) – 5 points each.

5.4. Only one contact per station is allowed. Log sheets from all ZS1 club stations will be dealt with as a check log only.

6. Log Sheets

6.1. Excel log sheets to be uploaded at https://mysarl.org.za/contests/uploads.php after the contest ends or during the 5 days thereafter.

6.2. The Excel log sheet is available at contest.sarl.org.za.

7. Awards

A certificate will be awarded to the 1st, 2nd and 3rd place in the party.

8. Sponsor Club – Cape Town Amateur Radio Club (zs1ct@ctarc.org.za)

ZS2 QSO Party

1. Aim

This is a fun activity to promote contacts between radio amateurs in the Eastern Cape and radio amateurs in Southern African countries. The aim for stations outside ZS2 is to work as many ZS2 stations as possible!

2. Date and Time

14:00 to 15:00 UTC on the 3rd Sunday of July - 18 July 2027.

3. Exchange

3.1. The exchange is RS(T) and provincial or country abbreviation.

3.2. Each QSO claimed for competition credit must comply with the rules found under General Rule "5. Contacts".

4. Frequency

4.1. It is a phone and CW contest on the 40m band
- 4.1.1. CW: 7 000 to 7 040 kHz
- 4.1.2. SSB: 7 063 to 7 100 and 7 130 to 7 200 kHz

5. Scoring

5.1. ZS2 stations
- a. Contacts with stations in ZS2 are worth 1 point.
- b. Contacts with stations in other ZS call areas or Southern African countries are worth 2 points.

5.2. Other stations
- a. Contacts with stations in ZS2 are worth 2 points.
- b. Contacts with stations in own or other ZS call areas (excluding ZS2) or Southern African countries are worth 1 point.

5.3. Contacts with the any ZS2 clubs (including Port Elizabeth Amateur Radio Society, ZS2PE, or the Border Radio Club, ZS2BRC), are worth 5 points each. Only one contact per station is allowed. Log sheets from all ZS2 club stations will be dealt with as a check log only.

6. Log Sheets

6.1. Excel log sheets to be uploaded at https://mysarl.org.za/contests/uploads.php after the contest ends or during the 5 days thereafter.

6.2. The Excel log sheet is available at contest.sarl.org.za.

7. Awards

7.1. Certificates will be awarded to the 1st 2nd and 3rd place.

7.2. This will only happen if more than five logs are submitted

8. **Sponsor Club – Port Elizabeth Amateur Radio Society (PEARS)**
(contest@peham.co.za)

ZS3 QSO Party

1. Aim

This is a fun activity to promote contacts between radio amateurs in the Northern Cape and radio amateurs in Southern African countries. The aim for stations outside ZS3 is to work as many ZS3 stations as possible!

2. Date and Time

14:00 to 15:00 UTC on the 3rd Sunday of May - 16 May 2027.

3. Exchange

3.1. The exchange is RS(T), your town's name and provincial or country abbreviation.

3.2. Each QSO claimed for competition credit must comply with the rules found under General Rule "5. Contacts".

4. Frequency

4.1. It is a phone and CW contest on the 40M band
- 4.1.1. CW: 7 000 to 7 040 kHz
- 4.1.2. SSB: 7 063 to 7 100 and 7 130 to 7 200 kHz

5. Scoring

5.1. ZS3 stations:
- a. Contacts with stations in ZS3 are worth 1 point.
- b. Contacts with stations in other ZS call areas or Southern African countries are worth 2 points.

5.2. Other stations:
- a. Contacts with stations in ZS3 are worth 2 points.
- b. Contacts with stations in own or other ZS call areas (excluding ZS3) or Southern African countries are worth 1 point.

5.3. Contacts with any ZS3 club stations (including the Northern Cape ARC - ZS3NC, Namaqualand Aero Sport Association - ZS3FLY, the Bo-Karoo ARC - ZR3VDK, or the Kimberley ARC - ZS3KBY are worth 5 points each. Only one contact per station is allowed. Log sheets from all ZS3 club stations will be dealt with as a check logs only.

6. Log Sheets

6.1. Excel log sheets to be uploaded at https://mysarl.org.za/contests/uploads.php after the contest ends or during the 5 days thereafter.

6.2. The Excel log sheet is available at contest.sarl.org.za.

7. Awards

7.1. A certificate will be awarded to the 1st, 2nd and 3rd place in the party.

8. Sponsor Club – Northern Cape Amateur Radio Club (zs3ncklub@gmail.com)

ZS4 QSO Party

1. Aim

This is a fun activity to promote contacts between radio amateurs in the Free State and radio amateurs in Southern African countries. The aim for stations outside ZS4 is to work as many ZS4 stations as possible!

2. Date and Time

14:00 to 15:00 UTC on the 2nd Sunday of April - 11 April 2027

3. Exchange

3.1. The exchange is RS(T) and provincial or country abbreviation.

3.2. Each QSO claimed for competition credit must comply with the rules found under General Rule “5. Contacts”.

4. Frequency

4.1. A phone and CW contest on the 40-metre band.
- 4.1.1. CW 7 000 to 7 040 kHz
- 4.1.2. SSB: 7 063 – 7 100 and 7 130 – 7 200 kHz

5. Scoring

5.1. All CW contacts count 5 points.

5.2. For ZS4
- a. Contacts with stations in ZS4 are worth 1 point.
- b. Contacts with stations in other ZS call areas or Southern African countries are worth 2 points.

5.3. Other
- a. Contacts with stations in ZS4 are worth 2 points.
- b. Contacts with stations in own or other ZS call areas (excluding ZS4) or Southern African countries are worth 1 point.

5.4. Contacts with any ZS4 Club stations (including the Bloemfontein ARC - ZS4BFN, Vrystaat Radioklub - ZS4B, Welkom Radio Club - ZS4WRC or the Sasolburg ARC - ZS4SRK) are worth 5 points each.

5.5. Stations may be worked once on SSB and again on CW.

5.6. Log sheets from ZS4 club stations will be dealt with as a check log only.

6. Log Sheets

6.1. Excel log sheets to be uploaded at https://mysarl.org.za/contests/uploads.php after the contest ends or during the 5 days thereafter.

6.2. The Excel log sheet is available at contest.sarl.org.za.

7. Awards

A certificate will be awarded for all logs received, indicating their position in the rankings.

8. Sponsor Club – Sasolburg Amateur Radio Club ZS4SRK (zs4srk@gmail.com)

ZS5 QSO Party

1. Aim

This is a fun activity to promote contacts between radio amateurs in Kwazulu-Natal and radio amateurs in Southern African countries. The aim for stations outside ZS5 is to work as many ZS5 stations as possible!

2. Date and Time

From 14:00 to 15:00 UTC on the 1st Sunday of July - 4 July 2027.

3. Exchange

3.1. ZS5 – RS(T) and town name or abbreviation.

3.2. Other – RS(T) and provincial or country abbreviation.

3.3. Each QSO claimed for competition credit must comply with the rules found under General Rule "5. Contacts".

4. Frequency

4.1. A phone and CW contest on the 40-metre band
- 4.1.1. CW: 7 000 to 7 040 kHz
- 4.1.2. SSB: 7 063 to 7 100 and 7 130 to 7 200 kHz

5. Scoring

5.1. For ZS5
- a. Contacts with stations in ZS5 are worth 1 point.
- b. Contacts with stations in other ZS call areas or Southern African countries are worth 2 points.

5.2. Other
- a. Contacts with stations in ZS5 are worth 2 points.
- b. Contacts with stations in own or other ZS call areas (excluding ZS5) or Southern African countries are worth 1 point.

5.3. Contacts with any ZS5 club stations (including the Highway ARC, ZS5HAM, the Durban ARC, ZS5D, the Hibiscus Coast ARC, ZS5HAC, the Zululand ARC, ZS5ZLB, the Midlands ARC, ZS5PMB, or the Noord Natal ARC, ZS5NAK), are worth 5 points each, only one contact per station is allowed. Log sheets from all ZS5 club stations will be dealt with as a check log only.

6. Log Sheets

6.1. Excel log sheets to be uploaded at https://mysarl.org.za/contests/uploads.php after the contest ends or during the 5 days thereafter.

6.2. The Excel log sheet is available at contest.sarl.org.za.

7. Awards

A certificate will be awarded to the 1st, 2nd and 3rd place in the party. Certificates of participation will be given to each contestant who submits a log entry.

8. Sponsor Club – Highway Amateur Radio Club (admin@highwayarc.co.za)

SARL Newbie QSO Party



1. Aim

This is a fun activity to encourage all new radio amateurs to become active on HF, collect Grid Squares, and work towards their WAZS.

2. Date and Time

2.1. 11:00 to 16:00 UTC (13:00 CAT– 18:00 CAT) on the 1st Saturday of July - 3 July 2027

2.2. 11:00 to 16:00 UTC (13:00 CAT– 18:00 CAT) on the 3rd Saturday of November - 20 November 2027

3. Exchange

3.1. RS, Four character grid square eg JF95 and Phonetic License Age Exchange found in the table in item 5.1 below.

3.2. Each QSO claimed for competition credit must comply with the rules found under General Rule "5. Contacts".

4. Frequency

4.1. SSB only

4.2. 14 125 to 14 300 kHz from 11:00 to 13:00 UTC (13:00 to 15:00 CAT)

4.3. 7 063 to 7 100 and 7 130 to 7 200 kHz from 13:00 to 16:00 UTC (15:00 to 18:00 CAT)

5. Scoring

5.1. Each contact is worth the number of points found in the table below:

Your length of being a radio amateur	Your License Age Exchange	Points per contact License Age of contact E-Z	Points per Contact License Age of contact Alpha	Points per Contact License Age of contact Bravo
Amateur less than and up to 6 months	Alpha	10	20	15
More than 6 months up to One year	Bravo	9	15	15
Two years	Echo	8	8	8
Three years	Golf	7	9	9
Four years	India	6	10	9
Five to Ten years	November	5	11	10
More than Ten years	Zulu	3	12	11

5.2. You may work the same station on both bands with each QSO counting for points.

5.3. Novices who wish to enlist the assistance of a mentor and operate with their assistance are encouraged to contact their club.

6. Log Sheets

6.1. Logs in Excel format to be uploaded at https://mysarl.org.za/contests/uploads.php after the contest ends or during the 5 days thereafter.

6.2. The Excel log sheet is available at contest.sarl.org.za.

6.3. Do not enter any data in the purple cells in the excel log sheet as they contain the QSO Party scoring formula.

7. Awards

7.1. A certificate will be awarded for 1st, 2nd and 3rd places for each leg of the contest.

7.2. After completion of the 2nd leg of the contest, certificates will be awarded for the overall; winner, 2nd and 3rd places.

8. **Sponsor Club – Bo Karoo Amateur Radio Club**

(zr3vdk@outlook.com / zr3pa@outlook.com)

SARL Youth QSO Party



1. Aim

This is a fun activity to celebrate the Youth and to promote contacts between young radio amateurs in Southern African countries. Call "CQ Youth Sprint"

2. Date and Time

12:00 to 13:00 UTC (1400 to 1500 CAT) on 16 June the National Youth Day.

12:00 to 13:00 UTC (1400 to 1500 CAT) on the 2nd Saturday of August - Saturday 14 August 2027 - International Youth Day is on 12 August each year.

3. Exchange

3.1. The exchange is a RS(T) report and the operator's age.

3.2. Youth stations in IARU Region 1 are classified as aged 25 and under.

3.3. Each QSO claimed for competition credit must comply with the rules found under General Rule "5. Contacts".

4. Frequency

4.1 It is a CW and phone party on the 40m band

4.2 HF 7 063 to 7100 kHz; 7 130 to 7 200 kHz and CW 7 000 kHz to 7 040 kHz

5. Scoring

5.1. Contacts between stations in the age group 26 and younger are worth 5 points.

5.2. Contacts between stations in the 26 and under group and over 26 group are worth 3 points

5.3. Contacts between stations in the age group 27 and older are worth 1 point.

6. Log Sheets

6.1. Logs in Excel format to be uploaded at https://mysarl.org.za/contests/uploads.php after the contest ends or during the 5 days thereafter. The Excel log sheet is available at contest.sarl.org.za

6.2. The age of the operator/s must be shown on the summary sheet.

7. Awards

7.1. Certificates will be issued for the first three places.

7.2. Participants will be given a pdf participant certificate.

7.3. After completion of the 2nd leg of the contest, a certificate will be awarded to the overall; winner, 2nd and 3rd places.

8. Sponsor Club – Bo Karoo Amateur Radio Club

(zr3vdk@outlook.com / zr3pa@outlook.com)

SARL YL QSO Party

1. Aim

This is a fun activity to celebrate Women's Day between radio amateurs in South Africa. And to get as many YL's on the air as possible. Call "YL Contest"

2. Date and Time

14:00 to 15:00 UTC (1600 to 1700 CAT) on the first Saturday of March - 6 March 2027 – International Women's Day is on 8 March each year

14:00 to 15:00 UTC (1600 to 1700 CAT) on National Women's Day - 9 August.

3. Exchange

3.1. The exchange is a RS(T) report and YL or OM.

3.2. Each QSO claimed for competition credit must comply with the rules found under General Rule "5. Contacts".

4. Frequency

4.1. It is a CW and phone party on the 40m band

4.2. Phone 7 063 to 7100 kHz; 7 130 to 7 200 kHz and CW 7 000 kHz to 7 040 kHz

5. Scoring

5.1. Contacts between YL stations are worth 6 points.

5.2. Contacts between YL and OM stations are worth 3 points

5.3. Contacts between OM stations are worth 2 points.

5.4. Contacts between YL Stations and any DX stations (ie outside RSA borders) are worth 7 points. If the DX station is a YL then worth 10 points.

5.5. The scoring for CW is the same as above.

6. Log Sheets

6.1. Logs in Excel format to be uploaded at https://mysarl.org.za/contests/uploads.php after the contest ends or during the 5 days thereafter. The Excel log sheet is available at contest.sarl.org.za

7. Awards

7.1. Certificates will be issued for the first three places.

7.2. Participants will be given a pdf participant certificate.

7.3. After completion of the 2nd leg of the contest, a certificate will be awarded to the overall; winner, 2nd and 3rd places.

8. Sponsor Club – Bo Karoo Amateur Radio Club

(zr3vdk@outlook.com / zr3pa@outlook.com)

Antique Wireless Association CW Activity Day

The AWASA http://www.awasa.org.za/ (andyzs6ady@vodamail.co.za)

1. Aim

The aim of the CW Activity Day is for participants to contact as many amateurs as possible on the 20, 40 and 80 m amateur bands.

2. Date and Time

13:00 – 15:00 UTC on the 1st Sunday of February - 7 February 2027.

3. Frequencies

14 000 to 14 060 kHz

7 000 to 7 040 kHz

3 510 to 3 560 kHz

4. Categories

4.1. Single Operator All Band, Low Power (maximum 100 W)

4.2. Single operator All Band, QRP (maximum 5 W)

4.3. Single Operator Single Band, Low Power (maximum 100 W)

4.4. Single operator Single band, QRP (maximum 5 W)

5. Exchange

5.1. RST, operators name and Grid Square locator

5.2. Each QSO claimed for competition credit must comply with the rules found under General Rule “5. Contacts”.

6. Scoring

Contacts count 1 point for low power, 2 points for QRP.

7. Awards

Certificates are awarded to the first places and the highest single band score.

8. Log Sheets

Logs in Excel format to be uploaded at https://mysarl.org.za/contests/uploads.php after the contest ends or during the 5 days thereafter.

Antique Wireless Association Valve SSB QSO Party

The AWASA http://www.awasa.org.za/ (andyzs6ady@vodamail.co.za)



1. Aim

The aim of the AWA Valve QSO party is to create activity on the 40m and 80m bands. It is a phone only contest using SSB. Preferably, valve radios or radios with valves in them may be used. No linear amplifiers may be used.

2. Date and Time

13:00 to 17:00 UTC 1st Sunday of May and October
Sunday 2 May 2027 - 13:00 to 17:00 UTC
Sunday 3 October 2027 - 13:00 to 17:00 UTC

3. Frequencies

3.1. 40m SSB: 7 063 to 7 100 kHz and 7 130 to 7 200 kHz
The segment from 7 101 to 7 129 is contest free.

3.2. 80m SSB: 3 603 to 3 650 kHz
The segment from 3 651 to 3 699 kHz is contest free

4. Power

The output power may not exceed 100 w, unless the rig itself has a higher output power (FTDX400, etc.)

5. Exchange

5.1. Call sign, RS report, a consecutive serial numbers starting at 001 and the type of radio used, eg HT37 TX.

5.2. Each QSO claimed for competition credit must comply with the rules found under General Rule “5. Contacts”.

6. Scoring (Your radio)

There are 4 classes you can enter:

All valve radio (Mostly valve that is 80/20)

Hybrid radio (Valve finals and driver)

Solid State Radio - Pre 1970

Solid state radio - Post 1970

All score 1 point per contact.

7. Log Sheets

7.1. Log sheets must be uploaded at https://mysarl.org.za/contests/uploads.php after the contest ends or during the 5 days thereafter.

7.2. Certificates will be awarded for the highest score in each category.

HamSat-SA ZS QO-100 QSO Party

1. Aim

This is a fun activity to promote contacts between radio amateurs from South Africa and the world using the QO-100 satellite. The aim for stations from ZS to contact as many different countries as possible.

2. Date and Time

From 13:00 to 15:00 UTC on 2nd Sunday February - 14 February 2027

3. Exchange

RS and Grid locator

4. Frequency

SSB: 10 489,870 to 10 489,990 Mhz

5. Scoring

ZS Stations – 1 point

DX Stations – 2 points

Bonus Points:

+2 Points for every unique DX entity worked

+2 Bonus points for the longest distance between two stations

6. Log sheets

Excel Log sheets template available from https://www.hamsatsa.co.za/hamsat-sa-satellite-competitions/.

Log sheets shall be uploaded at https://mysarl.org.za/contests/uploads.php after the contest ends or during the 5 days thereafter.

7. Awards

A certificate will be awarded to the 1st, 2nd and 3rd place in the competition. Certificates of participation will be given to each contestant with more than 5 QSOs.

8. Sponsor Club – HamSat (tvdbon@gmail.com)

ISS Contact Session

1. Aim

The is a fun satellite related activity to promote activity on satellites. The ISS specifically has two radio's onboard. One is a crossband repeater used for FM voice contacts and the 2nd is used for packet operations. It is easy to get active on the ISS repeaters so why not start your satellite journey? You might even have the luck to make a contact with an Astronaut (NA1SS or RS0ISS) as they jump on the repeater occasionally. Make as many contacts as possible over the time period. (Please keep an eye on https://www.ariss.org/current-status-of-iss-stations.html for radio status).

2. Date and Time

From 1 January to 30 April each year.

3. Exchange

RS and Grid locator (Be sure to log your pass time/date)

4. Frequencies

4.1. Frequency FM Voice - 145.990 MHz up {PL 67} & 437.800 MHz down

4.2. Frequency Packet Radio (APRS) - 145.825 MHz up & down

5. Scoring

5.1. 2 points for every unique ZS station, 1 point for every additional ZS station on a different pass

5.2. 3 points for every unique DX station, 2 points for every additional DX station on a different pass

5.3. 50 points for an astronaut QSO - requires ISS QSL card for proof.

6. Log sheets

Excel Log sheets template available from https://www.hamsatsa.co.za/hamsatsa-competitions-2025/.

Log sheets shall be uploaded at https://mysarl.org.za/contests/uploads.php after the contest ends or during the 5 days thereafter.

7. Awards

A certificate will be awarded to the 1st, 2nd and 3rd place in the competition. Certificates of participation will be given to each contestant with more than 5 QSOs.

8. Sponsor Club – HamSat (tvdbon@gmail.com)

Early Morning Coffee QSO Party

1. Aim.

To create an interest and activity on 80 and 40 m in the mornings and to try and contact as many of the early morning stations as possible. This is a phone only contest and scoring on a sliding scale would depend on the age of the person that you work. Also gives you an opportunity to obtain stations for your WAZS, as well as to collect any Grid Squares that you may need.

2. Dates and Times

04:00 UTC (06:00 CAT) to 05:00 UTC (07:00 CAT) on the 2nd Wednesday of May and October - Wednesday 12 May and
Wednesday 13 October 2027.



3. Frequencies

3.1. 80 m – 3 603 to 3 650 and 3 703 to 3 800 kHz. The segment from 3 651 to 3 699 kHz is contest free

3.2. 40 m – 7 063 to 7 100 and 7 130 to 7 200 kHz. The segment from 7 101 to 7 129 kHz is contest free.

4. Exchange

4.1. Your call sign, a RS report, your Grid Square, your age category and name.

4.2. Each QSO claimed for competition credit must comply with the rules found under General Rule “5. Contacts”.

5. Categories

5.1. Single Operator only.

6. Scoring

6.1. Category A – QSO with a person 55 years and younger counts 1 point

6.2. Category B – QSO with a person between 56 and 60 years counts 2 points

6.3. Category C – QSO with a person between 61 and 64 years counts 3 points

6.4. Category D – QSO with a person between 65 and 69 years counts 4 points

6.5. Category E – QSO with a person between 70 and 80 years counts 5 points

6.6. Category F – QSO with a person between 81 and 89 years counts 10 points

6.7. Category G – QSO with a person 90 years and over counts 15 points.

6.8. When you give a signal report, grid square and name, do not forget to use the CATEGORY as detailed above for your respective age group. As some folks are

sensitive above divulging their age. The Category will in some way not give away the participant's ACTUAL age.

7. Log sheets

7.1. Logs in Excel format to be uploaded at https://mysarl.org.za/contests/uploads.php after the contest ends or during the 5 days thereafter.

7.2. Do not enter any data in the purple cells in the excel log sheet as they contain the QSO Party scoring formula.

7.3. The Excel log sheet is available at contest.sarl.org.za

8. Awards

8.1. Certificates will be issued to the first three places of each leg.

9. Sponsor Club – Bo Karoo Amateur Radio Club

(zr3vdk@outlook.com / zr3pa@outlook.com)

ZS SOTA Activity Weekends

This is a fun event to encourage radio amateurs to participate in the Summits on the Air (SOTA) programme. This fun activity is open to all radio amateurs.

All activations must be according to the SOTA rules: Activators must carry their station, mast and antenna to the summit and may not operate from a building or vehicle. Chasers may operate from any station. A summit may be activated as often as desired, but an individual Activator can only claim points for operation from a particular Summit once in any calendar year. Club stations may not participate in their own right as Activators, Chasers or SWLs.

Register on the database at https://www.sota.org.uk/Online-Resources. Summits are listed on the database and visually on the mapping project. Alerts and Spots are on SOTAwatch, so register to use them. Many repeater high sites are SOTA summits, so get your Club members up to the high site, to activate the summit and enjoy a braai afterwards**.**

1. Date and times

1.1. 00:00 UTC on 22 May to 21:59 UTC on 23 May 2027 on the fourth full weekend of May - Autumn Activity Weekend

1.2. 00:00 UTC on 18 September to 21:59 UTC on 19 September 2027 on the third full weekend of September – Spring Activity Weekend

2. Frequencies and modes

All amateur bands and modes

3. Exchange

3.1. RS, RST or RSQ report and the SOTA reference

4. Categories

4.1. Activator

4.2. Chaser

5. Awards

5.1. Both the activator and chaser will receive a certificate for their participation in the ZS SOTA Activity Days.

5.2. All participants should log the contacts on the SOTA data base.

5.3. **The Brian Jones, ZS6BV, SOTA ZS Award.** Awarded by SOTA SA to the ZS amateur who contributed most towards the ZS-SOTA programme in the past year.

6. Log Sheets

6.1. Upload your SOTA log to the SOTA Database (https://www.sotadata.org.uk/en/) as soon as possible after the QSO Party.

PEARS National VHF/UHF Contest

1. Introduction

1.1. The PEARS National VHF and UHF contest will take place from 8 to 10 January 2027 and is open to all licensed amateurs in the RSA, including non-members of the SARL, as well as amateurs from the neighbouring states.

1.2. The aim of a VHF and UHF contest is to stimulate activity on these bands, make many long-distance contacts possible, establish new records, encourage the improvement of VHF and UHF equipment and advance amateur radio.

1.3. This is a 44-hour dual contest for analogue and digital modes, which is divided into 2 sessions that will spread out activity over the contest period and reflect changes of propagation.

1.4. So, watch out for Tropo Ducting or Meteor Scatter in the early mornings or at night on 50 MHz and 144 MHz, while in the daytime look out for Rover stations, Aircraft scatter and possibly Sporadic-E. This is also a wonderful camping period with lots of fun for Field Stations. Amateurs are requested to participate in both the contests and keep the bands alive.

2. Dates and Times

The first 22-hour session of the VHF and UHF contest starts at 16:00 UTC on Friday 8 January and closes at 14:00 UTC on Saturday afternoon 9 January (2nd Friday and Saturday of January). The second 22-hour session commences immediately after 14:00 UTC on Saturday 9 January and ends at 12:00 UTC on Sunday 10 January 2027 (2nd Saturday and Sunday of January).

3. Categories

3.1. Base Station. A base station is the normal home or fixed station. It may be operated by one or more amateurs as long as they use their own call signs.

3.2. Field Station. A Field Station is a temporary station set up in a caravan, tent or motor vehicle and may erect any type of antenna system but must use their own portable power supply. One or more amateurs may operate it, but they must use their own call signs.

3.3. Club Multi-Operator Station. A Club Multi-operator station can only operate under the Club's call sign. It may use many operators, since all five bands can be worked at the same time and beginners should be encouraged to participate. A club multi-operator team may operate either from a base or a Field Station as desired.

3.4. Rover Category. A Rover is a mobile station that operates from a stationary position in any four 4-digit grid squares during a session. Rover activity should be encouraged as they create a lot of extra activity during a VHF contest and should appeal to townhouse amateurs.

3.5. Limited Category. This category is limited to a total of 4 hours per session divided into two 2-hour periods during each session and may be scheduled during any part of a session operating from any fixed grid position as a base or Field Station or from a stationary mobile.

3.6. The 144,400 MHz and 145,500 MHz FM Category. The main objective of this divisional FM category is to encourage the younger generation, novices or even some old-timers, to participate and get the taste of VHF contesting using simplified rules. You may operate with any type of equipment or antennas on 144,350 – 144,400 MHz FM and/or 145,500 – 145,575 MHz FM, fixed or mobile and try and make as many contacts as possible. You only have to exchange signal reports, but could learn about propagation, have fun and compare notes. You can score 10 points for each contact you make in your own division or 20 points from another division. Stations from other categories and divisions may also QSY to these frequencies and give you some points, of course, they will score their normal one point per kilometre, but you must now give them your grid locator too. There are two sessions, so you can work the same station twice and score extra points or hook up with a station that you missed during the first session.

4. Contest Frequency Channels

50,200 – 50,250 MHz SSB/CW 50,250 – 50,300 MHz Digital 50,350 – 50,400 MHz FM	432,200 – 432,250 MHz SSB/CW 432,250 – 432,300 MHz Digital 432,350 – 432.400 MHz FM
70,100 – 70,150 MHz SSB/CW 70,150 – 70,175 MHz Digital 70,200 – 70,275 MHz FM	1296,200 – 1296,250 MHz SSB/CW 1296,250 – 1296,300 MHz Digital 1296,350 – 1296,400 MHz FM
144,200 – 144,250 MHz SSB/CW 144,250 – 144,300 MHz Digital 144,350 – 144,400 MHz FM 145,500 – 145,575 MHz FM	

4.1. To avoid pileups on the calling frequencies of 50,200 MHz or 144,200 MHz SSB, it is suggested that when activity is high to call on these frequencies but continue the QSO 5 to 15 kHz higher up the band, as done during HF DX contests. So, tune around at times.

4.2. CW stations call CQ 1 kHz above the SSB frequency, (for example 50,201 MHz or 144,201 MHz, to be audible to USB stations too, but you must work CW stations 20 kHz higher in frequency, i.e., 50,220 MHz CW or 144,220 MHz CW).

4.3. Since VHF amateurs are widely spread out across South Africa, it is important to know when and in what direction they are transmitting. Therefore, spotting and any form of liaison will be permitted to solve this problem.

5. Contestants

All ZR/ZS/ZU amateurs may participate as well as amateurs from the six neighbouring states i.e., Namibia (V5), Botswana (A2), Zimbabwe (Z2), Mozambique (C9), Lesotho (7P) and ESwatini (3DA) and only contacts with these states will count.

6. Reports and Scoring

6.1. A valid contact consists of an exchange of call signs, signal reports and the locator, such as the 6-digit Maidenhead Locator or co-ordinates. Stations in the five categories (3.1 to 3.5) claim one point per kilometre, but points may only be claimed for one (1) analogue and one (1) digital contact per station on the same band during a session. A Rover station can be worked from four different 4-digit grid squares, each will count as a new contact.

6.2. A multiplier, based on the total number of four-digit grid squares worked on all bands, will multiply the scores achieved on all bands and categories. The motive behind this is to encourage long distance operation and to log as many 4-digit grid squares as possible on all the VHF and UHF bands to boost your score.

6.3. Each QSO claimed for competition credit must comply with the rules found under General Rule “5. Contacts”.

7. Log Sheets

7.1. Separate log sheets are required for analogue and digital. The top of your log sheet must indicate category, full name, call sign, locator and e-mail address.

7.2. The log sheets require only the Date, Time, Frequency, Call Sign of the station worked, Signal Reports received, the Locator of station worked. Please note that Rover stations must add the suffix /R to their call signs (eg ZS6XYZ/R).

7.3. All entries must be uploaded at https://mysarl.org.za/contests/uploads.php after the contest ends or during the 5 days thereafter.

7.4. The names of the winners as well as a complete list of all the scores will be posted on the SARL VHF forum and the PEARS web site early in February.

8. Awards

8.1. PEARS will award certificates to the top three places overall.

8.2. Certificates will also be issued to the winner of the analogue contest and to the winner of the digital contests.

8.3. Certificates will also be issued for the longest distance achieved on each band. A minimum of 400 kilometres is required to qualify for a certificate.

8.4. A certificate will also be issued for the highest scoring Rover entry.

8.5. The 144 MHz and 145 MHz FM category will also feature an overall winner and first and second runner-up.

9. Further Information

For further information please contact the Port Elizabeth Amateur Radio Society by e-mail to contest@peham.co.za

10. Sponsor Club – Port Elizabeth Amateur Radio Society (PEARS)

Happy Holiday Hunt Event

1. Aim

The SARL Happy Holiday Hunt event aims to promote activity on air over the year-end holidays. Whether you are lucky enough to go on a vacation or have to bargain on a stay-cation, with some extra time on hand, this is the perfect opportunity to enjoy the hunt for those Work all ZS (WAZS) and Work all Grid squares (WAGS) contacts.

2. Date and times

14 December 22:00 UTC to 15 January 22:00 UTC annually.

3. Frequencies and modes

3.1 Frequencies

3.1.1 All HF bands

3.1.2 **2m simplex** – No repeater contacts

3.1.3 **70cm simplex** – No repeater contacts

3.4 Modes

3.4.1 Phone, CW, Digital (FT8, FT4, VARAC)

3.4.2 A station may be worked only once per band and per mode for points eg a 40m CW QSO and a 40m Digital QSO with the same station counts 2 points and subsequent QSOs with that station on CW and Digital do not count for points.

3.4.3 Only QSOs with SADC countries will count towards points.

SADC Countries	Prefix
Angola	D2
Botswana	A2
Comoros	D6
Democratic Republic of Congo	9Q
Eswatini	3DA
Lesotho	7P
Madagascar	5R, 6X
Malawi	7Q
Mauritius	3B8, 3B9
Mozambique	C8, C9
Namibia	V5
Seychelles	S7
Tanzania	5H
Zambia	9J
Zimbabwe	Z2

4. Exchange

4.1. Your name, callsign, the four character grid square you are operating from, a realistic RS report and a holiday greeting!

4.2. Each QSO claimed for competition credit must comply with the rules found under General Rule “5. Contacts” of the SARL Contest Manual.

5. Categories

5.1. Stayers – a station operated from your QTH

5.2. Awayers – a portable / field station operated from a grid square outside of your QTH grid square

5.3. Mixers – Combination of the above.

6. Scoring

6.1 Points

6.1.1 1 point for every QSO with ZS or SADC countries. DX contacts do not score points.

6.1.2 2 points for every QSO on the 30m band

6.1.3 2 points for every QSO on the 60m band

6.2. Multipliers

6.2.1 The first contact with a ZS grid square counts as multiplier

Each grid square counts 1 point. If you work KG54, your grid multiplier will be 1. If you work KG54 and KG33, the multiplier will be 2. The multiplier increases by 1 for each new grid square worked. The same grid square worked on other bands or modes does not count towards the multiplier.

6.2.2 The first contact on a band counts as multiplier

This follows the same logic as grid squares. The first 40m contact (irrespective of mode) will earn you a band multiplier of 1. If you work 40m and 20m, the multiplier will be 2 and it increases by one for each new band worked.

6.2.3 The first contact with any SADC country counts as multiplier

The same logic is followed as for the grid square and band multipliers.

7. Log Sheets

7.1. Excel log sheets to be uploaded at https://mysarl.org.za/contests/uploads.php after the contest ends or during the 5 days thereafter.

7.2 The Excel log sheet is available at https://mysarl.org.za/contest-resources/

8. Awards

8.1. Electronic placement certificates will be issued for the top three places.

8.2. Participants will be awarded a pdf participant certificate.

9. **Sponsor Club – Laeveld Amateur Radio Klub** (zs6fy82@gmail.com)

SARL AWARDS

Further information is available at: https://mysarl.org.za/awards/

WAZS - Worked All ZS Award

The **Worked All ZS** series of awards is available to all radio amateurs and short wave listeners.

One of the League's premier operating awards is Worked All ZS (WAZS). The award, as the name implies, is given for working a large number of South African stations. The entry level is 100 different callsigns, but the programme also includes higher level endorsements. The more advanced awards are known as WAZS-200, WAZS-300 and so on. As of 2020, the leading station is approaching WAZS-2000.

The entry-level award rules specify a minimum number of callsigns from each call area to be contacted. The requirements are based on the number of licenced amateurs in each call area. The least populous call area is the Northern Cape, with only 1% of South African amateurs. Accordingly, only one ZS3 callsign is required for the award. The ZS6 call area, on the other hand, requires 56 callsigns. In principle, working and confirming 56 ZS6 stations should be roughly as difficult as working a single ZS3!

SARL Top Band Certificate

The Top Band Certificate is sponsored by the South African Radio League. Its aim is to encourage more 160 m QSOs with southern African countries.

South African stations must submit proof of having contacted at least six different southern African call areas, of which at least five must be in the Republic of South Africa. The sixth contact can be from the remaining South African call area (ZS), or from any of the bordering countries (Botswana, Eswatini, Lesotho, Mozambique, Namibia, or Zimbabwe).

All Africa Award - AAA

The All Africa Award is sponsored by the South African Radio League.

The aim is to encourage more QSOs with African countries.

Applicants must prove having made contact with the following 31 areas:

- One contact with a station in each of the six call areas of South Africa (ZS1 to ZS6).
- One contact in each of 25 African countries outside South Africa.

SARL Operating Awards

The following Trophies will be awarded by the SARL Council and presented the to the recipients at the SARL Annual Dinner along with an award letter and PDF certificate:

The Barney Joel Trophy. Awarded by Council to any SARL member for the best performance during the year whilst working HF mobile. This award could be made for performance by an individual in rally or another public event communication, etc.

Bert Buckley Six Metre Trophy. Awarded by Council to any SARL member for his/her individual achievements with transmissions in the six-metre amateur band. This award is not for the longest distance worked but for outstanding work or activity on six metres.

Radio ZS VHF Floating Trophy. Awarded by Council to the SARL member who achieved all-round performance on the VHF/UHF and higher bands during the year.

Arthur Hemsley 2 metre Trophy. Awarded by Council to a SARL member for his/her individual achievements with transmissions in the 2-metre amateur band. This award is made for extraordinary performance on EME or modes such as Tropospheric propagation. It is not for the longest distance worked but rather for persistence in achieving something special on 2 metres.

Joseph White Plaque. Awarded by Council to any SARL member for exceptional achievements in 432 MHz or higher during the past year. This is not awarded for the longest distance worked, but for all round achievements.

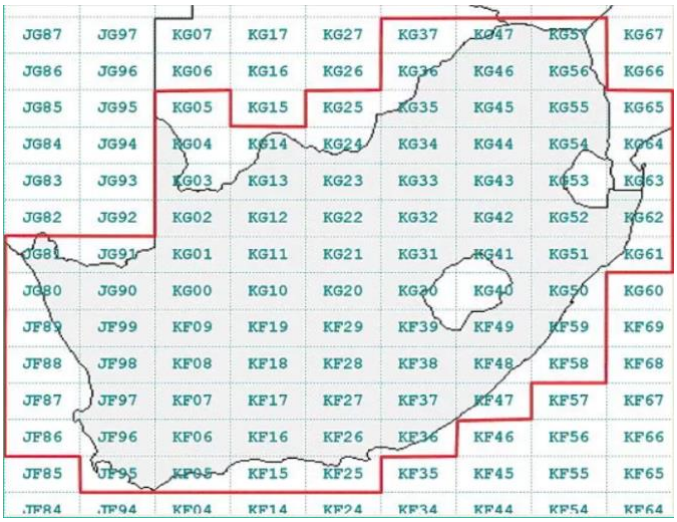
The Heritage on the Air Trophies. Awarded by HOTA SA to the ZS amateur who contributed most towards the ZS-HOTA programme in the past year.

ZS WAGS - Worked All Grid Squares Award

ZS WAGS

South African Worked all Grid Squares award

The land mass of South Africa is completely contained within 83 grid squares as shown in the graphic.



The aim of the WAGS award is to involve licensed amateur radio stations in a fun activity to collect at least one contact from each of the 83 South African Maidenhead grid squares as listed below.

JF86-JF89; JF95-JF99; JG80-JG81; JG90-JG91; KF05-KF09; KF15-KF19; KF25-KF29; KF36-KF39; KF47-KF49; KF58-KF59; KG00-KG05; KG10-KG14; KG20-KG25; KG30-KG37; KG40-KG47; KG50-KG57; KG61-KG65.

A contact with any station will be valid as long as the station is operating from within one of the 83 listed grid squares. This will include stations legally operating in foreign countries or maritime mobile.

There are awards starting from the achievement of having worked 25 grid squares all the way up to 83 grid squares worked, the challenging ZS WAGS Full House Award.

There is no stipulated time period over which you have to achieve the contacts and there are awards for both Hunters and Chasers and various specialist categories.

Please visit the WAGS website for full details: https://www.zswags.org.za/

Abbreviated Club Callsigns List

The Club Contest Exchange is the Abbreviated Club Callsign **Issue 2026-10-10 v1.6**

1. The list is maintained by the SARL Contest Working Group
2. To appear on the list a club must have a ICASA issued call sign - new clubs send a copy of their club call sign's ICASA license to contest@sarl.org.za
3. Members of the SARL who are not club members can provide the SARL Abbreviated Callsign as their exchange and it will count as a club (the SARL itself is not a contest club)
4. QSO with 'no-club call sign' will score zero club points - enter 'none' in logs
5. CHECK at contest.sarl.org.za for the latest version of the Abbreviated Callsigns

If there are any changes to the list below, the updated list will be posted to the Contest Resources section on the SARL website at contest.sarl.org.za and in the Club Contest log sheet.

Club Name	Abbreviated Club Callsign
Alberton Amateur Radio Interest Group	6TDK
Antique Wireless Association	0AWA
Bloemfontein Amateur Radio Club	4BFN
Bo-Karoo Amateurradioklub	3VDK
Boland Amateurradioklub	1BAK
Border Radio Club	2BRC
Cape Coast Radio Club	1CCR
Cape Radio Group	1CRG
Cape Town Amateur Radio Club	1CT
Centurion Radio Amateur Club	6CEN
CW Activity Club	0CW
Durban Amateur Radio Club	5D
DX Safari Radio Club	1DX
East Rand Radio Club	6ERB
Eden Amateur Radio Club	1ERZ
Ekurhuleni Amateur Radio Society	6ARS
False Bay Amateur Radio Club	1FRC
Gauteng Amateur Radio Club	6GPG
Hammies Amateur Radio Club - Div 1	1ZU
Hammies Amateur Radio Club - Div 2	2ZU
Hammies Amateur Radio Club - Div 3	3ZU
Hammies Amateur Radio Club - Div 4	4ZU
Hammies Amateur Radio Club - Div 5	5ZU
Hammies Amateur Radio Club - Div 6	6ZU
Hibiscus Coast Amateur Radio Club	5HAC
Highveld Amateur Radio Club	6HVB
Highway Amateur Radio Club	5HAM
Jeugland Radio Club	6JRC
Johannesburg Amateur Radio Club	6TJ
Kempton Park Amateur Radio Technical Society	6KTS

Kimberley Amateurradioklub	3KBY
Laeveld Amateur Radio Klub	6LOW
Lichtenburg Amateur Radio Klub	6LRK
Magalies Radioamateurklub	6MRK
Midlands Amateur Radio Club	5PMB
Mooirivier Amateurradioklub	6MOI
Mpisi Amateur Radio Klub	6MPS
Namaqualand Aero Sport Association	3FLY
Namibian Amateur Radio League	51NAM
Noord-Kaap Amateurradioklub	3NC
Noord-Natal Amateurradioklub	5NAK
Noordwes Amateur Radio Klub	6RWT
Oakdale Amateurradioklub	1OAK
OTL Radioklub	6OTL
Overberg Amateurradioklub	1OAR
Port Elizabeth Amateur Radio Society	2PE
Potchefstroom Amateurradioklub	6POT
Pretoria Amateur Radio Club	6PTA
Roman Rock Radio Club	0RR
Rustenburg Amateur Radio Klub	6RTB
SA Institute of Electrical Engineers Museum	6IEE
SABC Amateur Radio Club	6RTV
Sandringham Scout Group	6SSG
Sandton Amateur Radio Club	6STN
SARL Member	6SRL
Sasolburg Amateurradioklub	4SRK
SCS Aerospace Group Amateur Radio Club	1SAC
Secunda Amateur Radio Club	6SRC
Southern Suburbs Amateur Radio Club	6SSC
Soutpansberg Amateur Radio Club	6SPB
Suid Kaap Amateurradioklub	1SKR
The Radio Club	1RC
The Southern African Morse Operators Club	6CW
Vaal Triangle Amateur Radio Club	6VTB
Vrystaat Amateurradioklub	4B
Welkom Radioklub	4WRC
Weskus Amateur Radio Klub	1WK
West Rand Amateur Radio Club	6WR
Winelands Amateur Radio Club	1WRC
Wolkberg Amateurradioklub	6TWB
ZS Link Network Group	1ZSG

African AF DXCC Entity List

Extracted from the ARRL '2022_DXCC_Current.pdf' on 2025-09-09 (updated 2026-10-10).

African Mainland DXCC Entities

Prefix	Entity	Cont	ITU	CQ	Entity Code
7T-7Y	Algeria	AF	37	33	400
D2-3	Angola	AF	52	36	401
TY	Benin	AF	46	35	416
A2	Botswana	AF	57	38	402
XT	Burkina Faso	AF	46	35	480
9U	Burundi	AF	52	36	404
TJ	Cameroon	AF	47	36	406
TL	Central Africa	AF	47	36	408
EA9-EH9	Ceuta & Melilla	AF	37	33	32
TT	Chad	AF	47	36	410
TN	Congo (Republic of the)	AF	52	36	412
TU	Cote d'Ivoire	AF	46	35	428
9Q-9T	Dem. Rep. of Congo	AF	52	36	414
J2	Djibouti	AF	48	37	382
SU	Egypt	AF	38	34	478
3C	Equatorial Guinea	AF	47	36	49
E3	Eritrea	AF	48	37	51
ET	Ethiopia	AF	48	37	53
TR	Gabon	AF	52	36	420
9G	Ghana	AF	46	35	424
3X	Guinea	AF	46	35	107
J5	Guinea-Bissau	AF	46	35	109
5Y-5Z	Kenya	AF	48	37	430
3DA	Kingdom of Eswatini	AF	57	38	468
7P	Lesotho	AF	57	38	432
EL	Liberia	AF	46	35	434
5A	Libya	AF	38	34	436
7Q	Malawi	AF	53	37	440
TZ	Mali	AF	46	35	442
5T	Mauritania	AF	46	35	444
CN	Morocco	AF	37	33	446
C8-9	Mozambique	AF	53	37	181

V5	Namibia	AF	57	38	464
5U	Niger	AF	46	35	187
5N	Nigeria	AF	46	35	450
9X	Rwanda	AF	52	36	454
6V-6W	Senegal	AF	46	35	456
9L	Sierra Leone	AF	46	35	458
T5,6O	Somalia	AF	48	37	232
ZR-ZU	South Africa	AF	57	38	462
Z8	South Sudan (Rep of)	AF	48	34	521
ST	Sudan	AF	47,48	34	466
5H-5I	Tanzania	AF	53	37	470
C5	The Gambia	AF	46	35	422
5V	Togo	AF	46	35	483
3V	Tunisia	AF	37	33	474
5X	Uganda	AF	48	37	286
S01	Western Sahara	AF	46	33	302
9I-9J	Zambia	AF	53	36	482
Z2	Zimbabwe	AF	53	38	452

African Island DXCC Entities

Prefix	Entity	Cont	ITU	CQ	Entity Code
3B6,7	Agalega & St. Brandon Is.	AF	53	39	4
FT/Z	Amsterdam & St. Paul Is.	AF	68	39	10
3C0	Annobon I	AF	52	36	195
ZD8	Ascension I	AF	66	36	205
3Y	Bouvet	AF	67	38	24
EA8-EH8	Canary Is	AF	36	33	29
D4	Cape Verde	AF	46	35	409
VQ9	Chagos Is	AF	41	39	33
D6	Comoros	AF	53	39	411
FT/W	Crozet I	AF	68	39	41
FT/G,TO	Glorioso Is	AF	53	39	99
VK0	Heard I	AF	68	39	111
FT/J,E,TO	Juan de Nova, Europa	AF	53	39	124
FT/X	Kerguelen Is	AF	68	39	131
5R	Madagascar	AF	53	39	438
CT3	Madeira Is.	AF	36	33	256
3B8	Mauritius	AF	53	39	165

FH,TO	Mayotte	AF	53	39	169
ZS8	Prince Edward & Marion Is.	AF	57	38	201
FR,TO	Reunion I	AF	53	39	453
3B9	Rodrigues I	AF	53	39	207
S9	Sao Tome & Principe	AF	47	36	219
S7	Seychelles	AF	53	39	379
ZD7	St. Helena	AF	66	36	250
ZD9	Tristan da Cunha & Gough I	AF	66	38	274
FT/T,TO	Tromelin I	AF	53	39	276

Notes

There are 50 DXCC entities on the Mainland of Africa.

There are 26 DXCC entities that are Islands in the AF continent.

There are some islands in the AF region that are classified as part of their country's DXCC, Pelagie, Pantelleria (Italy), Socotra (Yemen).

The Maldives is shown as AS/AF on the DXCC list, however IOTA class it as AS and so not included on this list.

To allocate an island to a DXCC use the IOTA African Islands list

https://www.iota-world.org/iota-directory/iota-island-group-listings/africa.html

Apply the rule that if the Island falls under a DXCC entity then the DXCC entity takes precedence over the Country they are listed under eg Rodrigues I. is a DXCC entity and so does not fall under Mauritius.

For accurate call sign mapping refer to the latest version of country.dat that is available from www.country-files.com

There is also an online list at: https://www.ng3k.com/Dxcc/dxccaf.html

SARL General Contest Information Sheet

V1.1 20261029

This document provides guidance on how to go about contesting in SARL contests.

Which Contests you want to participate in?

The SARL Contest Manual is available at https://mysarl.org.za/contest-resources/ and contains all the contests that the SARL organises.

Look in the Contest Manual on page 3 where you will find a clickable link to all the SARL contests in the manual.

There is also a section starting on page 4 which lists every contest in date order.

The Contest Manual on mysarl.org.za will be the latest version of the manual, which is also referred to as the Blue Book by old timers.

Decide on a contest and read the rules for the contest

Decide on the contest that you want to enter.

Then read the contest's rules. Each contest has contest specific rules.

Determine what the required exchange or exchanges for the contest is or are.

Download latest contest log sheet before each contest

Log sheets for contests are available at https://mysarl.org.za/contest-resources/, most are excel sheets, so you will need Excel or a program like Open Office to use them.

Good practice is to download a contest's log sheet immediately before each contest as the log sheet may have been recently updated/corrected.

Set up your logging mechanism

Either draw up a manual log sheet, or use a stand-alone computer based log program / excel sheet, or set up your rig and interface it to a computer logging program.

If you elect to use a sheet of paper then draw up the necessary information columns that you will need to fill in as you make QSOs, a QSO being the term for an on air contact with another radio amateur. You can determine the information that has to be logged by looking at the excel log sheet, or alternatively at the contest rules for specific contest exchanges that you need to log, such as the other party's grid square or name.

With your computer you can either open your downloaded excel log sheet and enter information directly into it as you QSO in the contest, or you can set up a computer logging program that can be connected to your rig and capture each QSO's data into it. This does take time and there are many options available, so allow for time before the contest to set things up for yourself. It is suggested you ask at your club or ask an experienced OM to

assist you in setting up your computer to log. There is some guideline information at https://mysarl.org.za/contest-software-and-logging/ that can serve as a starting point. Many contesters use computer logging that interfaces to their rig.

Determine your Grid Square

Determine your Maidenhead grid locator (grid square). Links and mobile apps can be found at https://mysarl.org.za/contest-software-and-logging/

Participate in the contest

There is an online contest calendar at https://mysarl.org.za/contest-resources/ which you can add to your phone/computer's calendar, a link to do this is available above the calendar. The calendar entries have reminders set a day ahead of each contest.

While participating in a contest, if using a computer, check that it is saving each QSO as you progress.

Prepare your log

Add 5 days to end of contest to determine submission upload deadline.

Many OMs prepare and submit their log immediately after the contest ends.

The SARL allows multiple uploads of a log and will by default take the last submitted log as the submission to evaluate, this allows for the upload a corrected log.

Fill in the excel log sheet that you downloaded (or for the contests that require a Cabrillo format log generate one from your log program)

Check your log sheet to see if you have made entry errors and that the information that you supply about yourself and operating conditions are correct in the sheet.

Typical log errors are, time not in UTC, incorrectly entered callsigns, characters typed wrong or missing, an 'o' captured instead of 0 9zero), an 'i' instead of a 1, grid square J G F K in the wrong order or swapped, abbreviated club callsign wrong. Also check that your own information is correct and complete.

The evaluator may at their discretion return your log to you to correct.

Upload your log

Check through your log before uploading so as not to lose points due to typos and missing information.

Upload process – go to https://mysarl.org.za/contests/uploads.php fill in the details and select your log and submit.

Issues

If you want to raise anything e-mail contest@sarl.org.za.

Additional information

Getting your callsign and details on the web

Most ZS RAs register themselves on the QRZ.com system. Log4om and other logging programs query the QRZ.com database to retrieve information, so it is in your interest to be registered there.

Online Log Systems

For chasing a Worked All ZS (WAZS) award https://mysarl.org.za/wp-content/uploads/2025/06/WAZS-Information-and-Rules.pdf - upload your log to the SA-QSL system on mySARL.org.za at https://www.mysarl.org.za/SAQSL/ Any licensed RA in South Africa and surrounding countries can register by emailing your call sign and a request for registration on SA-QSL to webmaster@sarl.org.za. There is a help screen at https://www.mysarl.org.za/SAQSL/help.php . Good practice is to upload your logs to the SA-QSL system after each contest / regularly as it then assists others who are working towards their WAZS.

For those who want to chase DX QSOs and QSLs and DXCC consider registering at the ARRL logbook of the world https://lotw.arrl.org/lotw-help/getting-started/?lang=en .

Summary of changes made from the 2026 Contest Manual to this 2027 Contest Manual:

1. All contest log submissions from January 2027 to be done through a log upload via https://mysarl.org.za/contests/uploads.php (no track changes of this change in this draft).
2. Moved sponsor club email addresses to the sponsor item in sponsored contests, so that they can be used to contact the contest sponsor, if necessary.
3. Added Holiday Hunt.
4. Hammies contest withdrawn for 2027.
5. Added a third leg to 20m Club Contest.
6. Moved Top Band 3 weeks later.
7. Moved May leg of the ZS SOTA Activity Weekends to the 4th full weekend of May.
8. National Field day":
   a. Added an overlay of Single transceiver to Class A stations to recognise small stations.
   b. Added the explicit rule that Class A through E stations that do not provide photographs showing the operation of their station in the Class logged will have their logs evaluated as Class G.
   c. Added note that the 50 point bonus photo is for an action photo not just a picture of the operator/rig.
9. Moved 2nd leg 40m Club a week later to avoid the SARL AGM, 2nd leg now 1st Saturday of May each year.
10. ZS3 QSO Party - added 'your town's name' to the required exchange.
11. QRP added a digital mode JS8Call.
12. Rationalised submission period to 5 days after contest for all contests (except the 6m). General rule on submission changed. The actual closure date and time taken out of each contest's rules and the words "after the contest ends or during the 5 days thereafter" used, as this streamlines the management of the Blue Book details and standardises the SARL contest submission process – via an upload and the period allowed. When contests are promoted the submission date can if necessary be calculated and provided. There have historically been at least one error in the submission closure date in each BB.
13. Removed the notes that specified that log sheet filenames must include the contestant's callsign, as the log file upload now automatically adds the callsign to the filename when renaming the uploaded log to the standard format (contestname_callsign_date_UTCtime_uploaded), which simplifies log file sorting and evaluation.
14. Dropped the .ics calendar files and provided a link on the contest-results page that enables the addition of the contest calendar kept in the sarlcontest gmail account (sarlcontest@gmail.com) to a contester's calendar.

15. Updated the log submission section 8 in the General Rules and rationalised the SARL Standard Operating Procedures for Contest Sponsors section into it. Added a section at the end of the General Rules detailing how the upload facility works.
16. Removed ADIF as a submission file format for all contests (except the 6m challenge where it is needed from LotW and from FT4).
17. Removed Cabrillo from the ZSx QSO Parties and most of the sponsored contests as many sponsors do not have Cabrillo evaluators. Contests where there are N1MM+ UDCs available were left with Cabrillo as a submission format.
18. Rationalised the AAMDX Cabrillo requirement.
19. Made it explicit in AAMDX and National Field day that a log must have a QSO with a SADC station in it, to qualify for inclusion in the results (over and above the general rule 5.10).
20. Certificates will be issued to a qualifying contestant on request by them to the contest sponsor. Contest sponsors may still elect to send certificates to all who qualify for a certificate in terms of their contest's rules.
21. Newby contest – edited points table to provide added clarity as to contestant license age and contact age. Combined the license age table into the scoring table to remove duplication. No change to the points per QSO.
22. Updated the club list to the latest version (from the club list in contest resources on the website).
23. Changed references to "MS Excel" to Excel.
24. Section 16 of the General Rules on Logging has been made contest logging specific - Logbook for Amateur Radio Station Contesting. It now details what logging can be used, gives a high level indication of what log formats are and how to convert them for submission to the SARL Contest Evaluators.
25. Added a definition of SARL Member item 10.2 General Rules.

Changes made after the Draft was circulated for comment

26. Added a reference in GR 9 on how to determine your Maidenhead grid locator.
27. Defined 'persistent poor signal quality' through examples in GR 14.1
28. Removed GR 8.2 and replaced it with a section on log quality checks and corrections.
29. GR 15.7 changed the last part of the rule to indicate that Unique Stations and Stations "handing out points" may be approached to send in logs in future to increase their fuller contest participation and the integrity of the contest that they participate in.
30. Early morning coffee – changed category A to include people of age 55.
31. SARL Youth QSO Party – 3.2 Youth stations 50 years and under.
32. Updated the African AF DXCC Entity List to remove some digits that were appended to some prefixes.
33. Updated the Abbreviated Club Callsigns List.
34. GR Definition 4.5 Station Equipment – removed the reference to a Grid Square

35. SARL Top Band QSO Contest changed name to SARL Top Band QSO Party and removed the certificates for the 1-3 places and made participation certificates available on request.
36. QRP – added JS8Call power level.
37. SARL 80 m QSO Challenge – shortened to 2 hours from 3, new scoring system, renamed to Challenge from Party. New Sponsor.
38. NFD – 5.3 Clarified when a station is considered mobile in the NFD. Added category F – Multiple Call sign station (Class C operators wishing to operate from a common station due to security issues in the field). Removed two miscellaneous rules (2026 9.2 and 9.4).
39. 40m and 20m club contest – changed item 6.1 to read “2 points for every SSB QSO” (added SSB to clarify wrt CW and RTTY). 8.3 changed ‘participation’ to ‘combined score’ to clarify and align to practice.
40. SARL Saturday 20 m Club Contest 3rd leg moved a week later to 13 November 2027.
41. Africa All Mode International DX Contest – rationalised categories, removed power levels and Multi-two in Cabrillo specification. Results out 2 weeks after log submission closes. Added QRP overlay to Single Transmitter categories.
42. Added the ‘SARL General Contest Information Sheet’

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