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Subject	VHF and up Contest Rules – update to Rule 5.3.1		
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Author:	Robert Vilhar, S53WW		

VHF and up Contest Rules – update to Rule 5.3.1

Introduction

The current rule that defines contest eligible entrants does not clearly cover the situation when two (or more) operators are using the same call sign on different frequency bands AND each of them operates only on one frequency band AND they want to be treated as single operator. Such a mode of operation can not be claimed single operator as it is impossible to clearly identify during the contest how many operators were really operating on different frequency bands and whether any non-allowed assistance of other operators was in use (note that their correspondents would treat such a station as a multi operator station).

So the following sentence is proposed to be added to the end of the first paragraph of the existing text of the 5.3.1 rule:

“Station operated by more than one operator and using the same call sign on different frequency bands is eligible for Multioperator section only.”

The part of the rule that covers stations operating temporary outside their home country (repeated from 5.2.D) needs to allow participation in case VHF Manager/Contest Committee in the visiting country does not exist or are not active. Even if the VHF Manager/Contest Committee formally exists but is/are not active, the chances of having the log reach final organizer are minimal. It is not fair to pose such a high barrier to participating in the contest to the stations that are willing to activate “rare” countries also during the contests. Beside, this rule is in conflict with 5.3.10 which states: *“Logs must be sent to the national VHF Manager or the national Contest Committee **and/or parallel the IARU Contest robot** not later than the second Monday following the contest weekend.”*

So the following sentence is proposed to be added to the end of the second paragraph of the existing text of the 5.3.1 rule as well as to the end of 5.2.D:

“In case VHF Manager/Contest Committee in the visiting country does not exist or it is not active, the log can be sent directly to the IARU R1 contest adjudicator.”

Modification

New wording of the rule 5.3.1:

5.3.1 Eligible entrants

All licensed radio amateurs in Region 1 may participate in the contest. Multiple operator entries will be accepted, provided only one call sign per band is used during the contest. When such stations use a different call sign on each band, the logs of that Multioperator entry shall for each band clearly bear an indication of the group. This will preferably be one of the call signs used, but a group name may be used instead. All stations belonging to such a group shall operate from the same location (see section 5.3.3). Station operated by more than one operator and using the same call sign on different frequency bands is eligible for Multioperator section only.

The contestants must operate within the letter and spirit of the contest and at no greater power than permitted in the ordinary licenses of their country. Stations operating under special high power licenses do so "hors concours" and cannot be placed in the contest proper.

Stations operating temporarily outside their "home-country" are for the purpose of the contest participating as stations in the country where they operate and their logs must be submitted to the VHF Manager/Contest Committee of that country. Logs sent to the Contest Committee of their home country shall not be submitted to the adjudicating society. In case VHF Manager/Contest Committee in the visiting country does not exist or it is not active, the log can be sent directly to the IARU R1 contest adjudicator.