2010 IARU HF World Championship Results

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Thousands keep finding HF fun in July.

The write-up from last year's results started with the following statement: "In spite of being in the deepest solar minimum of our lifetimes, contesters came out in record numbers to participate in this increasingly popular summer event." Well, the sunspots weren't that much better in 2010 than 2009 (more on that later), but the number of logs received again set a new record. 3714 logs were received, which is up almost 10% from last year's 3404 submittals.

What Is Making IARU HF Increasingly Popular?

You've probably participated in some of the "smaller" contests – like the friendly North American QSO Parties sponsored by the National Contest Journal (**www.ncjweb.com**) and your state's QSO party. You might have done fairly well in those events but want to ramp up your contesting endeavors to the bigger contests – that is, get your feet even wetter in contesting. If you're in this category, you might want to try the IARU HF World Championship this coming July.

AI4AW, in his Soapbox comments (**www.arrl.org/contests/soapbox**) on the July 10-11, 2010 event summarized it nicely by saying, "What makes the IARU contest fun is everyone works everyone, we get to operate both CW and phone, the exchange is simple, we get to work HQ stations and receive their nifty QSLs through the bureau, and it's a 24 hour contest. It's also during the summer break which allows busy college students to take it seriously."

Throw in the fact that almost two-thirds of the participants were entered in the Low Power category (less than or equal to 150 watts) and that means your modest station will be on par with the majority of the competitors. Get your antennas ready (even better, make some improvements to your antenna farm) and join in the fun this July.

Logs, Zones, QSOs, Bands

As mentioned earlier, the 2010 event set a new record in log submittals. Figure 1 at left shows the number of logs submitted by year. No doubt the World Radiosport Team Championship 2010 (run within the IARU HF World Championship) contributed to more log submittals but it's pretty obvious that the popularity of this contest grows independently of the WRTC events.

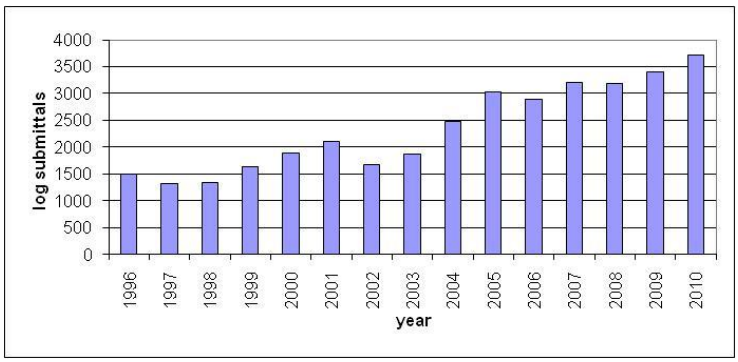
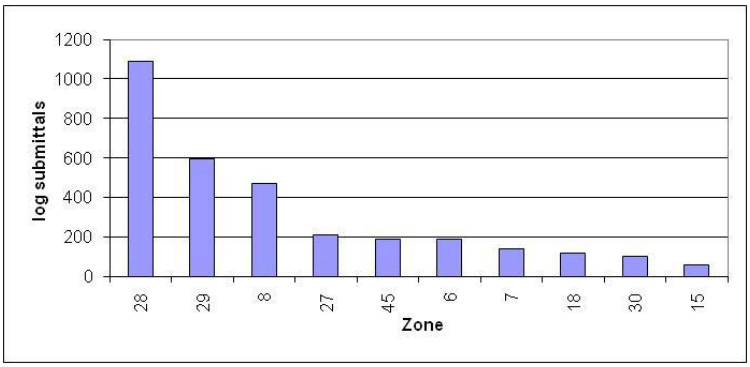
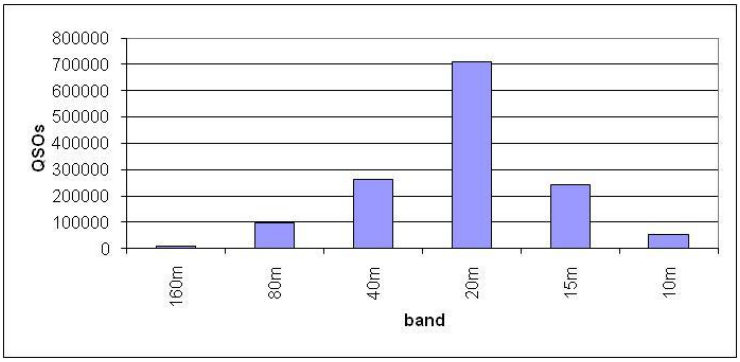


Figure 2 at right shows the Zone participation in terms of the number of logs received. Zone 28 again takes top honors, with Zone 29, Zone 8, Zone 27, and Zone 45 rounding out the top five. Logs were received from fifty-four zones this year. (An ITU Zone map is available at **iaru.org/ituzonesc.gif**)



In the logs received there were almost 1,400,000 QSOs made over the 24-hour contest period. In the Phone-Only and CW-Only category, CW entrants made roughly twice as many QSOs as the Phone entrants. It is likely that this ratio applies to all the categories, which says CW is still just as popular as ever and offers more QSOs due to its inherent effectiveness in marginal conditions.

With solar Cycle 24 just beginning its ascent, one would expect little change from last year in the number of QSOs by band. Indeed, the percentages compared to last year look similar. Figure 3 below shows the number of QSOs by band. It's possible that the slow rise of Cycle 24 will push the number of 15 meter QSOs past the number of 40 meter QSOs for this July's event.



One prediction from the data is certain – 20 meters will likely still be the go-to band regardless of where we are in a solar cycle. That's because this contest is run in the summer, when maximum useable frequencies are lower than winter. If you're restricted to one band for whatever reason, you might want to concentrate on 20 meters.

HQ and AC Stations

After last year's disagreement over log checking for HQ stations the World Wide Radio Operators Foundation (**www.wwrof.org**) volunteered to set up a committee of EU log reviewers representing their national societies (9A5K, DL3DXX, E77DX, F2DX, G4IRN, HB9EPA, OK1DIG, LA6FJA, SM6JSM, and SP7DQR). Their table (see the sidebar) of final results for the HQ and AC stations is included. We greatly appreciate the work done by the committee to make sure the HQ and AC logs are judged agreeably to all. A sidebar by Chris, 9A5K can be found at the end of this article along with all HQ and AC station scores.

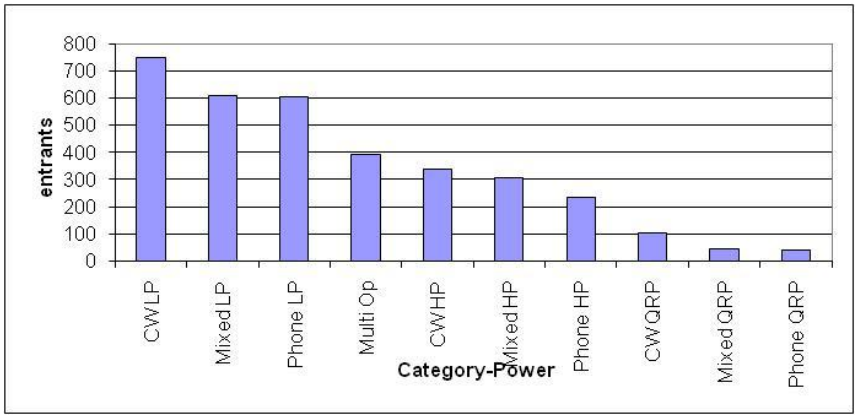
Records

Three new records were set during the 2010 contest. Two of the three were individuals beating their old record! The World Single Op CW HP record set in 2005 was beaten by RV1AW operating as 5B/W2TAA. His 4.2-million score bested CT1BOH's 3.8-million record score at CT3EN. N1UR beat his Single-Op, Low Power, Phone 506k record set in 2009 with a score of 593k. And W1RM squeaked by his Single-Op, Low Power, CW 1,065,100-point record set in 2006 with a score of 1,135,630. Way to go, guys!

IARU HF Championship Records			
World Records	**Call**	**Score**	**Year**
Single-Op HP Mixed	3V1A	4,414,517	2007
Single-Op LP Mixed	HG3M (HA3MY op)	2,095,522	2004
Single-Op QRP Mixed	HG5Y	1,067,647	2007
Single-Op HP Phone	CN2R (W7EJ op)	4,718,736	2005
Single-Op LP Phone	D4C	2,975,632	2008
Single-Op QRP Phone	HG1W (HA1WD op)	348,517	2007
Single-Op HP CW	**5B/W2TAA (RV1AW op)**	**4,219,995**	**2010**
Single-Op LP CW	HA8DU	2,278,782	2006
Single-Op QRP CW	HA5KDQ (HA7ANT op)	1,412,260	2006
Multioperator	P3A	7,008,176	2003
Headquarters	R9HQ	26,342,498	2006
W/VE Records	**Call**	**Score**	**Year**
Single-Op HP Mixed	KQ2M	2,810,088	2001
Single-Op LP Mixed	VE3DZ	1,179,150	2009
Single-Op QRP Mixed	NØKE	187,590	2008
Single-Op HP Phone	KH6ND	2,257,190	2002
Single-Op LP Phone	**N1UR**	**592,920**	**2010**
Single-Op QRP Phone	KC5R	172,080	2007
Single-Op HP CW	VY2ZM (K5ZD op)	2,631,694	2005
Single-Op LP CW	**W1RM**	**1,135,630**	**2010**
Single-Op QRP CW	W2GD	427,392	2009
Multioperator	K1LZ	2,554,760	2009
Headquarters	W1AW/4	10,720,370	2000

Class-Power Statistics

It was mentioned earlier that almost two-thirds of the participants entered in the Low Power category. Figure 4 below breaks down the entries by Category and Power. Single-Op, Low Power, CW is the most popular entry, with Single-Op, Low Power, Mixed and Single-Op, Low Power, Phone pretty much running neck and neck.



On the other end of the power meter, forty participants braved Single-Op, QRP, Phone (less than or equal to 5 watts). This was followed closely by forty-six entrants in Single-Op, QRP, Mixed. The number of Single-Op, QRP, CW entrants was more than twice that of Mixed or Phone. CW had a whopping one hundred and three brass pounders working at the 5-watt-or-less level.

Zones To Be In To Win

The table at right delineates the Winners by Zone (for both the World and W/VE) for each Category and Power. There's nothing surprising here. If you want to win the World, Zone 28 gives you the best chance due to the population density and point structure of the scoring format. Likewise, Zone 8 gives a W/VE station the best chance of winning. Of course there are a few exceptions, but the data tells the story.

World	Zone of Winner	W/VE	Zone of Winner
Single-Op HP Mixed	28	Single-Op HP Mixed	8
Single-Op LP Mixed	28	Single-Op LP Mixed	8
Single-Op QRP Mixed	28	Single-Op QRP Mixed	8
Single-Op HP Phone	28	Single-Op HP Phone	4
Single-Op LP Phone	28	Single-Op LP Phone	8
Single-Op QRP Phone	28	Single-Op QRP Phone	4
Single-Op HP CW	39	Single-Op HP CW	8
Single-Op LP CW	39	Single-Op LP CW	8
Single-Op QRP CW	28	Single-Op QRP CW	7
Multioperator	29	Multioperator	8
Headquarters	28	Headquarters	8

Top Ten by Category

DX			US and Canada	
Call	Score		Call	Score
Single-Operator, QRP, Mixed			**Single-Operator, QRP, Mixed**	
OK7CM	395,328		KT8K	110,016
US2IZ	235,382		NDØC	82,082
DR2Q (DL8MBS, op)	151,156		KA1LMR	57,486
JR3RWB	108,460		W6AQ	38,346
RW6FO	107,502		K8ZT	29,176
LY4BF	87,000		VE3MGY	29,080
IZ3NVR	72,653		NT4TS	15,163
RN4HAB	57,152		VE3WZ	14,364
SP5DDJ	49,280		WØMRZ	13,716
RK9DO	30,267		KU4A	13,146
Single-Operator, Low Power, Mixed			**Single-Operator, Low Power, Mixed**	
HGØR (HAØNAR, op)	1,426,500		NR3X (N4YDU, op)	530,874
RL9AA	1,394,584		K9JF	502,720
OL6P	1,053,949		VE3KF	457,905
HG1ØP (HA3MY, op)	1,036,028		KØAD	364,760
UA3RC	1,030,621		N2WN	268,200
LY4L	991,952		N2ZN	203,371
OK2BYW	710,160		KB9OWD	202,080
RW9C	709,136		VE1AL	201,664
SK3A (SM3CVM, op)	661,153		N9CM	198,120
VP5ØV (W5CW, op)	659,450		N1YX	188,370
Single-Operator, High Power, Mixed			**Single-Operator, High Power, Mixed**	
4O3A (UT5UDX, op)	3,573,079		K3CR (LZ4AX, op)	2,472,660
RC9O	3,061,970		VE3AT	2,187,184
EA8CMX (OH2BYS, op)	2,944,200		KQ2M	1,938,457
RG3K (UA3QDX, op)	2,695,210		K9RS (N3DXX, op)	1,624,129
DL1IAO	2,361,174		K3ZO	1,516,816
YTØZ (YU1ZZ, op)	2,342,697		W4AN (K4BAI, op)	1,446,898
OH8L (OH8LQ, op)	2,289,030		K4AB	927,399
UT7U (UT7UV, op)	2,189,970		N4DA	733,838
PS2T (PY2NY, op)	2,081,359		K1JB	727,904
RA9CKQ	1,894,405		N4EEB	541,317
Single-Operator, QRP, Phone			**Single-Operator, QRP, Phone**	
HG1W	243,906		VE3RHD	32,175
HA5KDQ (HA5NB, op)	94,560		AE5GT	31,800
RD3AJB	80,289		W2TI	24,035
IV3AOL	55,335		KD8DVY	12,606
SP2QOT	49,413		WB7OCV	8,446
OK4AS	31,185		VE2EXB	6,688
EA1GT/QRP	24,090		WBØIWG	3,810
MØLPT	18,873		N4ZAK	2,136
R2AD	17,493		KC7DVF	1,168
PE2KP	17,493		VA3WPV	340
Single-Operator, Low Power, Phone			**Single-Operator, Low Power, Phone**	
HA3DX (HA4XH, op)	1,011,974		N1UR	592,920
EM7L (UT7XX, op)	835,582		KP2/AA1BU	533,621
RW1CW	719,590		W3LL	242,424
IR5X	591,136		VE9ZX	230,016
7Z1SJ	506,077		NV8N	206,518
YP7P (YO7LFV, op)	459,856		N2RJ	152,000
YO3CZW	441,600		K4MDX	139,692
UA3BL	397,480		KA2KON	94,416
HK6P	393,000		K1WO	89,960
IW1QN	392,274		W5GFI	75,030

Single-Operator, High Power, Phone			Single-Operator, High Power, Phone	
HG8R	2,024,145		VE3AP (LU7DW, op)	1,558,947
YL7A	1,837,000		W7WA	1,370,520
ES5RW	1,634,816		WB9Z	1,280,570
UW5Q (UR3QCW, op)	1,632,255		NR5M	1,237,054
RN7F	1,557,828		K5TR	1,064,688
YT8A (YU1EA, op)	1,385,208		WW1WW (KK1KW, op)	806,265
CR3L (DJ6QT, op)	1,252,968		W4SVO	668,656
ZX2B (PY2MNL, op)	1,252,416		K4NV	564,582
GW9T (MWØZZK, op)	1,157,450		K5ER	309,270
LY7A	1,107,195			
Single-Operator, QRP, CW			**Single-Operator, QRP, CW**	
HA8BE	588,838		W5GAI	195,548
HA1ZH	463,541		VA3SB	174,276
HG5A (HA7AP, op)	433,552		K8CN	87,330
OK3C (OK2ZC, op)	430,766		N5WLA	41,006
RA3AN	290,652		K4ORD	27,008
UA6LCJ	270,984		K7HBN	21,712
SP2DNI	254,842		AI9K	21,120
SP9NSV	254,502		K5ND	17,424
DD1IM	204,444		NU4B	17,169
SP4GFG	189,108		K2QO	9,840
Single-Operator, Low Power, CW			**Single-Operator, Low Power, CW**	
ZC4LI	1,891,932		W1RM	1,135,630
EF3A (EA3KU, op)	1,545,328		VE3EK	477,462
SM5IMO	1,356,277		W2/E78WW	456,304
OK2ZI	1,208,970		NA4K	443,366
RA9AP	1,114,814		VA1CHP	407,484
UW5U (UY2UA, op)	1,091,520		K7WP	371,868
S52OP	1,072,190		WB4TDH	363,058
UT1IA	991,650		VE1RGB	341,775
RT9S	904,622		N2WQ/VE3	309,852
LZ9R (LZ3YY, op)	883,025		N9UC (WO9S, op)	304,448
Single-Operator, High Power, CW			**Single-Operator, High Power, CW**	
5B/W2TAA (RV1AW, op)	4,219,995		K1KI	2,085,460
CR3E (CT1BOH, op)	3,677,208		KØDQ	1,890,966
RD3A	3,073,600		K1TO	1,740,362
OHØX (OH2PM, op)	2,713,710		K8PO	1,665,816
RX9AM	2,458,783		AA3B	1,600,720
UW1M (UR5MW, op)	2,443,716		W9RE	1,561,680
YT2T	2,160,877		N4AF	1,539,245
RS3A (RA3CW, op)	2,028,534		KØDXC	1,521,312
RA9FTM	1,876,600		N4OGW	1,322,322
HG7T (HA7TM, op)	1,724,256		WØUA	1,100,790
Multioperator			**Multioperator**	
RT4F	4,226,220		NN3W	2,762,474
OH4A	3,707,304		NØNI	1,649,572
CR3T	3,116,464		K8AZ	1,562,724
UA9UZZ	2,744,415		W1UJ	1,425,690
RN9S	2,708,500		K5MR	1,347,005
RK9CWW	2,542,428		K2LE	1,309,280
HG8DX	2,376,990		W5WMU	1,269,496
HG1S	2,201,804		K6NA	1,196,257
LZ9W	2,171,884		K5KG	1,143,628
RA9A	2,150,120		N1LN	1,030,125

Winners – World

In Single-Op, QRP, Mixed, OK7CM talked and keyed his way to first place with a nice score of 395,328, beating US2IZ by a good margin. In Single-Op, Low Power, Mixed, HGØR (HAØNAR op) beat RL9AA with a 1,426,500 score (see the Close Races section). In Single-Op, High Power, Mixed, 4O3A (UT5UDX op) scored 3,573,079 to best RC9O.

In Single-Op, QRP, Phone, HG1W beat fellow countryman HA5KDQ (HA5NB op) by a wide margin. In Single-Op, Low Power, Phone HA3DX (HA4XH op) voiced his way to a win over EM7L (UT7XX op) with a 1,011,974 score. In Single-Op, High Power, Phone HG8R scored 2,024,145 to claim first place over YL7A.

In Single-Op, QRP, CW, HA8BE also beat fellow countryman HA1ZH by a significant margin. In Single-Op, Low Power, CW ZC4LI keyed to a win over EF3A (EA3KU op) with a nice 1,891,932 score. In Single-Op, High Power, CW, 5B/W2TAA (RV1AW op) used Morse code effectively to outscore CR3E (CT1BOH op).

In Multioperator, the RT4F team fought their way to first place over the OH4A team with a fine 4,226,220 point effort. Congratulations to all the World winners!

Winners – W/VE

In Single-Op, QRP, Mixed, KT8K in Michigan beat ND0C in Minnesota. In Single-Op, Low Power, Mixed, NR3X in North Carolina pulled out a win over K9JF in the state of Washington. In Single-Op, High Power, Mixed, K3CR (LZ4AX op) scored 2,472,660 to best VE3AT.

In Single-Op, QRP, Phone, VE3RHD just squeaked by AE5GT in Texas (see the Close Races section). In Single-Op, Low Power, Phone, N1UR voiced his way to a win over W3LL with a 592,920 score. In Single-Op, High Power, Phone, VE3AP scored 1,558,947 to win first place over W7WA in the state of Washington.

In Single-Op, QRP, CW, W5GAI in Texas beat VA3SB in Ontario by a decent margin. In Single-Op, Low Power, CW, W1RM pounded brass to a win over VE3EK. In Single-Op, High Power, CW, K1KI's 2,085,460 score from Connecticut bested KØDQ's 1,890,996 score from Virginia.

In Multioperator, the NN3W team in Maryland-DC won first place over the NØNI team in Iowa with a 2,762,474 point effort. Congratulations to all the W/VE winners, too!

Close Races

The closest race amongst non-W/VEs participants was in Single Op, Low Power, Mixed. The HGØR score (HAØNAR op) of 1,426,500 was only 2.3% higher than RL9AA's score of 1,394,584. HGØR made 175 less QSOs than RL9AA, but HGØR's 112 more multipliers more than made up for the QSO shortfall.

The closest W/VE race, in addition to being the closest race in the entire contest, was in Single-Op, QRP, Phone. VE3RHD had 197 QSOs and 55 multipliers compared to AE5GT's 168 QSOs and 60 multipliers. This resulted in VE3RHD winning by 1.2%, and in this instance VE3RHD had enough QSOs to overcome AE5GT's slightly higher multiplier total.

Continental Results

Africa

EA8BQM	62,040	SO, LP, Mixed
EC8AFM	13,821	SO, LP, Mixed
CN8VO	10,575	SO, LP, Mixed
EA8/PAØLOI	8,640	SO, LP, Mixed
EA8RY	910	SO, LP, Mixed
EA8CMX (OH2BYS, op)	2,944,200	SO, HP, Mixed
VQ9ØJC (VQ9JC, op)	236,800	SO, HP, Mixed
EA8CNR	132,600	SO, LP, Phone
D2QMN	20,832	SO, LP, Phone
CT3KU	10,122	SO, LP, Phone
EA8CST	5,304	SO, LP, Phone
6W7RV	4,750	SO, LP, Phone
CR3L (DJ6QT, op)	1,252,968	SO, HP, Phone
ZS5NK	17,836	SO, HP, Phone
CT3HF	9,664	SO, HP, Phone
EF8G (EA8CNB, op)	510	SO, HP, Phone
EA8DA	286,740	SO, LP, CW
CN8YR	7,326	SO, LP, CW
V51YJ	3,640	SO, LP, CW
ZS1JY	2,442	SO, LP, CW
ZS4JAN	902	SO, LP, CW
CR3E (CT1BOH, op)	3,677,208	SO, HP, CW
ED8T (EA8AY, op)	813,375	SO, HP, CW
ZS1EL	35,259	SO, HP, CW
CT3BD	18,954	SO, HP, CW
CR3T	3,116,464	Multioperator

South America

PY7RP	210,160	SO, LP, Mixed
AY8A (LU8ADX, op)	103,831	SO, LP, Mixed
PY2SEX	71,424	SO, LP, Mixed
HK1R	51,420	SO, LP, Mixed
PY2MTS	37,922	SO, LP, Mixed
PS2T (PY2NY, op)	2,081,359	SO, HP, Mixed
PV8AA	821,873	SO, HP, Mixed
PP5JY	86,320	SO, HP, Mixed
PX2C (PY2MTV, op)	47,658	SO, HP, Mixed
YV5NWG	31,464	SO, HP, Mixed
HK6P	393,000	SO, LP, Phone
LU1UM (LU2UF, op)	261,198	SO, LP, Phone
YV5LI	112,817	SO, LP, Phone
ZV2C	83,096	SO, LP, Phone
LR1H	42,550	SO, LP, Phone
ZX2B (PY2MNL, op)	1,252,416	SO, HP, Phone
PY2LSM	1,058,282	SO, HP, Phone
LU4DX	627,414	SO, HP, Phone
ZY2C (PY2ADR, op)	510,834	SO, HP, Phone
LP2F (LU1FDU, op)	293,761	SO, HP, Phone
LU1DCB (LU6DO, op)	23,124	SO, QRP, CW
LU8EHR	1,045	SO, QRP, CW
LU7HZ	550	SO, QRP, CW
PU8TEP	76	SO, QRP, CW
PP5VX	24	SO, QRP, CW
AY9F (LU5FZ, op)	112,728	SO, LP, CW
CE3DNP	71,412	SO, LP, CW
HK3Q	37,680	SO, LP, CW
PR7AB	36,472	SO, LP, CW
LU3DAT	24,583	SO, LP, CW
PY2YU	1,496,286	SO, HP, CW
L33M	63,384	SO, HP, CW
PY7ZY	46,410	SO, HP, CW
PY3AU	31,806	SO, HP, CW
PY2IU	26,800	SO, HP, CW
ZW5B	1,668,816	Multioperator
LR2F	1,648,548	Multioperator
PT5T	1,526,890	Multioperator
LS1D	1,465,449	Multioperator
CE4CT	1,433,740	Multioperator

Asia

JR3RWB	108,460	SO, QRP, Mixed
RK9DO	30,267	SO, QRP, Mixed
JK1TCV	6,562	SO, QRP, Mixed
BD4WM	3,475	SO, QRP, Mixed
7K1CPT	1,054	SO, QRP, Mixed
RL9AA	1,394,584	SO, LP, Mixed
RW9C	709,136	SO, LP, Mixed
UA9CMQ	581,658	SO, LP, Mixed
RV9UP	516,710	SO, LP, Mixed
RO7M	395,328	SO, LP, Mixed
RC9O	3,061,970	SO, HP, Mixed
RA9CKQ	1,894,405	SO, HP, Mixed
ZC4VJ	1,005,123	SO, HP, Mixed
UA9CAX	911,865	SO, HP, Mixed
RAØFU	869,575	SO, HP, Mixed
JA2MWV	8,446	SO, QRP, Phone
7Z1SJ	506,077	SO, LP, Phone
P39P (5B4AIP, op)	324,478	SO, LP, Phone
RX9FR	135,315	SO, LP, Phone
RX9FG	97,455	SO, LP, Phone
UN1O	95,159	SO, LP, Phone
RN7F	1,557,828	SO, HP, Phone
A61BK	896,235	SO, HP, Phone
RA9AU	519,861	SO, HP, Phone
UAØFM	395,584	SO, HP, Phone
UA9JDP	391,000	SO, HP, Phone
RW4AA/9	148,120	SO, QRP, CW
RD9CX	148,002	SO, QRP, CW
4L9QQ	63,525	SO, QRP, CW
JR1NKN	42,174	SO, QRP, CW
RA9MU	12,685	SO, QRP, CW
ZC4LI	1,891,932	SO, LP, CW
RA9AP	1,114,814	SO, LP, CW
RT9S	904,622	SO, LP, CW
UA9AOL	805,376	SO, LP, CW
RC7F	587,970	SO, LP, CW
5B/W2TAA (RV1AW, op)	4,219,995	SO, HP, CW
RX9AM	2,458,783	SO, HP, CW
RA9FTM	1,876,600	SO, HP, CW
RA9AE	1,536,171	SO, HP, CW
R9SA	1,400,294	SO, HP, CW
UA9UZZ	2,744,415	Multioperator
RN9S	2,708,500	Multioperator
RK9CWW	2,542,428	Multioperator
RA9A	2,150,120	Multioperator
UI9I	2,075,427	Multioperator

Oceania

VK4AN	26,158	SO, LP, Mixed
VK3DLI	25,075	SO, LP, Mixed
VK2APU	24,920	SO, LP, Mixed
V85TX	13,237	SO, LP, Mixed
VK4XES	1,955	SO, LP, Mixed
VK3TDX	456,048	SO, HP, Mixed
VK7ZE	105,984	SO, HP, Mixed
VK3IO	101,380	SO, HP, Mixed
DU1EV	3,630	SO, HP, Mixed
DV1JM	79,380	SO, LP, Phone
YB8EL	25,865	SO, LP, Phone
YB1UUN	17,043	SO, LP, Phone
VK4LDX	5,720	SO, LP, Phone
ZL2MM	2,261	SO, LP, Phone
KH2JU	172,800	SO, HP, Phone
DU1AV	126,996	SO, HP, Phone
VK4GH	17,507	SO, HP, Phone
DU1JI	16,380	SO, HP, Phone
YBØBCU	279	SO, HP, Phone
9M6YBG	140,630	SO, LP, CW
YB3XM	49,842	SO, LP, CW
VK2GR	35,165	SO, LP, CW
VK3FM	22,101	SO, LP, CW
VK4TT	17,056	SO, LP, CW
NH2T (N2NL, op)	1,032,669	SO, HP, CW
VK4EMM	357,555	SO, HP, CW
ZM2B (ZL2BR, op)	197,736	SO, HP, CW
ZL3TE (W3SE, op)	184,280	SO, HP, CW
VK7GN	135,744	SO, HP, CW
ZM4G (ZL2iFB, op)	349,885	Multioperator
ZL2JU	216,360	Multioperator
KG6DX	109,956	Multioperator
ZL1T	78,070	Multioperator
DV1/JO7KMB	41,313	Multioperator

Europe

OK7CM	395,328	SO, QRP, Mixed
US2IZ	235,382	SO, QRP, Mixed
DR2Q (DL8MBS, op)	151,156	SO, QRP, Mixed
RW6FO	107,502	SO, QRP, Mixed
LY4BF	87,000	SO, QRP, Mixed
HGØR (HAØNAR, op)	1,426,500	SO, LP, Mixed
OL6P	1,053,949	SO, LP, Mixed
HG1ØP (HA3MY, op)	1,036,028	SO, LP, Mixed
UA3RC	1,030,621	SO, LP, Mixed
LY4L	991,952	SO, LP, Mixed
4O3A (UT5UDX, op)	3,573,079	SO, HP, Mixed
RG3K (UA3QDX, op)	2,695,210	SO, HP, Mixed
DL1IAO	2,361,174	SO, HP, Mixed
YTØZ (YU1ZZ, op)	2,342,697	SO, HP, Mixed
OH8L (OH8LQ, op)	2,289,030	SO, HP, Mixed
HG1W	243,906	SO, QRP, Phone
HA5KDQ (HA5NB, op)	94,560	SO, QRP, Phone
RD3AJB	80,289	SO, QRP, Phone
IV3AOL	55,335	SO, QRP, Phone
SP2QOT	49,413	SO, QRP, Phone
HA3DX (HA4XH, op)	1,011,974	SO, LP, Phone
EM7L (UT7XX, op)	835,582	SO, LP, Phone
RW1CW	719,590	SO, LP, Phone
IR5X	591,136	SO, LP, Phone
YP7P (YO7LFV, op)	459,856	SO, LP, Phone
HG8R	2,024,145	SO, HP, Phone
YL7A	1,837,000	SO, HP, Phone
ES5RW	1,634,816	SO, HP, Phone
UW5Q (UR3QCW, op)	1,632,255	SO, HP, Phone
YT8A (YU1EA, op)	1,385,208	SO, HP, Phone
HA8BE	588,838	SO, QRP, CW
HA1ZH	463,541	SO, QRP, CW
HG5A (HA7AP, op)	433,552	SO, QRP, CW
OK3C (OK2ZC, op)	430,766	SO, QRP, CW
RA3AN	290,652	SO, QRP, CW
EF3A (EA3KU, op)	1,545,328	SO, LP, CW
SM5IMO	1,356,277	SO, LP, CW
OK2ZI	1,208,970	SO, LP, CW
UW5U (UY2UA, op)	1,091,520	SO, LP, CW
S52OP	1,072,190	SO, LP, CW
RD3A	3,073,600	SO, HP, CW
OHØX (OH2PM, op)	2,713,710	SO, HP, CW
UW1M (UR5MW, op)	2,443,716	SO, HP, CW
YT2T	2,160,877	SO, HP, CW
RS3A (RA3CW, op)	2,028,534	SO, HP, CW
RT4F	4,226,220	Multioperator
OH4A	3,707,304	Multioperator
HG8DX	2,376,990	Multioperator
HG1S	2,201,804	Multioperator
LZ9W	2,171,884	Multioperator

North America

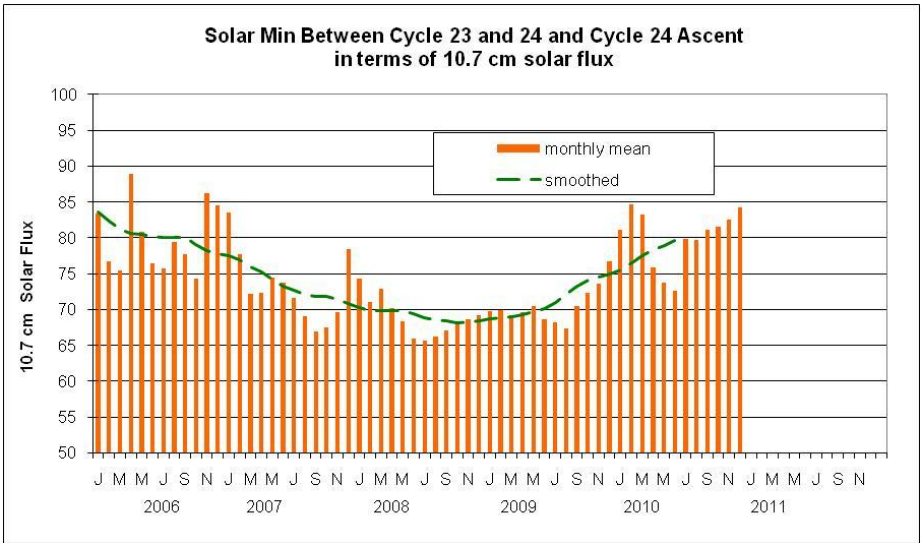
VP5ØV (W5CW, op)	659,450	SO, LP, Mixed
H7A (YN4SU,op)	111,873	SO, LP, Mixed
HI3FVA	17,700	SO, LP, Mixed
XE1FZE	11,583	SO, LP, Mixed
XE1V	9,962	SO, HP, Mixed
WP3GW	44,560	SO, LP, Phone
HI3K	8,500	SO, LP, Phone
XE2YWH	7,874	SO, LP, Phone
4B1ZTW (XE1ZTW, op)	2,832	SO, LP, Phone
4B1EE (XE1EE, op)	5,440	SO, HP, Phone
WP4WW (KP4JRS, op)	5,408	SO, HP, Phone
J39BS	90,864	SO, LP, CW
XE2AC	56,283	SO, LP, CW
HP1AC	17,200	SO, LP, CW
TI2CLX	13,146	SO, LP, CW
NP2X (K9VV, op)	237,360	SO, HP, CW
XE1MM	82,350	SO, HP, CW
XE2WWW	42,960	SO, HP, CW
KP2B	238,810	Multioperator
HR2DMR	71,730	Multioperator
FP/K9OT	18,603	Multioperator
XE2WK	7,888	Multioperator

Regional Leaders

Northeast Region (New England, Hudson and Atlantic Divisions; Maritime and Quebec Sections)			Southeast Region (Delta, Roanoke and Southeastern Divisions)			Central Region (Central and Great Lakes Divisions; Ontario Section)			Midwest Region (Dakota, Midwest, Rocky Mountain and West Gulf Divisions; Manitoba and Saskatchewan Sections)			West Coast Region (Pacific, Northwestern and Southwestern Divisions; Alberta, British Columbia and NWT Sections)		
KA1LMR	57,486	SO QRP Mix	NT4TS	15,163	SO QRP Mix	KT8K	110,016	SO QRP Mix	NDØC	82,082	SO QRP Mix	W6AQ	38,346	SO QRP Mix
N3XRV	12,236	SO QRP Mix	W4QO	9,196	SO QRP Mix	K8ZT	29,176	SO QRP Mix	WØMRZ	13,716	SO QRP Mix	AC6YY	5,130	SO QRP Mix
VE9QRP	12,100	SO QRP Mix	NR3X (N4YDU op)	530,874	SO LP Mix	VE3MGY	29,080	SO QRP Mix	WØYJT	4,536	SO QRP Mix	K9JF	502,720	SO LP Mix
VA3JFF/W1	3,657	SO QRP Mix	N2WN	268,200	SO LP Mix	VE3WZ	14,364	SO QRP Mix	AD7BN	80	SO QRP Mix	WA6FGV	140,794	SO LP Mix
N2ZN	203,371	SO LP Mix	N9CM	198,120	SO LP Mix	KU4A	13,146	SO QRP Mix	KØAD	364,760	SO LP Mix	NR7Q	112,211	SO LP Mix
VE1AL	201,664	SO LP Mix	NV4B	141,565	SO LP Mix	VE3KF	457,905	SO LP Mix	VE4YU	172,260	SO LP Mix	VE7WEB	105,552	SO LP Mix
N1YX	188,370	SO LP Mix	K3TW/4	57,540	SO LP Mix	KB9OWD	202,080	SO LP Mix	WØETT	169,626	SO LP Mix	K3FIV	91,205	SO LP Mix
KB3LIX	123,098	SO LP Mix	W4AN (K4BAI op)	1,446,898	SO HP Mix	W9ZRX	107,811	SO LP Mix	AD1C	149,600	SO LP Mix	KC6X	367,780	SO HP Mix
N1IBM	107,460	SO LP Mix	K4AB	927,399	SO HP Mix	W8TM	89,454	SO LP Mix	KØBJ	66,339	SO LP Mix	K6SRZ	291,712	SO HP Mix
K3CR (LZ4AX op)	2,472,660	SO HP Mix	N4DA	733,838	SO HP Mix	N8DE	63,308	SO LP Mix	KØOU	431,860	SO HP Mix	K4XU	215,943	SO HP Mix
KQ2M	1,938,457	SO HP Mix	N4EEB	541,317	SO HP Mix	VE3AT	2,187,184	SO HP Mix	NØKE	391,170	SO HP Mix	WA5VGI	179,529	SO HP Mix
K9RS (N3DXX op)	1,624,129	SO HP Mix	NF4A	287,250	SO HP Mix	W9IU	476,136	SO HP Mix	KO7X	225,055	SO HP Mix	W6SX	152,460	SO HP Mix
K3ZO	1,516,816	SO HP Mix	KD8DVY	12,606	SO QRP Ph	VE3OI	246,078	SO HP Mix	WWØAL	60,996	SO HP Mix	KC7DVF	1,168	SO QRP Ph
K1JB	727,904	SO HP Mix	N4ZAK	2,136	SO QRP Ph	VE3XN	212,472	SO HP Mix	AA5VU	1,771	SO HP Mix	VA7DXC	55,522	SO LP Ph
W2TI	24,035	SO QRP Ph	N8OQ	145	SO QRP Ph	VE3JM	177,918	SO HP Mix	AE5GT	31,800	SO QRP Ph	N7VPN	23,622	SO LP Ph
WB7OCV	8,446	SO QRP Ph	KP2/AA1BU	533,621	SO LP Ph	VE3RHD	32,175	SO QRP Ph	W5GFI	75,030	SO LP Ph	K7XE	14,196	SO LP Ph
VE2EXB	6,688	SO QRP Ph	K4MDX	139,692	SO LP Ph	VA3WPV	340	SO QRP Ph	WØFMS	62,046	SO LP Ph	K7ACZ	12,236	SO LP Ph
WBØIWG	3,810	SO QRP Ph	K4WES	56,758	SO LP Ph	NV8N	206,518	SO LP Ph	K5DHY	59,220	SO LP Ph	K7DNH	11,997	SO LP Ph
N1UR	592,920	SO LP Ph	KS4X	56,238	SO LP Ph	KB8UUZ	64,155	SO LP Ph	WBØTSR	42,009	SO LP Ph	W7WA	1,370,520	SO HP Ph
W3LL	242,424	SO LP Ph	KJ4KVC	10,846	SO LP Ph	VA3SWG	47,400	SO LP Ph	WDØBMR	38,478	SO LP Ph	W6AFA	218,932	SO HP Ph
VE9ZX	230,016	SO LP Ph	W4SVO	668,656	SO HP Ph	W8KNO	43,848	SO LP Ph	NR5M	1,237,054	SO HP Ph	KT6VV	95,284	SO HP Ph
N2RJ	152,000	SO LP Ph	K4NV	564,582	SO HP Ph	VA3GD	20,829	SO LP Ph	K5TR	1,064,688	SO HP Ph	N7VF	66,202	SO HP Ph
KA2KON	94,416	SO LP Ph	K5ER	309,270	SO HP Ph	VE3AP (LU7DW op)	1,558,947	SO HP Ph	KØRH	265,088	SO HP Ph	KB6FB	57,084	SO HP Ph
WW1WW (KK1KW op)	806,265	SO HP Ph	NJ2F	165,998	SO HP Ph	WB9Z	1,280,570	SO HP Ph	AD5XD	144,760	SO HP Ph	K7HBN	21,712	SO QRP CW
AD1DX	56,274	SO HP Ph	WA5OYU	94,785	SO HP Ph	N9JZN	15,290	SO HP Ph	NØQO	87,616	SO HP Ph	WT6P	5,250	SO QRP CW
K3OQ	27,936	SO HP Ph	K4ORD	27,008	SO QRP CW	K9JIG	14,700	SO HP Ph	W5GAI	195,548	SO QRP CW	KL7/WA4DOX	638	SO QRP CW
VE2FXL	22,576	SO HP Ph	NU4B	17,169	SO QRP CW	VA3XH	13,674	SO HP Ph	N5WLA	41,006	SO QRP CW	W6/VK2IMM	470	SO QRP CW
WA3AFS	21,868	SO HP Ph	NA4K	443,366	SO LP CW	VA3SB	174,276	SO QRP CW	K5ND	17,424	SO QRP CW	WB6BDD	224	SO QRP CW
K8CN	87,330	SO QRP CW	WB4TDH	363,058	SO LP CW	AI9K	21,120	SO QRP CW	WB5BKL	220	SO QRP CW	K7WP	371,868	SO LP CW
K2QO	9,840	SO QRP CW	WA1FCN	258,525	SO LP CW	VA3RKM	3,744	SO QRP CW	NAØN	271,062	SO LP CW	VE6BF	151,183	SO LP CW
VA2SG	8,646	SO QRP CW	WK2G	248,512	SO LP CW	K8DD	3,720	SO QRP CW	WØIMD	193,193	SO LP CW	K2PO/7	115,620	SO LP CW
N2EIK	7,626	SO QRP CW	N3ZL	214,920	SO LP CW	N8XX	2,684	SO QRP CW	W5RYA	181,860	SO LP CW	KM6Z	104,377	SO LP CW
NQ2W	896	SO QRP CW	KØDQ	1,890,966	SO HP CW	VE3EK	477,462	SO LP CW	ACØDS	133,042	SO LP CW	WN6K	86,515	SO LP CW
W1RM	1,135,630	SO LP CW	K1TO	1,740,362	SO HP CW	N2WQ/VE3	309,852	SO LP CW	K5CM	129,986	SO LP CW	KH6YR (K1YR op)	980,235	SO HP CW
W2/E78WW	456,304	SO LP CW	N4AF	1,539,245	SO HP CW	N9UC (WO9S op)	304,448	SO LP CW	WØUA	1,100,790	SO HP CW	K6AW (@ N6RO)	942,011	SO HP CW
VA1CHP	407,484	SO LP CW	N4OGW	1,322,322	SO HP CW	K8AJS	256,610	SO LP CW	W5KFT (N1XS op)	416,619	SO HP CW	N7TT	550,593	SO HP CW
VE1RGB	341,775	SO LP CW	N4PN	1,100,232	SO HP CW	VE3KAO	209,096	SO LP CW	KØFX	324,810	SO HP CW	AD6E	412,167	SO HP CW
VY2SS	301,568	SO LP CW	W5WMU	1,269,496	Multiop	W9RE	1,561,680	SO HP CW	K5BG	284,376	SO HP CW	VA7ST	374,472	SO HP CW
K1KI	2,085,460	SO HP CW	K5KG	1,143,628	Multiop	K8GL	694,112	SO HP CW	K7IA	132,848	SO HP CW	K6NA	1,196,257	Multiop
K8PO	1,665,816	SO HP CW	N1LN	1,030,125	Multiop	N8PW	439,245	SO HP CW	NØNI	1,649,572	Multiop	KH6LC	1,023,624	Multiop
AA3B	1,600,720	SO HP CW	KA1ARB	891,885	Multiop	KE9I	387,512	SO HP CW	K5MR	1,347,005	Multiop	N7AT	840,917	Multiop
KØDXC	1,521,312	SO HP CW	AB4GG	749,853	Multiop	K9MMS	366,208	SO HP CW	N7VM	445,793	Multiop	W7VJ	839,496	Multiop
K1FWE	944,091	SO HP CW				K8AZ	1,562,724	Multiop	KØDI	196,776	Multiop	K6LRG	663,120	Multiop
NN3W	2,762,474	Multiop				W8MJ	930,628	Multiop	N5ZK	151,368	Multiop			
W1UJ	1,425,690	Multiop				K9SD	860,453	Multiop						
K2LE	1,309,280	Multiop				VE3YAA	573,000	Multiop						
N2MM	927,830	Multiop				K9NR	443,443	Multiop						
W1QK	545,598	Multiop												

Propagation

The 10.7 cm solar flux was in the low 80s during the contest period. It certainly could have been better to give some spice to 15 and 10 meters. At least Cycle 24 is on the rise. This can be seen in the data in Figure 5 below. Note that the monthly mean sunspot data has its ups and downs. This is typical, and is expected.



What's most important is the smoothed sunspot number, as it is correlated to the state of the ionosphere in our propagation prediction programs. As long as the smoothed sunspot number (or the smoothed 10.7 cm solar flux) is on the rise, propagation should get better. So this year's contest should offer improved high-band propagation. I think we're all anxious for that!

And thank goodness the geomagnetic field was quiet over the contest weekend! July is historically an extremely quiet month with respect to geomagnetic field activity, so we shouldn't be too surprised that the 3-hour K index never got above 2 (and that includes data from high latitude observatories, too).

Disqualifications

The YPØA team (YO8WW, YO8SS, YO8DDP, YO8TOH, YO8OW, YO8BIG, YO8DOH, and YO8TRC) was disqualified from the 2010 IARU HF Championship contest for claiming credit for false QSOs while also generating and submitting multiple fake logs. The ARRL's policy is to publicly identify those who do not obey the rules. So play by the rules, people – enough said? Is a hobby that important to you to not play by the rules?

Check Logs

There were 282 logs relegated to check logs. Thanks to all who ended up in this pile. These logs do help the log checkers, so please submit your log regardless of your score.

2011 Contest

As a reminder, the 2011 contest will be held on the second full weekend of July – which puts it on July 9 and 10. I hope to work you in the contest!

2010 IARU HF Championship – The HQ Story

By Kresimir Kovarik, 9A5K

Year after year, many HQ stations, especially in Europe, participate in the IARU HF Championship. Some of them do that with just couple of stations and a small number of team members but on the other side there are very big and serious teams with many team members, operators, supporters and huge logistics. For some of them this is point where all preparations during the year come to daylight – during 24 hours of contest time with 12 fully equipped stations they are trying to do their best. Of course, it is a great chance to promote their national team and Amateur Radio in their countries.

At least in European countries, there is big competition between such national teams. Unfortunately, after publishing couple of versions of the 2009 HQ scores each time with different winner and many discussions on web forums where people were really disappointed with the way it was done, we come to the point where HQ competition even was in a question for year 2010 and in the future. During the Ham Radio Fair in Friedrichshafen, Germany at a meeting of HQ teams, we were able to make an agreement regarding an adjudication committee and ways in how we can try to avoid such problems in the future.

For the 2010 IARU HF contest we had 10 members of this committee representing their national societies; 9A5K, DL3DXX, E77DX, F2DX, G4IRN, HB9EPA, OK1DIG, LA6FJA, SM6JSM, and SP7DQR.

As we already agreed in Friedrichshafen, logs processing would be done by the World Wide Radio Operator Foundation (**www.wwrof.com**) and all members of the adjudication committee would get the HQ logs and log checking reports to check them and to give their objections if necessary. All the work done by WWROF and Doug, K1DG personally was really great and we can only agree that results are done in the best possible way.

Also, as a result of great friendship and to promote this HQ activity, three societies (ARABIH – E7HQ, HRS – 9AØHQ and OVSV – OE1A) on behalf of IARU Region 1 agreed to sponsor some

IARU Headquarters Stations

Call	QSOs	Mults	Final Score
DAØHQ	20547	465	22,443,225
TMØHQ	14731	449	22,067,901
IU1HQ	14830	466	19,884,220
GR2HQ	14857	417	19,710,339
SNØHQ	15587	445	19,615,155
E7HQ	13568	458	18,492,208
9AØHQ	13319	430	17,100,670
R3HQ	12448	419	16,989,612
SK9HQ	11647	403	16,595,943
S5ØHQ	12494	425	16,256,250
YL4HQ	11555	421	15,580,789
LYØHQ	10445	401	12,998,415
YTØHQ	11039	417	12,627,177
OE1A	10632	388	12,187,856
4X3HQ	7222	328	10,928,960
CR5HQ	7817	384	10,696,320
LXØHQ	8707	356	10,628,380
EM5HQ	8841	389	10,564,073
NU1AW	9670	355	10,467,530
YRØHQ	9772	401	10,187,806
OZ1HQ	8398	350	10,150,700
OH2HQ	7480	357	9,191,322
LZ7HQ	8552	375	8,598,000
SXØHQ	9099	367	8,171,989
8N1HQ	10419	325	7,723,625
UN1HQ	5670	303	7,630,146
W1AW/8	8749	303	6,889,311
A71A	4712	309	6,663,276
B1HQ	3877	254	4,615,942
OPØHQ	4493	270	3,878,550
LN2HQ	3831	250	3,136,250
HB9HQ	3898	286	2,839,980
CX1AA	1963	260	2,257,580
ZL6HQ	2076	205	1,965,540
EIØHQ	2852	214	1,884,056
ZF1A	1867	150	953,250
ER7HQ	1665	141	615,465
YV5AJ	686	136	392,496
EKØHQ	918	109	389,784
TF3HQ	860	34	114,172
TGØAA (TG9ANF, op)	658	47	99,640
HLØHQ	412	72	92,304
P4ØHQ (P43JB, op)	182	109	64,746
JU1HQ (JT1CS, op)	338	55	58,630
HSØAC (HSØ/OZ1HET, op)	191	46	28,014
XE1LM	152	50	21,700
HBØHQ	225	53	18,815
VR2HK	18	16	800

Administrative Council and Regional Official Stations

Call	QSOs	Mults	Final Score
9A5W	1675	251	1,348,121
JA1TRC	948	201	654,858
XE1KK	900	140	418,040
G3PSM	312	144	127,296
LA2RR	297	138	115,506
VE6SH	330	67	71,020
NB2T	302	89	51,442
ZS4BS	2	2	20
JE1MUI	1	1	1

new plaques in three different categories for the IARU HF Championship 2010.

1. Station with the biggest number of QSOs with HQ stations in the first hour of the contest: The winner is Vladimir Gontarik - YL2CV
2. Station with the biggest number of QSOs with HQ stations in the first twelve hours of the contest: The winner is Laszlo Radocz - HGØR
3. Station with the biggest number of QSOs with HQ stations in the contest: The winner is Zero RC - OH4A

Thanks to all HQ stations for their participation in the contest and we really hope to see even more HQ's in 2011 edition of the IARU HF Championship.

W1AW/8

For the 2010 contest, the South West Ohio DX Association (SWODXA) hosted the W1AW HQ stations. All the bands on both modes were covered by six stations scattered throughout southwest Ohio. These stations were NØFW, K8DV, N8NR, N8BJQ, N8AA, and K4ZLE.

Station	Location (OH)	Operators	Bands/Modes
NØFW	Hamilton	NØFW, K2KW, K8LEE, KEØA, N9NS, W8QID, W8RHM, WA8NJR	160 SSB, 160 CW, 80 CW, 15 SSB
K8DV	Goshen	K8DV, AA8HH, AA8MC, K8CR	75 SSB
N8NR	Greenville	N8NR, N9AG, K9JE, K9LA	40 SSB, 15 CW, 10 CW
N8BJQ	New Carlisle	N8BJQ, AL7BA, K8NZ	40 CW, 20 SSB
N8AA	Hamilton	N8AA, K8NZ	20 CW
K4ZLE	Lebanon	K4ZLE, K8BA, KA8ZYE, W8ULC	10 SSB

W1AW/8 at N8AA (by John N8AA)

IARU was a blast! Operators were me and Ron, K8NZ. Ron is a long time friend, a great guy and a super operator. We made 1,970 Qs. Unfortunately the W1AW/8 station computers were not linked so we had no idea what the 20 meter SSB station was doing. As a consequence we didn't know our multiplier situation. We focused on running. We operated on 14040.5 kHz +/- for about 23-1/2 hours. We spent the last half hour looking for Far East stations. As I recall we worked BY, HS, JT, YB and a few other exotic mults during that last half hour. Well, maybe they were mults.

Ron came here to my QTH on Friday afternoon and got familiar with the station. We used a K3 (which by the way performed very well in the heavy QRM environment) and a TenTec Titan amp - 1500 watts. The antennas were a pair of Bencher Skyhawks - 10 element tribanders with three elements on 20. The top antenna is 70' high on Rohn 45G and the lower antenna mounted on a Tic-Gen ring rotor is about 38' high. The antennas are connected to a WXØB Stack Match so either or both antennas could be used at any one time.

At times we had the top antenna aimed at Europe and the lower antenna aimed southeast. Occasionally a South American or African station would call in. At times we'd aim the lower antenna west to work the USA and Oceania while still running Europe. And when we needed a few more dB in a given direction we'd use both antennas pointed in the desired direction. I think the W1AW call added a few dBs, too!

Ron and I operated in two-hour shifts. I began. Conditions on 20 were surprisingly good. The band was open for the entire 24 hours although Ron caught the two-hour shift from 0400/0600 local time (0800/1000 UTC) when conditions weren't so good. He made only 12 Qs during that stretch.

After dinner on Friday, Ron asked me what our goal should be. I glibly suggested 2,000 Qs - and got a quizzical look from Ron. Later that night, lying in bed I thought about that goal and realized that it just might be overly optimistic. Doh! Conditions had to be good and the station would have to work flawlessly. As it turned out conditions were good and Murphy didn't show and we almost achieved it!

W1AW/8 at K8DV (by Dave K8DV)

Here at my station we put some effort in preparing for the IARU as W1AW/8. I installed a Hy-Gain Hy-Tower that had been in the plans for several years but took this event to build a fire under me to get it done. I put up two new dipole antennas and bought and installed a K9AY loop system as well.

The W1AW/8 team at K8DV - AA8HH, K8CR, K8DV, AA8MC. (Photo by K8DV)

There were lots of dry spells during the day on 75 but AA8HH, AA8MC, K8CR and I kept the fire burning and made QSOs as we could. We had lots of noise during the late evening and throughout the night. The only issue we had even after testing everything the day before was a bad microphone cable but like any good ham, we had a spare and only lost about five minutes of operating time.

The proprietor, K8DV operating W1AW/8 at K8DV (photo by K8DV)

A friend of mine asked me if it was worth the effort and all I could say was I would do it again in a heartbeat as how often do you get to sign the most famous call in the world from your own station?

W1AW/8 at N8NR (by Carl K9LA)

The N8NR station was well-suited for its bands. Bob has a two-element shorty-40 at 130 feet, and he added a dipole at 70 feet for the contest. On 15 meters, Bob has a two-high stack of 105BAs at 110 feet and 75 feet, with the bottom one fixed on Europe. For 10 meters, a three-high stack of 105CAs (at 120 feet, 90 feet, and 60 feet) transmitted and received 28 MHz energy. The bottom 10 meter Yagi was fixed southeast to South America and the Caribbean, and the middle one was fixed northeast to Europe. Additionally, Bob put up a tribander at 60 feet fixed to the west for 10 meters. The 40 meter Yagi and the 10 meter monobanders were on the same tower. The 15 meter monobanders were on a second tower and the tribander was on a third tower.

The 10 meter N8NR stack at sunset for W1AW/8 (photo by N8NR)

The 40 meter SSB station consisted of an FT1000MP-MKV with an Alpha 99 amplifier. The 15 meter CW station was an FT-2000 driving a venerable Drake L4. I brought my home station (an OMNI-VI Plus and a Commander HF-1250) for the 10 meter CW station.

Jack (from Aurora, IL) and I (from Ft Wayne, IN) arrived Friday afternoon to help complete the station set-up. After everything was declared 'ready to go', we went to Scott's QTH for a great BBQ dinner and a good night's sleep. With the contest starting at 8 AM, we were up early Saturday morning for the drive back to Bob's QTH.

The 10 meter station at N8NR for W1AW/8 (photo by N8NR)

The 40 meter SSB station ended up with 1223 QSOs. We contribute this to having both a Yagi and a dipole available for the different directions and different propagation conditions. Since the 40 meter SSB station was just to the right of the 10 meter CW station, when I was on the 10 meter CW station I noted that the 40 meter station made a heck of a lot of QSOs with 2-by-3 calls. Hopefully these were many Generals getting a taste of contesting.

The 15 meter CW station made 879 QSOs with some good openings to Southeast Asia and Japan. The band was open to Europe at the start but the good rate didn't start for a couple hours and lasted only a short while. The rate was such that the band map was able to be kept clean most of the day. We were surprised how very strong E21EIC and HSØZEE were both mornings (via Europe) and then late at night (2 AM local) after the band had mostly died. The 15 meter CW station worked 5 WRTCers who were very weak.

The 10 meter CW station ended up making 373 QSOs. In addition to a handful of South Americans, we worked over a dozen Europeans Saturday morning. These weren't just extreme western Europeans, either – PA, DL, and ON showed up in the log. Sunday morning was a total bust on 10 meter CW – not one QSO (thank goodness for PC-generated CQs!). The band was open sporadically Sunday morning but there were no new stations to work. Just like the 10 Meter Contest at solar minimum there were a lot of short bursts of CW, presumably due to meteor scatter.

In summary, the N8NR team had a great time in this year's IARU contest.

W1AW/8 at NØFW (by Pete NØFW)

The highlight was having the 'hired guns' from ND and IN show up. I think they wanted to see what propagation from the East Coast is like at the bottom of the sunspot cycle.

Conditions on 15 meters were decent, but not anywhere near the level of activity that we would have liked. Wayne K8LEE managed to work a few new mults through EU and the I-95 corridor on Sunday morning before the contest ended. It is always fun to pull that off. I think our ops are able to deal with poor propagation better than those on the East Coast.

Five of the W1AW/8 team at NØFW – N9NS, NØFW, K8LEE, KEØA, W8QID (ops not in the picture: K2KW, W8RHM, WA8NJR – photo by NØFW)

160 was rather poor – too late in the season for any real DX like you would have in the CQ 160 – but we managed to work some locals and give them a mult for the test. 80 meters was pretty good with some reasonable EU sigs. Nothing really rare – again – too late in the season. All in all, we had a good time. It would have been nicer to have big pile-ups.

Antennas: 160 meters - ¼-wave vertical; 80 meters - full-size 4-square; 15 meters - 6 element monobander at 90 feet and a Mosley TA-33 for mult-chasing.