DL-DX RTTY CONTEST GROUP (DRCG)

DL-DX RTTY CONTEST 2003

CONTEST MANAGERS REPORT

The **new** DL-DX RTTY CONTEST was held first time over the weekend of 5th and
6th July 2003. The contest organizers were overwhelmed by the high level of
participation and the number of 262 logs received. Thanks to all participants
for making this **new** contest an immediate success. From the comments received
it appears that the **new** 6 hour categories and those for use of limited aerials
were especially appealing to many RTTY contesters. These were among the
primary reasons and aims for the creation of this **new** contest. But there were
also many entrants who did not take advantage of the 6 hour categories despite
their operating times being less than 6 hours.

Propagation conditions were not really favourable for us but there was a good
amount of fine DX available and workable. JT1BE, BX4AF, CE8SFG, DS2OQF, FK8GX,
FO5PS, KH6GMP, KP4AWX, KL1SF, TI4DJ, VK3DBQ, VK6GOM, VR2BG and ZS1JY are just
a few examples. About 35% of all QSOs were from stations outside of Europe.
The majority of these were made by North-American stations, followed by Asia
and South America.

We are very pleased to report that at least 99 DL stations took part in the
contest. Other major contributions came from (at least) 162 W stations,
62 JA stations, 39 UA/UA9 stations, 34 SP stations and 29 I stations.
A total of 77 countries were active in the contest. Except for Antarctica all
continents were worked.

The 262 stations submitting logs entered the 5 different categories as follows:
CATEGORY-A=86 CATEGORY-B=63 CATEGORY-C=43 CATEGORY-D=54 CATEGORY-E=3.
13 logs were received as checklogs.
114 stations used high power and 148 low power.

While the majority of logs were in correct Cabrillo format there were also
many logs that gave us a variety of problems. Callsigns were missing in
emails and even logs. At least two stations sent us ADIF resp. Writelog
..WL files. Many of the non-Cabrillo logs were using strange date formats
requiring a lot of manual editing before they could be converted into
Cabrillo format. Some people sent logs sorted by bands instead of time.
Specifying the entry category apparently was a major problem for many stations
- we had to ask for clarification again and again. By all means read the rules
and please follow the advice given many times. Several Cabrillo logs also
needed manual editing by the log checkers. RSTs, both sent and received were
missing, columns were not in the right place or order.

Log scoring and evaluation was done with a program developed by Walter, DL4RCK.
The 262 logs received show a total of 703 different callsigns and of 41043 QSOs.
28491 QSOs representing 69.4% of the total were electronically cross checked.
Overall an average error rate of 5.23% was found. There were:
- 869 wrong exchange errors (serial numbers do not match)
- 807 unique callsign errors (calls appearing in not more than 1 or 2 logs)
- 325 not-in-log errors
- 118 duplicate QSO errors
- 25 wrong band errors   (time and serial numbers match but not bands)
resulting in a reduction of claimed scores. Contesters should draw their own
conclusions from this. The organizers feel that more care is needed in logging.

Altogether we are proud of having completed all log checking and evaluating
within one month and of being able to publish results just two months after

the contest (well almost). Certificates will be sent to the first ten stations in each category. The results listings and this report will be sent to all entrants by email.

The 2004 DL-DX RTTY Contest will be held again on the first full weekend of July, - 3 July 1100 UTC to 4 July 1059 UTC. There will be no major changes to the rules. As a trial, PSK31 and PSK63 will be added to the modes. Logging requirements will be more strict.

This report is compiled for the information of all stations who took part in the DL-DX RTTY contest whether they sent in a log or not. It can be used or distributed in any way, such as magazine, Internet pages etc. as long as credit is given to "DL-DX RTTY Contest Group".

73 to all of you, thanks for participating and cuagn in 2004.

Goetz, DJ3IW for the DL-DX RTTY Contest Group.