

Minutes from the open VHF managers meeting at Knottebo 2009-06-14

by SM4HFI

Chairman SM7GVF. Also at the table OZ7IS, OH6DD, LA1BR and OZ5TG

1. SM7GVF opened the meeting and reported about last year. The main activity was Region 1 conference in Cavtat October. It was prepared by a NRAU meeting at Karlsborg:

<http://www.ssa.se/gdoc.php?id=168>.

Minutes from Cavtat can be found for october 17: <http://www.ssa.se/gdoc.php?id=180>, october 18:

<http://www.ssa.se/gdoc.php?id=181>

and final plenary meeting: <http://www.ssa.se/gdoc.php?id=172>.

2. OH6ZZ has, via e-mail, brought up Talkback and agreement about usage. OZ7IS summarized it as such:

* Do not use talkback during a QSO, just before and after.

* Confirmation of report only via the air, not via talkback.

* Confirmation of QSO such as "Tnx QSO" or "Did you receive my final RRR?" is acceptable as long as it is sent AFTER the QSO.

* If the answer of previous point is something like "No, please continue" the QSO is invalid, and has to start all over again, from the beginning.

OZ5TG see no signs of cheating in the logs nor on the public available chats and cluster, there is no reason to change the behavior. OZ5TG report he does regular cross check of reported ODX, and there is regularly about 2% penalties from this, with little or no complaint by the participants. SM has no cross check of logs in NAC. There is just a check that the locator is valid for the country indicated by call sign.

3. SM0SBI brought up Airplane scatter procedure. A procedure was decided in Cavtat and can be found in VHF manager handbook page 127: <http://www.ssa.se/gdoc.php?id=236>

4. OZ7IS, on behalf of OZ, asked SM to continue the change of 432 MHz repeaters to -2 MHz input shift. The experience from OZ is very good. Interference at the repeater RX is 90% less than in the ISM band. Receiver at repeater TX + 1,6 MHz implies usage of TX in the satellite band by the user which is not allowed by the band plan.

5. OZ7IS reported the main C5 issues from the Cavtat conference. This can be found in Danish at:

<http://www.vushf.dk/Pages/committee/Referater/C5%20rapport%20fra%20Cavtat%20vf%20hjemmesiden.pdf>.

English agenda and minutes are at: <http://www.iaru-r1.org>

6. OZ7IS continues. The Nordic approach of IARU Reg1 participation is rather democratic. The open VHF manager meetings give suggestions to a NRAU VHF manager meeting, preceding the Region1 conference, leading to a coordinated entry by the Nordic countries.

7. Reg 1 contests now have web based entry of contest logs. PA5DD/OZ1DOQ sees a problem. Rules state that logs shall be submitted to the national contest manager, and the national manager refuse to receive them. A change in the rules is necessary.
Reg1 contest rules now allow remote operation. The C5 committee has been reluctant, not allowing it several years after the HF committee has allowed it.

8. Scandinavian contests. There are some proposals to change rules. The changes will take part at New Year.

8a. SM6NZB report OH want to bring forward the CW part of the SM-OH competition Saturday night to normal NAC time, i.e. 17z - 21z, no objections. Score calculation in SM-OH competition is quite outdated, with very limited support by common log software. OH6ZZ and SM4HFI have recalculated scores for 2006 to 2009 with normal NAC scoring, and found the outcome don't change much. The same country wins independent of the scoring method. A change to more normal scoring method is suggested.

8b. SM6NZB has received complaints about time for the SM Quarterly contest. He suggest to change time to first three hours of the sub regional contests in march, may, September and October, and also propose that OH coordinate their "Foneralli" with this.

8c. OZ5TG report stable number of participants in NAC in OZ. 4m has decreased some and microwave has increased, much thanks to generous donations from north-east. But still only about 50% of the participants submit their logs. In SM about 85% submit logs.

8d. SM6NZB and SM7LQV say that the log robot at ssa.se has increased interest for the contests slightly. SM6NZB inform that there is just one chance for participants to submit a log. The contest managers can replace a log, and the only reason for doing so is if there are technical errors in the log, and the contest manager decides about replacement. Faulty individual QSO information is never a cause to replace a log.

8e. SM6NZB suggest inclusion of 50 MHz in the club competition with same multiplier as 144MHz, which was decided.

8f. SM4FXR ask for a change in microwave rules to allow different location of radio equipment on different bands, and still use the same call sign, possible with another locator. An example would be to have one remotely operated station for one band and one locally operated station on another, and still participate in the microwave contest. After a short discussion it was accepted.

9. SM7GVF invites OZ to arrange the Nordic VHF meeting in 2010. OZ7IS thanks for the invitation and welcome us to somewhere at Sjaelland, with backup location at Jutland.

10. SM7GVF thanks for the interest and end the meeting.