

DL-DX RTTY Contest Group (DRCG)
DL-DX RTTY Contest 2004
Contest Manager Report

This was the second run of the DL-DX RTTY CONTEST. We are pleased to report a considerable increase in participation. 336 logs were received. Thanks again to all participants for their continued interest in our contest.

The comments received again show that the 6 hour categories and those for use of limited aerals are especially appealing to many RTTY contesters. But again many entrants (30) did not take advantage of the 6 hour categories despite their operating times being less than 6 hours, while 21 of the entries for categories B and D clearly exceeded the 6 hour limit.

Propagation conditions were as expected for this time of the solar cycle. Yet a good amount of fine DX was available and workable. 9M2/G4ZFE, 9V1UV, A71EM, BX4AF, DU/G4DUM, ET3TK, FO5PS, HS0ZDZ, KH6GMP, NP4BM, OD5PL, VK3DBQ, VK6HD, VR2BG, XV1X and ZL2AMI/ZL2BR are just some 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 127 DL stations took part in the contest. Other major contributions came from (at least) 190 USA stations, 66 UA/UA9, 61 JA, 61 G/GI/GM/GU/GW, 55 I, 36 SP, 25 VE and 20 UR stations.

A total of 80 countries were active in the contest. Except for Antarctica all continents were worked. The 336 stations submitting logs entered the 5 different categories as follows:

CATEGORY-A=104

CATEGORY-B=78

CATEGORY-C=55

CATEGORY-D=77

CATEGORY-E=6.

16 logs were received as checklogs.

174 stations used high power and 162 low power.

Club competition was a new feature added to the contest.

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.

There was still a problem with the correct entry category. 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. RST, both sent and received was missing, columns were not in the right place or order. The 336 logs received show a total of 895 different callsigns (+27%) and of 53924 QSOs (+31%). 36500 QSOs representing 67.7% of the total were electronically cross checked.

Overall an average error rate of 6.61% was found. There were:

- 1249 wrong exchange errors (+43%) (serial numbers do not match)
- 1145 unique callsign errors (+42%) (calls appearing in less than 3 logs)
- 631 not-in-log errors (+94%) !!
- 196 duplicate QSO errors (+66%)
- 71 wrong band errors (time and serial numbers match but not bands)

resulting in a reduction of claimed scores. This amount of errors unfortunately shows a dramatic increase compared to the 2003 values. The contest organizers feel compelled to consider changes

to the rules.

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.

In 2005 the DL-DX RTTY Contest will be held again on the first full weekend of July, - 2 July 1100 UTC to 3 July 1059 UTC. The rules shall be published on the DRCGs webpage <http://www.drcg.de/> .

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 2005.

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