

The first DRCG-WW-RTTY contest is history. It replaced its forerunner the DRCG Long Distance Contest - LDC. For a variety of reasons the DRCG decided to make changes to the LDC and give it a new name. It seems to us that our decision was right. The number of logs received increased considerably. 383 logs for all categories including checklogs were submitted. 2031 different callsigns (including uniques and errors) were logged by the participants.

Active stations were from these continents:

- Africa                   5 with    1 log,
- Asia                    178 with 63 logs,
- Europe                  497 with 230 logs,
- North America       293 with 80 logs,
- South America        8 with  4 logs,
- Oceania                8 with  5 logs.

Propagation conditions were not really good though 20m being open 24 hours and even 15m open well into the second half of the night in Central Europe.

Band usage was as follows:

Note: A QSO between station A and B counts as TWO QSOs if both sent a log!

- 10m - 2042 QSOs,
- 15m - 22735 QSOs,
- 20m - 25519 QSOs,
- 40m - 6438 QSOs,
- 80m - 866 QSOs.

The new additional points multiplier for 80m and 40m QSOs was not as effective as hoped by us. At least in Central Europe 80m propagation was really hampered by strong and almost continuous static crashes.

Some comments about the logs. While most of them could be processed and scored there were some with deficiencies. We need the correct category to be part of the Cabrillo - please use CATEGORY-OPERATOR or CATEGORY and check it before sending the log. Several stations logged serial numbers sent instead of their zone. The logs of their counterparts however showed that in fact a zone number was sent. Some logs were content with just 599 as the contest exchange sent. Two stations didn't have the right date in their computers. One started the contest on 13 June, the other made his last 8-hour session on 16 June.

Watch out that you log what is actually sent by your QSO partner. Do not believe what your contest logger draws from whatever database it uses and offers you! If your logger automatically enters zone X in the resp. field BUT the other station sends zone Y and you fail to correct it you will be penalized. Several stations fell into this trap - a complete QSO (and often multiplier) lost!

Our evaluation software scrupulously checks logged versus sent. 75 percent of all QSOs could be crosschecked.

Thanks to all participants! See you again next year.

73 de Goetz DJ3IW, Contest Director