

End of a Solar Cycle? 2007 ARRL 10 Meter Contest Results

Another bump in the solar flux helped, but conditions were again challenging.

Ken Harker, WM5R
wm5r@arrl.net

No HF band is more sensitive to the ups and downs of the solar cycle than 10 meters. At the peak of the cycle, when the number of sunspots is high, and the solar flux is creating high levels of ionization in the F layer, life is good. With 5 W and a dipole, you can work the world. A few years later, when the cycle bottoms out, when there are no sunspots at all for days at a time, operating on 28-28.5 MHz takes real dedication. Even stations with stacked Yagis and high power amplifiers struggle to make contacts.

Fortunately, the 2007 ARRL 10 Meter Contest caught the leading edge of a two-week bump in the solar flux. Remarkably, this is the fifth year in a row in which the solar flux on the days of the contest has been between 84 and 91. A total of 1586 logs were entered in the 2007 ARRL 10 Meter Contest, down 277 logs, or 15%, from 2006. There were 159 fewer logs submitted by Europeans, but only 96 fewer submitted by stations in North America. With many fewer Japanese stations participating, only 60 logs total were submitted by stations from Asia this year, representing 15.6% of the DX logs and just 3.8% of the total number for the contest as a whole. Relatively speaking, this was the lowest level of activity from Asia in the ARRL 10 Meter Contest since 1977.

DX Categories

Single Operator Mixed Mode

In addition to setting a new Oceania record for the Single Operator Mixed-Mode QRP category, 12 year old Foundation licensee Raj Deyoung, VK4FRAJ, of Queensland, Australia also took the overall DX victory in the category. Raj was one of only two DX entrants in the category to make more than 100 contacts. Second place went to Vitor La Santos, PY2NY, operating

Affiliated Club Competition

	Score	Entries
Unlimited Category		
Potomac Valley Radio Club	1,725,518	76
Medium Category		
Central Texas DX and Contest Club	2,021,354	19
Florida Contest Group	1,509,834	50
Society of Midwest Contesters	1,103,248	31
Minnesota Wireless Assn	806,516	42
Tennessee Contest Group	727,430	37
Frankford Radio Club	677,456	11
South East Contest Club	622,150	12
Alabama Contest Group	603,504	13
Yankee Clipper Contest Club	568,702	32
North Texas Contest Club	461,796	4
Texas DX Society	426,378	6
Grand Mesa Contesters of Colorado	394,774	12
Central Arizona DX Assn	268,188	10
Central Virginia Contest Club	240,002	11
Mad River Radio Club	202,230	12
Oklahoma DX Assn	161,196	4
Low Country Contest Club	145,270	12
Contest Club Ontario	140,334	19
Southern California Contest Club	104,926	16
Western New York DX Assn	102,072	3
Northern California Contest Club	101,600	38
Utah DX Assn	90,200	5
Hudson Valley Contesters and DXers	74,542	12
Western Washington DX Club	65,364	6
West Park Radiops	21,526	4
Carolina DX Assn	13,554	7
Six Meter Club of Chicago	12,998	7
Kentucky Contest Group	10,114	3
Motor City Radio Club	9,150	4
Willamette Valley DX Club	8,398	3
Order of Boiled Owls of New York	7,230	3
East Coast Canada Contest Club	5,276	3
Contest Club Du Quebec	1,332	4
Local Category		
Midland ARC	162,544	3
Lincoln ARC	58,982	3
Metro DX Club	53,494	4
Sussex County ARC	43,362	5
West Allis RAC	30,122	7
Hampden County Radio Assn	19,544	9
Granite State ARA	12,276	5
Athens County ARA	12,090	4
Redmond Top Key Contest Club	8,634	3
CTRI Contest Group	3,760	3
Heartland DX Association	3,190	3
Mother Lode DX/Contest Club	2,372	3
Portage County Amateur Radio Service	1,078	3

from the town of Jaboticabal about 350 km northwest of Sao Paulo, Brazil. Ymanol Yoseva, YV5YMA, took third place, operating with his contest call sign 4M2L from Venezuela.

In the Single Operator Mixed-Mode Low Power category, Alex Cozzi, LU5WW, took the victory from Argentina with 130,192 points. Second place went to Marco Soto, XE2S,

operating from the Sonoran Desert in northern Mexico. Alfredo Ramos, WP3C, using the Atlantic Contest Club call sign WP4I, took third place from the island of Puerto Rico.

Pulling off a rare category victory for a South African, Vidi LaGrange, ZS1EL, won the Single Operator Mixed-Mode High Power category from his station east of Cape Town. Second place went to Vaso Nastasic, YT1XX, using his contest call sign YT5T from Serbia. Third place came from Andre Sampaio, PY0FF, operating from Fernando de Noronha off the coast of Brazil.

Single Operator Phone Only

Operators in the Single Operator Phone-Only QRP category are members of a dedicated group. In 2007, the winner made just 87 QSOs. Sebastian Potenzo, LW3DC, took the victory, operating as LV6D from Argentina. Just 10 contacts behind was Carlos Alfaro, TI2KAC, as TE2M from Costa Rica. Third place went to last year's victor, Ted Jimenez, HI3TEJ, who was operating with his contest call sign HI3T from the Dominican Republic.

Nine of the top 10 scores in the Single-Operator Phone-Only Low Power category came from just Argentina and Brazil. Winning the category this year was Alan Laure Santamaria, PU2LSM, operating from PY2DM in Sao Paulo, Brazil. In second place was Mauricio Pitorri, PY2CX, also from Sao Paulo. Victor Fabian Olmos, LU3HS, using his contest call sign LQ5H, came in third from Cordoba, Argentina.

In the Single Operator Phone-Only High Power category, the victory went to Juan Manuel Morandi, LU1HF, from Cordoba, Argentina. Juan made 440 contacts, about 1600 fewer than last year's category winner. Second place went to Rhynhardt Louw, ZS6DXB, making just shy of 40,000 points. Third place went to Miguel Carlos Peres



Top Ten, W/VE

Mixed Mode, QRP

N0NI	48,690
W2MF	24,860
KA1LMR	18,700
WA8ZBT	18,348
W5GAI	12,480
K4CIA	7,050
AC5AA	6,496
K3TW	5,632
N2TM	4,228
NA4BW	3,808

Mixed Mode, Low Power

WD5K	348,480
N5DO	115,080
K2PS	98,356
N4IG	91,542
W5ZL	79,532
AC0W	74,694
WQ5L	72,900
W3EP	72,704
W5WP	70,858
K0TT	67,980

Mixed Mode, High Power

W0AIH (NE9U, op)	304,774
N4PN	281,008
WB9Z	265,000
WE3C	230,690
K8LEE	196,992
N4UJ	179,850
K4ZGB	179,252
N8II	176,610
N4VW	170,694
W4NZ	160,064

Phone Only, QRP

W1KLM	5,750
KB0OLA	2,844
W7YA	1,248
K0HW	1,204
N8MVK	1,110
N9FRY	1,078
WW0WB	900
WD9FTZ	740
ND0C	560
W6QU (W8QZA, op)	264

Phone Only, Low Power

K5LBU	45,448
WW5TT	36,648
AC5O	29,760
W5TMC	27,436
K5KDX (KE5QKA, op)	24,168
KA0FSP	23,160
WB5R	20,976
W4GKF	18,496
K3TD	16,456
N5KGY	15,488

Phone Only, High Power

W5PR	213,440
K5TR (W5MR, op)	176,176
W0SD	103,456
NA5TR	83,136
K8CC (N8NX, op)	64,032
W3LL	44,772
N2EOC	41,082
N8RA	40,700
K0RH	40,128
KR5DX	40,080

CW Only, QRP

KG5U	63,672
N4JF	45,900
KC5R	33,792
N8AP	12,096
AE8M	11,336
W7JL	11,252
W5ESE	8,740
AA1CA	7,728
N4AU	7,476
N9SF	6,552

CW Only, Low Power

WA1FCN	93,400
N5CHA	67,404
WK2G	65,700
W0VX	54,432
K5EYJ	53,424
K5SM	52,560
W2RR	50,760
WB4TDH	45,600
N1BAA	45,232
WF4W	42,000

CW Only, High Power

K5NA	309,760
K1TO	217,744
K9BGL	132,632
WJ9B	103,040
N5NA	98,992
N5ZK (W5ASP, op)	98,560
NY3A	91,160
W4FDA	72,420
W9WI	71,148
K5HP	68,544

Multioperator

NX5M	671,830
NR5M	480,962
W5YAA	306,160
N4ARR	188,640
K4SO	148,918
AA1JD	147,264
N4RV	131,740
K4FJ	126,828
KD0S	126,344
W9IU	124,024

Top Ten, DX

Mixed Mode, QRP

VK4FRAJ	9,576
PY2NY	7,752
4M2L (YV5YMA, op)	4,320
VK5MAV	944
JK1TVC	380
JH7RTQ	168
PY1WW	80
9A2EY	66

Mixed Mode, Low Power

LU5VW	130,192
XE2S	24,108
WP4I (WP3C, op)	18,216
LU8EOT	17,700
LW4HBR	16,376
PY2SRB	13,020
LW6DW	9,472
XQ4CW	7,920
WH2D (K3UOC, op)	6,292
PP2RON	6,072

Mixed Mode, High Power

ZS1EL	47,838
YT5T	34,692
PY0FF	19,734
F8AOF	12,084
CE3BFZ	11,880
DL4WA	7,840
UR5IEE	7,830
JH4UTP	7,160
9M6XRO	5,472
JH3PRR	4,968

Phone Only, QRP

LV6D (LW3DC, op)	4,698
TE2M (TI2KAC, op)	2,250
HI3T (HI3TEJ, op)	1,452
PY2BN	1,110
I5KAP	792
JAZDLM	400
EA8AJO	322
VK4ATH	312
EA3FF	260
VP5UB (KB7UB, op)	180

Phone Only, Low Power

PU2LSM	20,094
PY2CX	16,512
LQ5H	14,400
PY2ZY	12,880
LU4WG	11,360
PU5AOS	11,340
PU1KGG	8,640
LU2NI	7,688
HI3C	7,560
LU5CAB	7,140

Phone Only, High Power

LU1HF	84,196
ZS6DXB	39,888
PY5HOT	34,404
DL2ARD	17,864
VK8AA (VK2CZ, op)	13,770
PP5JR	10,804
XE2WWW	10,746
DL5L (DG0OKW, op)	6,248
DD5FZ	4,120
F4DXW	3,002

CW Only, QRP

VP5E (K0OK, op)	1,980
VU2UR	288
JD1AHC	280
JR1NKN	208
DL2TM	144
US5VX	96
JF3WNO	64
UX8ZA	16
RV9AZ	4
PA0FAW	4

CW Only, Low Power

PJ2T (W0CG, op)	30,240
CW2C (IK1PMR, op)	27,800
LW1E	21,328
D2NX (JM1CAX, op)	9,472
HP1AC	7,300
ZL1TM	5,984
NP2L	5,192
XE1CT	4,032
PY3YD	3,936
ZL3TE (W3SE, op)	3,016

CW Only, High Power

PY2WC	45,540
S57DX	13,312
OL5M (OK1GI, op)	12,432
EA3KU	10,912
HP1VW	10,788
OH6QU	5,888
DL2OM	5,796
ZM1K (ZL1AIH, op)	5,720
LA9VDA	4,536
6W1SE	4,416

Multioperator

LR2F	305,920
CX5BW	264,300
ZW5B	227,080
LR4E	214,420
CV5K	198,528
AY8A	188,928
HD2A	84,800
LU2EE	77,608
LS2D	73,710
PP5ABG	55,250

Novotny, OK1GI, operated OL5M to third place overall from the Czech Republic.

Multioperator Single Transmitter

In the DX Multi-operator category, all of the top 10 scores came from South America. Winning the contest in 2007 was the two-man team at LR2F in Rosario, Santa Fe, Argentina. Roberto Marinesco, LU2FA, and Javi Pons Estel, LU5FF, together made 305,920 points from their location 475 km northwest of Buenos Aires. Last year's winning team took second place this year; six operators at CX5BW combined to make 264,300 points from Uruguay. A multinational team of seven operators used the Auracaria DX Group's call sign, ZW5B to earn third place.

W/VE Categories

Single Operator Mixed Mode

The top two W/VE scores in the Single Operator Mixed Mode QRP category set section records. Toni Radebaugh, N0NI, set a new Iowa section record and took first place with a score almost twice that of Manuel Fonseca, W2MF, in Northern New Jersey. Manuel also set a section record with 196 QSOs. Last year's second place finisher, Chris Merchant, KA1LMR, in New Hampshire, took third place this year.

In the Single Operator Mixed Mode Low Power category, a pair of Texans took the first two places in the W/VE competition. Tom Johnson, WD5K, made just shy of 1200 QSOs and 100 multipliers from North Texas to win the category. Dave Cockrum, N5DO, in West Texas, took second place. Third place went to Pete Stafford, K2PS, of Southern New Jersey.

Scott Jasper, NE9U, operating the well-known W0AIH contest station in Wisconsin, just edged out the competition in the Single Operator, Mixed-Mode High Power category. Paul Newberry Jr, N4PN, in Georgia took second place. Paul had seven more multipliers in his log, but Scott made more QSOs — 132 more — to take the victory. Jerry Rosalius, WB9Z, in Illinois came in a close third place.

Single Operator Phone Only

Only 18 W/VE logs were received in the Single Operator, Phone-Only QRP category this year, the fewest of any category. Winning the category was Kevin Matheny, W1KLM, from Arkansas. Kevin was the only entrant in the category to make over 100 contacts. Michael Statom, KB0OLA, of Alabama came in second place with 79 contacts. Larry Tucker, W7YA, came in third place.

In 2007, the top three spots in the Single Operator, Phone-Only Low Power category

Marcal, PY5HOT, operating from Parana state in southern Brazil.

Single Operator CW Only

Some of the best results for Asian competitors in 2007 came in the Single Operator CW-Only QRP category, where half of the top 10 scores were made by Asian stations. Overall DX victory in the category, however, went to Bob Novak, K0OK, operating VP5E. Bob won the category with just 34 QSOs and 15 multipliers. Second place went to Manohar Arasu, VU2UR, operating from Bangalore, India. Third place went to Masaaki Saito, JD1AHC, who set a new record from the Japanese island of Ogasawara.

Only three DX stations in the Single Operator CW-Only Low Power category made over 10,000 points. First place went to Geoffrey Howard, W0CG, who operated PJ2T on the island of Curaçao. Operating from Uruguay, Andrea Panati, IK1PMR, using the contest call sign CW2C, took second place with 140 contacts. Third place went to Hugo Jorge Salmoyraghi, LU1EWL, operating LW1E from Buenos Aires, Argentina.

In the Single Operator CW-Only High Power category, Waldir Soares, PY2WC, earned 45,540 points from 170 QSOs and 69 multipliers. In the best result for a European station in 2007, Slavko Celarc, S57DX, took second place in the category from Slovenia, making exactly 100 contacts. Vojtech

all went to stations in the fifth call district. Charles Frost, K5LBU, won the category from South Texas with over 600 contacts in the log. Terry Wright, WW5TT, from Oklahoma took second place with over 500 QSOs. In third, Jeff Guidry, AC5O, of Louisiana was just short of 500 contacts.

In the Single Operator Phone-Only High Power category, Chuck Dietz, W5PR, returned to first place after several years of top five finishes. Ken Harker, WM5R, operating at the K5TR station in South Texas, took second place for the second year in a row. Ed Gray, W0SD, of South Dakota came in third this year.

Single Operator CW Only

Winning the Single Operator CW-Only QRP category for the fourth year in a row, Dale Martin KG5U of South Texas made over 100 more QSOs in 2007 than he did in 2006. Second place went to Jerome Fiore, N4JF, of Alabama, while Al Sinopoli, KC5R, of Louisiana set a new Louisiana section record with a score of 33,792 points.

In the Single Operator CW-Only Low Power category, first place went to Bob Beaudoin, WA1FCN, of Alabama. Bob was just shy of 500 contacts this year. Todd Dewberry N5CHA of North Texas took second place with 67,404 points. In a close third place finish, Merrill Brown, WK2G, of West Central Florida finished with 65,700 points, a difference of just 2.5%.

In the W/VE Single Operator CW-Only High Power category, Richard King, K5NA, came out on top from South Texas. Dan Street, K1TO, operating from West Central Florida, came in second this year. While Dan was competitive with Richard in multipliers again this year, Dan finished more than 300 contacts behind. Third place went to Karl Bretz, K9BGL, of Illinois.

Multioperator Single Transmitter

South Texas dominated the W/VE Multi-operator category in 2007. The five-operator team at NX5M earned its third consecutive victory in the category. Earning the second place spot was a two person team at NR5M. George DeMontrond III got help from Eric Silverthorn, NM5M, this year. Third place went to W5YAA, the husband-and-wife team of Sharon Mowers, W5YAA, and Dennis Mowers, K5YA.



Rhy, ZS6DXB, and Daniel, ZS6JR, make final adjustments to their beam for their portable 10 Meter Contest operation in South Africa, 40 km from the border with Botswana.

Complete Online Results

For complete scores, including regional and divisional rundowns, scores by country and many other breakdowns, check out the online results at www.arrl.org/contests/results.



Sixteen year old Michael McCarty, KE5RJJ, of Abilene, Texas jumped into the 10 Meter contest just three weeks after getting licensed. He managed 177 QSOs and 10,034 points.

ARRL Affiliated Clubs Competition

The ARRL affiliated Club Competition continues to be popular, and a reason many cited for getting on a challenging 10 meter band at the bottom of the solar cycle. Forty-seven clubs qualified for the competition this year, one more than qualified in 2006 or 2005.

The top score in the Local Club category this year went to the Midland Amateur Radio Club of Midland, Texas. Second place went to the Lincoln Amateur Radio Club of Lincoln, Nebraska, while third place went to the Metro DX Club of Oak Lawn, Illinois.

The most competitive club competition category in 2007 was the Medium Club category. Winning the club competition for the first time was the Central Texas DX and Contest Club. The 19 logs from CTDXCC members combined for 2,021,354 points, over 106,000 points per log on average. The Florida Contest Group came in second, with exactly 50 logs (the limit for the Medium category) and 1,509,834 points. The Society of Midwest Contesters came in third with 1,103,248

points from 31 logs.

The only club to motivate over 50 members to send in entries on its behalf this year was the Potomac Valley Radio Club. Seventy-six logs from PVRC members combined for 1,725,518 points and a solid victory.

Are You Ready for Next Year?

The ARRL 10 Meter Contest has long been one of the easiest and most approachable contests. If you are new to HF, there's no easier HF band on which to get a station operating. Antennas for 10 meters can be reasonably small, inexpensive, and can have excellent performance at lower heights above ground. An event like the 10 Meter Contest is one of the best ways to get your feet wet in HF contesting.

By December, we will almost certainly be at the leading edge of Solar Cycle 24. On December 13-14, 2008, thousands of Amateur Radio operators around the world will bring the 10 meter band to life once again and behold the first year of a new solar cycle... "CQ Contest"!

QST



From July 2008 QST © ARRL