RAC Canada Day Contest 2022 Rules

Changes to the RAC Canada Day and Canada Winter Contests

The Radio Amateurs of Canada (RAC) Contests and Awards Committee is pleased to announce changes to the RAC sponsored contests.

Commencing with the 2022 contest year we will be adding two new entry categories: Single Operator – Assisted – High Power (SOAHP) and Single Operator – Assisted – Low Power (SOALP).

There is no additional subclassification for either of the two assisted categories. Winners in these categories will qualify for a newly sponsored plaque as well as the typical certificates grouped as in the other entry classes. These categories will be added to the records list alongside the other category records.

We would like to thank Radioworld Central in Calgary, Alberta (https://www.gpscentral. ca/) for sponsoring the plaques in these new categories for both RAC contests. The whole organization at Radioworld in Toronto and now at their Calgary team are great supporters of our activities.

With the advent of our new Web Log submission system, the log submission deadlines have been shortened to 14 days from the end of the contest. We will be phasing out email and paper log submission in the near future. We are also changing the requirement to qualify for certificates. Participants must make a minimum of 50 contacts (QSOs) to be eligible to receive a certificate in any of the categories. We have also provided additional clarifications on how the Rookie category is structured and adjudicated as part of the updated Category Notes provided in the rules.

The Category Notes that form part of the rules has been clarified and there is more information as to how contest categories are structured and adjudicated. We have also added a "Summary of Category Elements, Limitations and Eligibility" table to the rules to highlight key elements of adjudication for the categories.

Please take a few moments to review the updated rules, starting with the Canada Day Contest Rules 2022 which are available on the RAC website at the links provided below. We look forward to your participation in the RAC Canada Day and Canada Winter contests.

- https://www.rac.ca/contesting/
- https://www.rac.ca/contesting-results/

Each year on July 1, the anniversary of Canada's Confederation, Radio Amateurs of Canada sponsors the Canada Day Contest and Amateurs all over the world are invited to Canada's Birthday Party on the air.

Contest Period: 0000 UTC to 2359 UTC on Friday, July 1.

Bands and Modes: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10, 6 and 2 metres, CW and phone (SSB, FM, AM, etc.)

Suggested frequencies: CW – 25 kHz up from the band edge and for SSB – 1850, 3775, 7075*, 7225, 14175, 21250 and 28500 kHz. Check for CW activity on the half-hour.

Note: For 7075 kHz please watch for conflicts in the band plan where there are overlaps with other modes of operation.

Exchange: Stations in Canada send RS(T) and province or territory. VEØs and stations outside Canada send RS(T) and a serial number.

QSOs: Contacts with stations in Canada or VEØs are worth 10 points. Contacts with stations outside Canada are worth 2 points. Contacts with RAC official stations are worth 20 points. RAC official stations are: VA2RAC, VA3RAC, VE1RAC, VE4RAC, VE5RAC, VE6RAC, VE7RAC, VE8RAC, VE9RAC, VO1RAC, VO2RAC, VY0RAC, VY1RAC and VY2RAC.

You may work any station once on each of the two modes, on each of the eight contest bands. It is **prohibited** to make CW contacts in the conventional phone sub-bands and phone contacts in the conventional CW sub-bands. Contacts or soliciting QSOs through a repeater during the contest period is not allowed.

Contacts in the RAC Canada Contests also count towards the RAC Canadian Portable Operations Challenge Award.

Multipliers: Thirteen in total, Canada's 10 provinces and three territories. Each multiplier may be counted once on each mode on each of the eight contest bands.

The multipliers, with their postal abbreviations and prefixes are: Nova Scotia [NS] (VE1, VA1, CY9, CYØ); Quebec [QC] (VE2, VA2); Ontario [ON] (VE3, VA3); Manitoba [MB] (VE4, VA4); Saskatchewan [SK] (VE5, VA5); Alberta [AB] (VE6, VA6); British Columbia [BC] (VE7, VA7); Northwest Territories [NT] (VE8); New Brunswick [NB] (VE9); Newfoundland and Labrador [NL] (VO1, VO2); Nunavut [NU] (VYØ); Yukon [YT] (VY1); and Prince Edward Island [PE] (VY2).

Certain special Canadian prefixes in use at the time of the contest may also apply; however, there may be no more than 13 multipliers on each band/mode. Please use the multiplier abbreviations, in square brackets, noted above.

Note: in the event a station is unable to make a contact with a Canadian station, there will be granted a multiplier count of 1 to facilitate the proper calculation of the final score since a multiplier of zero (0) would not create a valid calculation of a final score.

Final Score: The total QSO from all bands multiplied by the total number of multipliers from all bands.

Categories:

All categories are designed to be multi-mode, Phone and CW categories except for the two single operator single mode categories. It is required that single operator all bands' categories have at least one contact in both modes to differentiate those categories from the single model categories.All other categories may operate single mode if so desired recognizing that it reduces their potential contacts and multipliers.

Special thanks to all of our sponsors for their support of the RAC Canada Day and RAC Canada Winter Contests.

The following categories are eligible for plaques or certificates as detailed in the Awards section of the rules.

1) Single Operator All Bands High Power (SOABHP) >100 watts – **Radioworld**

2) Single Operator All Bands Low Power (SOABLP), max. 100 watts output – **Contest Club Ontario**

3) Single Operator All Bands QRP (SOABQRP), max. 5-watt output All Bands & Single Band – **Radioworld** (See Note 8)

4) Single Operator All Bands CW only, (SOABCW only), any authorized power – **Gary Bartlett VE1RGB Memorial by the Maritime Contest Club**

5) Single Operator All Bands PH only (SOABPH only), any authorized power – **Saskatchewan Contest Club**

6) Single Operator Single Band (SOSB), any authorized power – **Radioworld** (See Note 9)

7) Single Operator Assisted High Power (SOAHP) > 100 watts – **Radioworld Central** (See Note 3)

8) Single Operator Assisted Low Power ** (SOALP), max. 100 watts output – **Radioworld Central** (See Note 3)

***Note:** QRP entrants who wish to use assistance will be placed in the low power category.*

9) Multi-Operator Single Transmitter High Power (MOSTHP), >100 watts – **Alfa Radio** (See Note 4)

10) Multi-Operator Single Transmitter Low Power (MOSTLP), max. 100 watts output – **Tony Allsop VE3FTA Memorial by the Mississauga Amateur Radio Club** (See Note 4)

11) Multi-Operator Multi-Transmitter (MOMT), any authorized power – **Radioworld**

Special Category Plaques

For the Canada Day Contest a special trophy is awarded for the highest Single Operator (no power classification) Foreign Entrant – **Larry Kayser VA3LK Memorial by Alan Goodacre, VE3HX**.

For the Canada Day Contest there is a "Rookie" subcategory plaque sponsored by RadioSport Manitoba and the Winnipeg Amateur Radio Club. For detailed information regarding the qualifications for the Rookie plaque, please refer to item 14 of the Category Notes. Previous rookie winners of this contest are ineligible for an additional Rookie Plaque in this contest.

Additional details on contest categories, limitations, exceptions, callouts and Rookie plaque eligibility appear in the Category Notes and in Table 1 (see page 4).

Category notes:

Please check the RAC website for any revisions due to the global pandemic.

1) The contents of a log that is submitted for a specific category must reflect that category including any multimode or single mode QSO requirement that may apply to the category.

In the event of a conflict between the actual content of the log and the stated category in the Cabrillo header or contained in other elements of the entry material, the actual contents of the log will be used to determine the category of entry where possible. In the event this cannot be determined or in the event where a log does not identify the entry category, the entry will be classified into the Multi-Operator, Multi-Transmitter, any authorized power category.

*Any entrant who wants to enter a specific category (i.e. Single Band entry), but who also worked additional contacts outside that category, **may** submit those additional contacts in a **separate** check log file. Do not include them in the main entered category log file.*

2) Where the categories have a power class and the submitted log does not clearly identify the power class entered, then the log will be treated as if the highest power class for that category was entered.

3) **Single operators** who receive assistance in identifying potential new QSOs and/or multipliers from an Amateur Radio Spotting Network – including Skimmer and similar technologies or any type of Packet Cluster system – during the contest must classify their log as being in one of the two Single Operator Assisted categories. To indicate an assisted entry use the Cabrillo heading "Category-Assisted: Assisted" in your log file to identify this entry classification. As noted in the category description, any QRP entrant claiming "Assistance" will be placed in the SOALP category as there is no QRP assisted class.

All multi-operator categories allow the use of spotting assistance without special identification.

4) ***** In the Multi-Single category only one transmitter and one band are permitted during the same time period (defined as 10 minutes). **Exception:** One, and only one, other band may be used during any 10-minute period, if and only if the station worked is a new multiplier. In other words, the Multi-Single Transmitter class allows a second station to "hunt" and work multipliers only on a single separate band during any 10-minute period. This limitation is placed on the category to force strategic decisions regarding band changes by the team.

5) Multi-Multi category stations may operate the eight contest bands simultaneously, but only one transmitted signal per band is permitted at any time.

6) For all multi transmitter categories, all transceivers, transmitters and receivers operated by the multi station participants/entrants must be within a single 500-metre diameter circle and the antennas must be physically connected by RF transmission lines to the transceivers, transmitters and/or receivers.

7) Operators in either the Multi-Multi or Multi-Single categories should note that a distributed contest station is permitted in the RAC contests, however such operations are not eligible for awards.

Table 1: Summary of Category Elements, Limitations and Eligibility							
Category	Power Level	Logged Band Requirement	Mixed Mode Contacts Required	Assisted Use Allowed	Transmitted On-air Signals	10 Minute Rule Applies	Rookie Plaque Eligible
SOABHP	>100 W	2 or more	Yes	No	1 at any given time	No	Yes
SOABLP	>5 to100 W	2 or more	Yes	No	1 at any given time	No	Yes
SOABQRP	<5 W	1 or more	Yes	No	1 at any given time	No	Yes
SOABCW only	Any	1 or more	No, CW only	No	1 at any given time	No	No
SOABPH only	Any	1 or more	No, Phone only	No	1 at any given time	No	No
SOSB	Any	1 only	Optional	No	1 at any given time	No	No
SOAHP	>100 W	1 or more	Optional	Yes	1 at any given time	No	No
SOALP	<100 W	1 or more	Optional	Yes	1 at any given time	No	No
MOSTLP	<100 W	1 or more	Optional	Yes	1 run, 1 multiplier on different band	Yes	No
MOSTHP	>100 W	1 or more	Optional	Yes	1 run, 1 multiplier on different band	Yes	No
MOMT	Any	1 or more	Optional	Yes	1 per band	No	No

A distributed station is defined as a station which does not have all transceivers, transmitters and/or receivers operated by station operators/participants/entrants located within a single 500-metre diameter circle of each other. Distributed Multi-Multi operations must identify such operations as part of their Cabrillo form log submission as a SOAPBOX comment or summary sheet document. Those individuals using distributed station operations must do so in accordance with the regulations governing amateur radio operation in their jurisdiction.

8) ** Although there is only one QRP category, which qualifies for a plaque or certificate, it is intended that the published results would show All Bands or the Single Band of operation. To facilitate this break out of the listings, your entry should indicate the band(s) or mode(s) operated.

9) *** Although there is only one Single Operator Single Band category that qualifies for a certificate or award, it is intended that the published results would show High Power or Low Power. To facilitate this break out of the listings, your entry should indicate the power class you used.

10) Operators who have participated in any multi-operator category entries may not contact the station they have participated in if they were to operate as part of another entry in the same contest. In addition, guest operators at any station regardless of entry category may not claim contacts with the station host owner or host station mobile call for points or multipliers.

11) Remote operations of a single station under the same call sign where all transceivers, transmitters and receivers are within a single 500-metre diameter circle – the antennas must be physically connected by RF transmission lines to the transceivers, transmitters and/or receivers – is explicitly permitted.

Those operators using remote operations must do so in accordance with the regulations governing Amateur Radio operation in their home and remote station jurisdiction. Remote operation of more than one station under the same call sign, or remote operation of more than one station by the same licensee under differing call signs, is prohibited during the contest period.

12) Single Operator 1 VFO (SO1V), Single Operator 2 VFO (SO2V) and Single Operator 2 Radio with one VFO shown for each radio (SO2R) entries are allowed in all categories.

13) Self-spotting and requesting other operators to spot your station by any means is strictly prohibited for any Canada Day Contest entry categories

14) "Rookie" is defined as a single operator who was first licensed as a Radio Amateur less than 36 calendar months (three years) prior to the date of the contest. Any level of Amateur Radio licence available from the licensing jurisdiction of the entrant qualifies for the category. The three supported categories that qualify for the "Rookie" plaque have a multi-mode requirement as differentiation from the single mode categories. Further, we are trying to encourage entrants to explore both SSB (Phone) and CW aspects of the contest thus requiring a minimum of one CW and one SSB contact to be made in the qualifying single operator categories that qualify for adjudication for the rookie plaque.

The participating licensed Amateur is required to self-declare their eligibility, but the RAC Contest Management Committee reserves the right to request proof of eligibility to assist in resolving any disputes.

Eligible Categories for Rookie Plaque:

Participants are eligible for the Rookie Plaque in the following categories.

Note: only one plaque is available across the three categories designated below.

- Single Operator All Band Low Power (SOABLP)
- Single Operator All Band High Power (SOABHP)
- Single Operator All Band QRP Power (SOABQRP)

Log Identification of Rookie Overlay Category:

Your submitted log will need to indicate your entry in the Rookie category by indicating with a **"Category-Overlay: Rookie"** line in the Cabrillo log file header. You may need to manually enter this line if the logging software you use does not support this category overlay. This can also be selected when submitting a log via the RAC Web Log Submission System.

In addition, "Rookie" entrants will need to indicate the date they were first licensed by adding a comment with that information in a "Soapbox:" field in the Cabrillo header. An example would be: "Soapbox: First licensed in January of 2020."

While the scores from the single mode, unlimited and multi-op "Rookie" entries will be noted in the contest results, only Rookie entrants in the SOABHP, SOABLP or SOABQRP categories will be eligible for the Rookie plaque. While there is only a single Rookie plaque determined by the results from the three eligible single operator categories, a Rookie entrant will still be eligible for the plaque for the single operator category they have entered should they achieve the highest score for that category. Should they qualify for a certificate based on the normal criteria for certificates, they will be further awarded that certificate.

Awards:

Plaques will be awarded to the top-scoring entrants in each category, as noted above in the category list.

Special thanks to our sponsors for their ongoing support!

Certificates will be awarded to the top-scoring entrant in each category, where a log containing a minimum of 50 gross QSOs has been submitted, in each of.

1) Canadian provinces or territories

2) Continental US call districts, W0 through W9 as well as Alaska and Hawaii. US Commonwealths, Territories and Possessions such as Puerto Rico, US Virgin Islands, etc will be treated as equivalent to a DXCC country

3) DXCC country, excluding Canada and the US

To facilitate the proper allocation of certificates, all US stations should indicate their actual US call district based on their actual address, as provided in the Cabrillo header, if different than indicated by their call prefix.

DX stations should indicate the actual country of operation if different than indicated by their call prefix by indicating the country as part of the portable call sign designator.

RAC stations will compete and be considered the same as any other entrant for eligibility to plaques and certificates.

Results: Will be published in *The Canadian Amateur* magazine published by the Radio Amateurs of Canada. The results will also be published on the RAC website.

Entries: All entries must be electronically submitted by 23:59 UTC 14 days after the end of the contest (**July 15, 2022**). The preferred method is to submit logs via the Web Log Submission system at www.contest.rac.ca

For the current contest year, we will also accept logs sent via email to canadaday@rac.ca. Electronic email entries will be confirmed by return email by the contest manager. This is a manual process, so do not expect an immediate reply.

For the current contest year, we will also accept logs sent via mail, postmarked no later than 14 days after the end of the contest.

Send paper entries to:

Radio Amateurs of Canada
720 Belfast Road, Suite 217
Ottawa, Ontario, Canada K1G 0Z5

Paper mail entries must contain a summary sheet showing score calculation, a dupe sheet listing calls worked on each mode on each band, a multiplier check sheet and log sheets. Log sheets must show time, band, mode, call of station worked, exchanges sent and received and claimed for each QSO. New multipliers must be clearly marked in the log.

For those submitting paper logs, the contest entry forms are also available on the RAC website at:

http://wp.rac.ca/contesting-results/

Special Note:

1) The contest management team will be phasing out email and paper logs at some point in the future, so we encourage you to update your processes and software to accommodate use of the Web Log Submission system and the required Cabrillo- formatted logs.

2) Any entry with 100 or more contacts should be submitted in digital format using the contest log submission system or, while supported, via email.

3) The required electronic format is the RAC Cabrillo format. The files must be submitted in plain ASCII/Text format. The current Cabrillo logging format / standard is available from the RAC website at: https://www.rac.ca/contesting-results/, under the heading of RAC Cabrillo V3.3

4) When submitting any electronic log please use a unique identifier by naming the file using your cCall sign with a file extension of .LOG, .CBR or .TXT (e.g., yourcall.LOG). If you email your log, please send the file(s) as attachments. Do not paste the log file into the text of your message as there may be issues with the formatting making it difficult to properly extract the log. Large files may be zipped if necessary.

If you have questions about these rules or need help with preparing or submitting your log or have any other questions, please contact Bart Ritchie, VE5CPU at ve5cpu@rac.ca.

For the previous year's contest results, visit the RAC website in the Contest section at: http://wp.rac.ca/contesting-results/

We hope to hear you on the air for the RAC Canada Day Contest (July 1; 00:00 UTC through 23:59:59 UTC).
Don't forget to share your stories with us at tcamag@yahoo.ca and #RACCD