



INTERIM MEETING OF VHF & up Committee of IARU REGION 1
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Subject	new section in Chapter 5: “Rules for Automatic Contest Adjudication”		
Author/ contact		Status	Proposal

Introduction

All the submitted contest logs are in an electronic format and there are many automatic contest log cross-checking software in use by national societies to ease the contest adjudication and to shorten the time to publish contest results.

During last 15 years quite some software applications were written by amateurs for automatic contest log cross-checking (so called “contest robots”). Every application has its own set of rules how to judge the contact validity beyond the level as set in the contest rules (Chapter 5 of VHF Managers HBK). In order to assure fair and unambiguous adjudication of the IARU R1 VHF&up contests the rules used for checking the logs should be made open to the public.

Different implementation approaches of every programmer that plans to (or already had) design contest cross-checking robot are acknowledged and it is believed that all those different software should continue to evolve. It would be a good practice to evaluate the comparison of the results of those different robots on the same set of contest logs now and then (i.e. every 3 years or so) to assess the fairness and algorithm maturity.

We want to stress out the necessity for public release of high level description of robot’s cross-checking rules so that every participant has a good view of the checking principles.

Proposal

It is proposed to insert this new section after the section 5.7 that would cover cross-checking software specifics.

We propose chapter to be titled: **5.8 Automatic Contest Adjudication Software**

Ad-hoc working group shall be established to prepare the text body of this new chapter.