

# 2015 Oceania DX Contest – Results Summary

## Introduction

Congratulations to all the winners in the 2015 Oceania DX (OCDX) Contest, and thank you to everyone who participated, even if only to make one or two QSOs. Conditions were not great but the soapbox comments indicate that entrants still had a lot of fun and enjoyed the challenge.

This report presents an overview of the contest results. More detailed information is published in the following accompanying reports on the contest web site at <http://www.oceaniadxcontest.com/results.htm>:

- 2015 Oceania DX Contest – PHONE Scores
- 2015 Oceania DX Contest – CW Scores
- 2015 Oceania DX Contest – PHONE station information and soapbox comments
- 2015 Oceania DX Contest - CW station information and soapbox comments
- 2015 Oceania DX Contest – Analysis

This year, the detailed score reports have been updated to include the rankings of each entrant against other entrants in the same category. Three rankings are identified – the rank within the same country, within the same continent and worldwide. Note that in the case of non-Oceania stations, the worldwide ranking excludes Oceania stations.

## Activity in the 2015 contest

The good conditions associated with the peak of the solar cycle that we have enjoyed over the past few years finally came to an end in the 2015 contest. Reduced solar activity, along with an elevated A index and QRN from electrical storms in the South Pacific, meant that the 2015 contest was considerably more challenging than in recent years, especially on the higher bands and over longer paths.

Not surprisingly, these conditions had a negative impact on the levels of participation and band activity in the contest. Compared to 2014, the number of logs received dropped by 7% to a total of 1,169, and overall QSO activity dropped by 30%. From a frequency perspective, the impact was most noticeable on the 10M band where activity plummeted to 10% of the levels observed in the 2014 contest. From a geographic perspective, the impact was greatest in Europe where the number of logs submitted dropped by 19% compared to 2014. Making QSOs between Oceania and Europe can be difficult at any time, but this was clearly more challenging than usual in the 2015 contest.

The good news is that, despite the poorer conditions, participation from Oceania stations continued to climb in the 2015 contest. Compared to 2014, the total number of Oceania entries was up by 17% to make a new record of 313 entries. The increase was largely driven by increases in the number of entrants from Australia and Indonesia. This ongoing upward trend in the number of entrants from Oceania stations is most encouraging, noting that Oceania participation is essential for attracting more participation from stations outside Oceania and continuing to grow the contest.

As well as the more common Oceania entities (such as KH6, VK, YB and ZL) the 2015 contest also saw activity from rarer prefixes such as 3D2, 9M6, DU, KH2, KH8, NH0, NH2, P29, TX3, V73 and V85. The contest committee is grateful for the activity from these rarer prefixes as they make the contest more interesting and attractive for other participants, especially for stations outside Oceania.

## Notable achievements

A total of 23 new continent records were set in the 2015 contest. Many of these were for the new QRP categories that were first introduced in 2014. A summary of the new continent records is provided in Table 1 below and a detailed list of all continent and country records is published on the contest web site at

<http://www.oceaniadxcontest.com/results.htm> .

There were many other notable achievements in the 2015 contest. It is not possible to recognise all of them individually but the following deserve special mention:

- Gerard Hill **VK2IO** for going to the effort of setting up portable stations to establish a new record for the Oceania SO ALL QRP category in both the PHONE and CW sections. You can read the full story about his adventures at <https://vk2io.wordpress.com/category/contest/> .
- The **VK6NE** team (VK6IA, VK6EH, VK6VY, VK6NU, VK6BEC, VK6VZZ) for easily beating the competition from the various other teams in the Oceania PHONE multi-operator categories to post the highest score in the Oceania PHONE M1 category and the overall contest.
- Holger Hannemann **ZM2IO** for fending off the competition from the closest Australian rivals (VK2IM and VK2DX) to win the Oceania CW SO ALL HP category and also set a new record for New Zealand in this category.
- Xenia Berger **ZL4YL** (daughter of ZM2IO) for achieving the highest score in Oceania in the CW SO 10M HP category. A fine achievement considering she has only been licensed for 2 months and the poor conditions on the 10M band.
- The **JE1ZWT** team (JA1MML, JF1VVR, JK1JHU) for setting a new record in the Asia PHONE MM category and posting the highest overall score outside Oceania in the PHONE section.
- George Demontrond **NR5M** for winning the North America CW SO ALL HP category and posting the highest score outside Oceania in the CW section.
- The **Geelong Amateur Radio Club** for encouraging 17 of its members to make at least 50 QSOs in the contest and the **Eastern Mountain District Radio Club** for encouraging 13 of its members to do the same. The **Geelong Amateur Radio Club** is again the recipient of the Australia Club Plaque.

Mode	Continent	Category	Call	Final Score
PH	Oceania	SO ALL QRP	VK2IO	53410
PH	South America	SWL	CX021	6291
PH	Oceania	SO 80M LP	ZL1YE	11880
PH	Oceania	SO 40M QRP	YD1CW	1575
PH	Oceania	SO 40M LP	YD2OXV	152250
PH	Oceania	SO 160M LP	VK4SN	900
PH	North America	SO ALL QRP	KA3UOL	1
PH	North America	SO 20M HP	VE3VEE	616
PH	Europe	SO 40M QRP	LY5Q	45
PH	Asia	SO ALL QRP	JA2MWV	5100
PH	Asia	SO 20M HP	JA2XLV	2808
PH	Asia	SO 15M QRP	JQ1NGT	2064
PH	Asia	MM	JE1ZWT	115947
CW	Oceania	SO ALL QRP	VK2IO	25365
CW	North America	SO 40M QRP	K9JWV	150
CW	North America	SO 40M HP	N6RO	7560
CW	North America	SO 20M QRP	KJ6MBW	12
CW	North America	SO 20M LP	KF4PN	54
CW	Asia	SO 40M QRP	JM1XTB	180
CW	Asia	SO 40M HP	RT0F	8235
CW	Asia	SO 20M QRP	JK7DWD	144
CW	Asia	SO 20M LP	JK8PBO	315
CW	Asia	SO 15M QRP	JQ1NGT	988

**Table 1: New continent records in the 2015 contest**

## 2015 Continent Leaders

Mode	Category	Africa	Asia	Europe	North America	Oceania	South America
PH	SO ALL QRP		JA2M WV	IV3AOL	KA3UOL	VK2IO	
PH	SO ALL LP		JA7QVI	3Z9DX	N5AW	VK4LAT	LU1JHF
PH	SO ALL HP		JA6GMC	RT5Z	K3PA/0	VK2XZ	PY5DC
PH	SO 160M LP					VK4SN	
PH	SO 80M LP					ZL1YE	
PH	SO 40M QRP			LY5Q		YD1CW	
PH	SO 40M LP		JH4CES		VE9CB	YD2OXV	
PH	SO 40M HP		JA4CMW	UA4LCH	N1RR	ZL2RVW	
PH	SO 20M QRP			PA9IGB			
PH	SO 20M LP		JJ1KZZ	SP7VTQ	WP3E	VK3VTH	HC5VF
PH	SO 20M HP		JA2XLV	HA4XH	VE3VEE	ZL1DK	
PH	SO 15M QRP		JQ1NGT	LA7WRA			
PH	SO 15M LP		HSOZIA	UT7HA	VE3DZ	YC2TDA	
PH	SO 15M HP		JA1CTB	ES5QD		DU1RB	
PH	SO 10M QRP			UA6BFE			
PH	SO 10M LP		JH7RTQ	EW2BO		YB1JYL	
PH	SO 10M HP		JA7OWD	UT1DX			
PH	M1		R8LA	UA2F	K5GDX	VK6NE	
PH	M2				W8AJT	VK4HH	
PH	MM		JE1ZWT			VK5ARG	
PH	SWL		UA0-107-181	F-59706	K3TW		CX021

**Table 2: Continent Winners in the PHONE Section**

Mode	Category	Africa	Asia	Europe	North America	Oceania	South America
CW	SO ALL QRP			IV3AOL		VK2IO	
CW	SO ALL LP	5R8SV	HSOZIA	3Z9DX	N7IR	VK3MI	
CW	SO ALL HP		JR2SCJ	YL3FT	NR5M	ZM2IO	PS2T
CW	SO 160M HP					VK5BUG	
CW	SO 80M LP		JH4CES	DK2FG		VK1CT	
CW	SO 80M HP				K3TW/4	ZL1AIH	
CW	SO 40M QRP		JM1XTB		K9JWV		
CW	SO 40M LP		JR9NVB	UB7K		AH6KO	
CW	SO 40M HP		RT0F	R3ZZ	N6RO	ZL2AGY	
CW	SO 20M QRP		JK7DWD	US5VX	KJ6MBW		
CW	SO 20M LP		JK8PBO	UA3UAD	KF4PN	YB8TK	
CW	SO 20M HP		JA7AKH	ES5QD		VK6NU	
CW	SO 15M QRP		JQ1NGT				
CW	SO 15M LP		JH7RTQ	UY2IF	W7ON	YB3MM	LU3HO
CW	SO 15M HP		JA7DOT	R7AB	WA0MHJ	ZM4M	
CW	SO 10M LP		JH2KKW			YF1CRR	
CW	SO 10M HP					ZL4YL	
CW	M1		UI0L	UA4S		VK3GK	
CW	SWL		UA0-107-181	SP7-003-24			

**Table 3: Continent Winners in the CW Section**

## 2015 Oceania Country Leaders

Mode	Category	American Samoa	Australia	Brunei Darussalam	East Malaysia	Fiji	Guam	Hawaii	Indonesia	New Zealand	Philippines	Samoa
PH	SO ALL QRP		VK2IO						YB0ANN			
PH	SO ALL LP	WS5K/KH8	VK4LAT	V85ZX	9M6YBG	3D2KM			YB5BOY	ZL1FLY	DU1JM	
PH	SO ALL HP		VK2XZ		9M6XRO			WH7W	YB1AR	ZL1X	DU1IVT	
PH	SO 160M LP		VK4SN									
PH	SO 80M LP									ZL1YE		
PH	SO 40M QRP		VK3ZPF						YD1CW			
PH	SO 40M LP		VK2IUW						YD2OXV	ZL2CQ	DW3TRZ	
PH	SO 40M HP		VK3WK						YF3BPL	ZL2RVW		
PH	SO 20M LP		VK3VTH						YB8SX	ZL3DXT		
PH	SO 20M HP		VK4RZ				KH2GUM		YB0NDT	ZL1DK		
PH	SO 15M LP		VK3QJ						YC2TDA			
PH	SO 15M HP								YC8RBI	ZL4AS	DU1RB	
PH	SO 10M LP				9W6EZ				YB1JYL			
PH	M1		VK6NE						YE1ZAL		DX1PUP	
PH	M2		VK4HH									
PH	MM		VK5ARG						YC1ZBI			
CW	SO ALL QRP		VK2IO						YB0ANN			
CW	SO ALL LP		VK3MI			3D2KM		KH6CJJ	YB8RW	ZL3GA	DU7HF	
CW	SO ALL HP		VK2IM		9M6XRO			WH7W	YE3AA	ZM2IO	DU1SDT	
CW	SO 160M HP		VK5BUG									
CW	SO 80M LP		VK1CT									
CW	SO 80M HP									ZL1AIH		
CW	SO 40M LP		VK2BPL					AH6KO	YB2LSR		DW3TRZ	
CW	SO 40M HP		VK4NM							ZL2AGY		5W1SA
CW	SO 20M LP		VK3QJ						YB8TK	ZL3TE		
CW	SO 20M HP		VK6NU									
CW	SO 15M LP								YB3MM			
CW	SO 15M HP							KH6Y		ZM4M		
CW	SO 10M LP								YF1CRR			
CW	SO 10M HP									ZL4YL		
CW	M1		VK3GK									

**Table 4: Oceania Country Leaders in the PHONE and CW Sections**

## 2015 Top Scores from Oceania

Mode	Call	Country	Category	Final Score
PH	VK6NE	Australia	M1	3815749
PH	VK3GK	Australia	M1	2061099
PH	VK2AU	Australia	M1	1768234
PH	VK5ARG	Australia	MM	1662552
PH	VK4LAT	Australia	SO ALL LP	1414838
PH	VK4HH	Australia	M2	1284540
PH	VK2XZ	Australia	SO ALL HP	1109272
PH	YB1AR	Indonesia	SO ALL HP	827900
PH	VK2IM	Australia	SO ALL HP	731084
PH	VK2BJ	Australia	SO ALL LP	600779
PH	VK3NW	Australia	SO ALL HP	425680
PH	VK2IR	Australia	SO ALL LP	411015
PH	YB5BOY	Indonesia	SO ALL LP	370880
PH	VK3AVV	Australia	SO ALL HP	292032
PH	DU1IVT	Philippines	SO ALL HP	272291
PH	VK3FRC	Australia	M2	264965
PH	9M6XRO	East Malaysia	SO ALL HP	235710
PH	ZL2RVW	New Zealand	SO 40M HP	228715
PH	VK3WK	Australia	SO 40M HP	227420
PH	DU1JM	Philippines	SO ALL LP	224840

**Table 5: Top 20 Scores from Oceania in the PHONE Section**

Mode	Call	Country	Category	Final Score
CW	ZM2IO	New Zealand	SO ALL HP	2960464
CW	VK2IM	Australia	SO ALL HP	2687569
CW	VK2DX	Australia	SO ALL HP	2514520
CW	ZM2B	New Zealand	SO ALL HP	1365351
CW	VK2GR	Australia	SO ALL HP	906066
CW	VK4CT	Australia	SO ALL HP	755438
CW	ZL2AGY	New Zealand	SO 40M HP	737500
CW	VK2PN	Australia	SO ALL HP	602140
CW	VK3MI	Australia	SO ALL LP	422334
CW	VK3JA	Australia	SO ALL HP	364014
CW	VK4SN	Australia	SO ALL HP	233544
CW	ZL3PAH	New Zealand	SO ALL HP	166713
CW	VK7BO	Australia	SO ALL HP	159390
CW	YB8RW	Indonesia	SO ALL LP	159088
CW	VK4NM	Australia	SO 40M HP	132205
CW	5W1SA	Samoa	SO 40M HP	129710
CW	9M6XRO	East Malaysia	SO ALL HP	128671
CW	VK2IG	Australia	SO ALL LP	128256
CW	ZM4G	New Zealand	SO ALL HP	117650
CW	YC6MYO	Indonesia	SO ALL LP	112104

**Table 6: Top 20 Scores from Oceania in the CW Section**

## 2015 Top Scores from Outside Oceania

Mode	Call	Continent	Country	Category	Final Score
PH	JE1ZWT	Asia	Japan	MM	115947
PH	RT5Z	Europe	European Russia	SO ALL HP	67000
PH	YL3FT	Europe	Latvia	SO ALL HP	40375
PH	DL2SAX	Europe	Fed. Rep. of Germany	SO ALL HP	39026
PH	JA6GMC	Asia	Japan	SO ALL HP	36036
PH	JA1LNZ	Asia	Japan	SO ALL HP	33975
PH	K3PA/0	North America	United States	SO ALL HP	32635
PH	9V1YC	Asia	Singapore	SO ALL HP	28578
PH	VR2XMT	Asia	Hong Kong	SO ALL HP	26426
PH	RN0CT	Asia	Asiatic Russia	SO ALL HP	21775
PH	RU3FM	Europe	European Russia	SO ALL HP	19596
PH	JA7QVI	Asia	Japan	SO ALL LP	17220
PH	K3ZO	North America	United States	SO ALL HP	16286
PH	RX0L	Asia	Asiatic Russia	SO ALL HP	14382
PH	3Z9DX	Europe	Poland	SO ALL LP	14274
PH	RW9JZ	Asia	Asiatic Russia	SO ALL HP	13281
PH	UA4LCH	Europe	European Russia	SO 40M HP	12960
PH	F-59706	Europe	France	SWL	11816
PH	DL2VK	Europe	Fed. Rep. of Germany	SO ALL HP	11781
PH	YL2SM	Europe	Latvia	SO ALL HP	11750

**Table 7: Top 20 Scores from Outside Oceania in the PHONE Section**

Mode	Call	Continent	Country	Category	Final Score
CW	NR5M	North America	United States	SO ALL HP	50797
CW	JR2SCJ	Asia	Japan	SO ALL HP	35588
CW	K3PA/0	North America	United States	SO ALL HP	27272
CW	N7IR	North America	United States	SO ALL LP	27186
CW	K5YAA	North America	United States	SO ALL HP	17150
CW	HS0ZIA	Asia	Thailand	SO ALL LP	14739
CW	RX0L	Asia	Asiatic Russia	SO ALL HP	11711
CW	3Z9DX	Europe	Poland	SO ALL LP	11544
CW	YL3FT	Europe	Latvia	SO ALL HP	11008
CW	UF5F	Europe	European Russia	SO ALL HP	9765
CW	K3ZO	North America	United States	SO ALL HP	9471
CW	W0DLE	North America	United States	SO ALL HP	8365
CW	K3UL	North America	United States	SO ALL HP	8349
CW	RT0F	Asia	Asiatic Russia	SO 40M HP	8235
CW	RU3FM	Europe	European Russia	SO ALL HP	8084
CW	N9NA/7	North America	United States	SO ALL HP	7992
CW	N6RO	North America	United States	SO 40M HP	7560
CW	NE7D	North America	United States	SO ALL HP	7482
CW	RW9JZ	Asia	Asiatic Russia	SO ALL HP	7220
CW	JA1PCM	Asia	Japan	SO ALL LP	6909

**Table 8: Top 20 Scores from Outside Oceania in the CW Section**

## 2015 Plaques and trophies

Award	Recipient	Sponsor	Recipient
OCEANIA Ron Wills ZL2TT Memorial Trophy	Top entrant from Oceania in PHONE Single Operator ALL Band category	ZL2GI, ZL2AL, ZL1AZE, Wellington Amateur Radio Club, NZART	<b>VK4LAT</b>
OCEANIA PHONE Single-Op 40M Plaque	Top entrant from Oceania in PHONE Single Operator 40M Band category	Mike Mather ZL2CC	<b>ZL2RVW</b>
VK6NE Memorial Plaque	Top entrant from Oceania in PHONE Multiple Operator Single Transmitter category	Northern Corridor Radio Group	<b>VK6NE</b>
OCEANIA PHONE M2 Plaque	Top entrant from Oceania in PHONE Multiple Operator Two Transmitter category	South Pacific Contest Club	<b>VK4HH</b>
OCEANIA PHONE Newcomer Plaque	<a href="#">Top entrant from Oceania in the PHONE Newcomer category</a>	Oceania Amateur Radio DX Group	<b>YB5BOY</b>
OCEANIA CW Single-Op ALL Band Plaque	Top entrant from Oceania in CW Single Operator ALL Band category	Chris Chapman VK3QB	<b>ZM2IO</b>
OCEANIA CW Single-Op ALL Band LOW Power Plaque	Top entrant from Oceania in CW Single Operator ALL Band LOW Power category	Fists Down Under Club	<b>VK3MI</b>
OCEANIA CW Single-Op 40M Plaque	Top entrant from Oceania in CW Single Operator 40M Band category	Mike Mather ZL2CC	<b>ZL2AGY</b>
OCEANIA CW M2 Plaque	Top entrant from Oceania in CW Multiple Operator Two Transmitter category	South Pacific Contest Club	<b>No eligible entrants</b>
OCEANIA CW Newcomer Plaque	<a href="#">Top entrant from Oceania in the CW Newcomer category</a>	Oceania Amateur Radio DX Group	<b>VK2DX</b>
AUSTRALIA PHONE Single-Op ALL Band LOW Power Plaque	Top entrant from Australia in PHONE Single Operator ALL Band LOW Power category	Martin Luther VK7GN	<b>VK4LAT</b>
AUSTRALIA PHONE Single-Op ALL Band HIGH power Plaque	Top entrant from Australia in PHONE Single Operator ALL Band HIGH power category	Tony Hambling VK3VTH	<b>VK2XZ</b>
AUSTRALIA Frank Hine VK2QL Memorial Trophy	Top entrant from Australia in CW Single Operator ALL Band category	WIA Federal	<b>VK2IM</b>
AUSTRALIA Club Plaque	<a href="#">Local club from Australia with the greatest number of member stations participating in the Contest</a>	VK Contest Club	<b>Geelong Amateur Radio Club</b>
SOUTH AUSTRALIA (VK5) PHONE Single-Op ALL Band LOW Power Plaque	Top entrant from South Australia (VK5) in PHONE Single Operator ALL Band LOW Power category	Adelaide Hills Amateur Radio Society	<b>VK5PAS</b>
SOUTH AUSTRALIA (VK5) CW Single-Op ALL Band LOW Power Plaque	Top entrant from South Australia (VK5) in CW Single Operator ALL Band LOW Power category	Adelaide Hills Amateur Radio Society	<b>VK5EEE</b>
NEW ZEALAND Club Competition Plaque	<a href="#">Local New Zealand NZART Branch, DX club, or contest group with the greatest number of single operator entries</a>	Phil Holliday ZL3PAH	<b>The Quake Contesters</b>
INDONESIA PHONE Single-Op ALL Band Plaque	Top entrant from Indonesia in PHONE Single Operator All Band category	Karsono Suyanto YB0NDT	<b>YB1AR</b>
INDONESIA General Licence PHONE Single-Op 40M Plaque	Top entrant from Indonesia General Licensee (YD/YG) in PHONE Single Operator 40m Band category	YB Land DX Club	<b>YD2OXV</b>
NON-OCEANIA PHONE SWL Plaque	Top Entrant from outside Oceania in the PHONE SWL category	Patrick Marteville F-59706	<b>F-59706</b>
ASIA PHONE Single-Op ALL Band Plaque	Top Entrant from Asia in PHONE Single Operator ALL Band category	Lee Moyle VK3GK	<b>JA6GMC</b>
ASIA PHONE M2 Plaque	Top entrant from Asia in PHONE Multiple Operator Two Transmitter category	QRO Communications and OM Power	<b>No eligible entrants</b>
ASIA CW Single-Op ALL Band Plaque	Top Entrant from Asia in CW Single Operator ALL Band category	Wes Printz W3SE / ZL3TE	<b>J2SCJ</b>
ASIA CW M2 Plaque	Top entrant from Asia in CW Multiple Operator Two Transmitter category	QRO Communications and OM Power	<b>No eligible entrants</b>
NORTH AMERICA PHONE Single-Op ALL Band Plaque	Top Entrant from North America in PHONE Single Operator ALL Band category	Ken Keeler N6RO	<b>K3PA/0</b>
NORTH AMERICA CW Single-Op ALL Band Plaque	Top Entrant from North America in CW Single Operator ALL Band category	Oceania Amateur Radio DX Group Inc	<b>NR5M</b>
EUROPE PHONE Single-Op ALL Band Plaque	Top Entrant from Europe in PHONE Single Operator ALL Band category	Oceania Amateur Radio DX Group Inc	<b>RT5Z</b>
Mirek Rozbicki VK6DXI Memorial Plaque	Top Entrant from Europe in CW Single Operator ALL Band category	Slawek Barciuk VK3CTN	<b>3Z9DX</b>

**Table 9: 2015 Plaque and Trophy Winners**

The Australia Club plaque is awarded to the local club from Australia with the greatest number of member stations making at least 50 valid QSOs in the PHONE or CW sections in the contest. The **Geelong Amateur Radio Club** wins this plaque again in 2015 with a total of 17 eligible logs being submitted from members **VK3ALB, VK3ARG, VK3BCL, VK3BYS, VK3DQW, VK3FJEN, VK3FUNY, VK3FWGR, VK3LCD, VK3NCC, VK3NRW, VK3NW, VK3OB, VK3PY, VK3TU, VK3WK** and **VK3ZIB**. Another great effort from the club and it is pleasing to see several Foundation Licensees contributing to the outcome. The runner up was the **Eastern and Mountain District Radio Club** with its members submitting 13 eligible logs (up from 11 in 2014).

The New Zealand Club Competition plaque is awarded to the local New Zealand NZART Branch, DX club, or contest group with the greatest number of members making at least 50 valid QSOs as a single operator in the PHONE or CW sections of the contest. The **Quake Contesters** group wins this plaque again in the 2015 contest to make it two years in a row. The group submitted 3 eligible logs from members **ZL3GA** (PHONE and CW) and **ZL3DXT** (PHONE). Logs from other members of the group did not qualify as those members were outside the 200 km diameter area that is specified in the rules. After discussions with Phil Holliday ZL3PAH (the sponsor of this plaque) it has been decided that the distance restriction will be removed for this plaque in the 2016 contest.

There were no Asian entrants in the PHONE or CW M2 categories so the ASIA M2 PHONE and M2 CW plaques have not been awarded.

Plaques are awarded to the highest scoring newcomer from Oceania in the PHONE section and the highest scoring newcomer from Oceania in the CW section. The rules define a newcomer as an entrant who has not previously entered the relevant section (in any category) more than twice since the 2001 contest. Eligibility is limited to entrants who have not won any other plaques or trophies in the same section (either in a previous year or the current year). The 2015 PHONE and CW newcomer plaques are awarded to **YB5BOY** and **VK2DX** respectively.

The ongoing sponsorship of plaques is important for maintaining and growing interest in the contest. New sponsorship offers are always welcome and anyone who is interested in becoming a sponsor should contact the Contest Committee. The cost of sponsoring a plaque is currently AUD 50.00 per annum, which covers the expenses associated with the manufacture and delivery of the plaques.

## 2015 Certificates

Certificates have been awarded to the top scoring station in each category for each continent and country. Additionally, a participation certificate identifying the number of successful QSOs has been awarded to each station that participated in the contest. The certificates are available online for downloading and printing by individual entrants at their convenience. The web link to the certificates is published on the OCDX contest web site at [www.oceaniadxcontest.com](http://www.oceaniadxcontest.com).

Printed certificates will only be delivered via the postal service in response to written requests from entrants who won a category in their country and made more than 10 QSOs in that category. Such requests can be emailed to the contest committee at [info@oceaniadxcontest.com](mailto:info@oceaniadxcontest.com) and must be received by 31 July 2016.

Due to the low demand for the posting of printed certificates (we only received 9 requests from 2014 entrants) and increasing postage costs, the contest committee is proposing to discontinue this option for future contests.

## Log Checking

Approximately 1% of the logs are still being submitted in paper format. The contest committee converts each of these paper logs to Cabrillo format so that they can be cross checked and scored using the same



process as the other electronic logs. Although somewhat time consuming, the committee considers that this additional effort is reasonable in order to avoid discriminating against operators who only make a few QSOs and are unable to use, or do not have access to, an electronic logging capability.

A log checking report is available for each entry in the contest. This report provides detailed information about any QSOs that have been removed from the score calculation, along with the reasons for their removal. Entrants can request a copy of their log checking report by sending an email to the Contest Committee at [info@oceaniadxcontest.com](mailto:info@oceaniadxcontest.com).

Our log checking software reviews each QSO in a log to check that it is valid, in the other log, and the call and exchange have been copied correctly. QSOs that do not meet these criteria receive zero points and nil multiplier credits. Approximately 39% of the logs in the 2015 contest had no score reduction, 41% incurred a reduction of up to 10%, and 20% of the logs incurred a reduction of greater than 10%.

Entrants are reminded that **WA7BNM** provides an on-line web form that can be used by entrants to manually enter log data to produce a Cabrillo file and then submit it to the email robot. This form is intended for entrants who are using paper logging, or logging software that doesn't produce a Cabrillo file. The form is available at <http://www.b4h.net/cabforms/>.

## 2016 Contest

The 2016 Oceania DX contest will be held on the first two full weekends of October 2016 as follows:

**PHONE:** 08:00 UTC Saturday 1 October to 08:00 UTC Sunday 2 October

**CW:** 08:00 UTC Saturday 8 October to 08:00 UTC Sunday 9 October

More information about the contest, including the rules, is available from the Oceania DX Contest web site at [www.oceaniadxcontest.com](http://www.oceaniadxcontest.com). Email inquiries should be addressed to [info@oceaniadxcontest.com](mailto:info@oceaniadxcontest.com).

## Acknowledgments

The successful running of the Oceania DX Contest is a large team effort involving contributions from around the world. The log reception, log checking and certificate production processes are largely automated but committee members still contribute many hours of effort per annum to manage these processes along with writing up and publishing of the annual results, administering the sponsorship and distribution of plaques, and promoting the contest.

The support of the following individuals and organisations is also acknowledged and greatly appreciated:

- **NZART, WIA** and the **other sponsors of awards**
- **K1EA** for the provision of the log checking software
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- **K5TM** for publishing the on-line certificates.
- **WA7BNM** for the provision of the on-line Cabrillo web form
- **ZL1AXG** for hosting the [www.oceaniadxcontest.com](http://www.oceaniadxcontest.com) web pages

Finally, and most importantly, thank you again to everyone who participated in the 2015 contest and made it such a success. We look forward to seeing you all again, along with new entrants, in the 2016 event. Hopefully conditions will be better and let's see if we can make it the biggest Oceania DX Contest party yet!

73 from

Oceania DX Contest Committee (ZL2IFB, ZL3GA, VK2HN, VK3MI/ZL1AZE, VK3TZ, VK7GN)