Rules for the 76th 2021 Oceania DX (OCDX) Contest

1. SPECIAL NOTES FOR THE 2021 CONTEST

a. **A reminder that the Phone and CW sections each start at 06:00 on Saturday and end at 06:00 on Sunday**.

b. The deadline for submitting logs is 31 October 2021.

c. Entrants are reminded of the need to observe any COVID related restrictions (e.g. social distancing and travel constraints) that may be in place for the contest dates.

d. Electronic logs are to be submitted using the form at https://ocdx.contesting.com/submitlog.php. Please contact the Contest Committee at info@oceaniadxcontest.com if you are encountering difficulty in submitting your log.

e. Electronic logs are to be in Cabrillo format which is generated by all popular contest logging software programs. Alternatively, entrants can use the forms at http://www.b4h.net/cabforms.

f. Only one entry may be submitted by each operator or team of operators (Rule 6a).

g. If the station worked does not provide a serial number for the Oceania DX Contest, then log the received number as 001. See Rule 8.

h. A reminder that logs from Single Band entrants must record all contacts made during the contest period, even if on other bands. Only contacts made on the band specified in the Cabrillo header or summary sheet will be used for scoring purposes.

i. Indonesia entrants are reminded that the Indonesia amateur radio regulations do not permit the YH club prefix to be used in the OCDX and other national or international amateur radio contests. Only the 7A, &I, 8A or 8I club prefixes may be used for this purpose.

j. All entrants are reminded that UTC must be used for recording the date and time of each QSO and that care must be taken to ensure the times are recorded correctly.

2. CONTEST PERIODS

Phone Section: 06:00 UTC Saturday 2 October to 06:00 UTC Sunday 3 October 2021
CW Section: 06:00 UTC Saturday 9 October to 06:00 UTC Sunday 10 October 2021

3. THE AIM of the contest is to promote HF contacts with stations in the Oceania region, e.g. 9M6, DU, KH6, VK, ZL, YB, Pacific Islands and all other Oceania entities identified in the ARRL list of DXCC entities at http://www.arrl.org/country-lists-prefixes .

4. THE OBJECT is for:

a. Oceania transmitting stations to contact as many stations as possible both inside and outside the Oceania region.

b. Non-Oceania transmitting stations to contact as many stations as possible inside the Oceania region. There is no penalty for working non-Oceania stations but contacts between non-Oceania stations will score no points or multiplier credits.

c. Oceania receiving (SWL) stations to copy as many contest stations as possible both inside and outside the Oceania region.

d. Non-Oceania receiving (SWL) stations to copy as many contest stations as possible inside the Oceania region.

5. THE BANDS that can be used are 160M, 80M, 40M, 20M, 15M and 10M (no WARC bands).

6. TERMS OF COMPETITION FOR ALL CATEGORIES

a. Each operator (or team of operators at a multiple-operator station) is not permitted to submit more than one entry in the Phone section and one entry in the CW section.

b. High power entrants must not exceed 1500 Watts total output power, or the maximum permitted output power in their country, whichever is less, on any band. Low power entrants must not exceed 100 Watts total output power and QRP entrants must not exceed 5 Watts total output power. Power is measured at the final output connector of the transmitter or associated amplifier.

c. QSO alerting assistance (e.g., incoming packet spots) is allowed in all entry categories, but self-spotting, asking other stations to spot you, or any other form of soliciting QSOs is not allowed.

d. An entrant's transmitters and receivers must all be located within a 500-metre diameter circle or within the property limits of the station licensee, whichever is greater. All antennas must be physically connected by wires to the transmitters and receivers used by the entrant.

e. Remote operation is permitted. The entry location of a remote station is determined by the physical location of the transmitters, receivers, and antennas. A remote station must obey all station and category limitations.

7. ENTRY CATEGORIES

a. Single Operator QRP (SO QRP): Either all bands or a single band. One person performs all the operating and logging functions. Only one transmitted signal is permitted at any time. The total output power must not exceed 5 Watts.

b. Single Operator Low Power (SO LP): Either all bands or a single band. One person performs all the operating and logging functions. Only one transmitted signal is permitted at any time. The total output power must not exceed 100 Watts.

c. Single Operator High Power (SO HP): Either all bands or a single band. One person performs all the operating and logging functions. Only one transmitted signal is permitted at any time. The total output power must not exceed 1500 Watts, or the maximum permitted output power for the station licence, whichever is less.

d. Multiple Operators and Single Transmitter (M1): More than one person can contribute to the final score during the contest period. Only one transmitted signal is permitted at any time. The total output power must not exceed 1500 Watts, or the maximum permitted output power for the station licence, whichever is less. A maximum of ten (10) band changes may be made in any clock hour (00 through 59 minutes). For example, a change from 20M to 40M and then back to 20M counts as two band changes. Use a single serial number sequence for the entire log.

e. Multiple Operators and Two Transmitters (M2): More than one person can contribute to the final score during the contest period. A maximum of two transmitted signals is permitted at any time on different bands. The total output power of each transmitted signal must not exceed 1500 Watts, or the maximum permitted output power for the station licence, whichever is less. Either transmitter may work any station. A station may only be worked once per band regardless of which transmitter is used. The log must indicate which transmitter made each QSO. Each transmitter may make a maximum of eight (8) band changes in any clock hour (00 through 59 minutes). For example, a change from 20M to 40M and then back to 20M counts as two band changes. Use a separate serial number sequence for each band.

f. Multiple Operators and Multiple Transmitters (MM): More than one person can contribute to the final score during the contest period. No limit to transmitters, but only one transmitted signal (and running station) allowed per band at any time. The total output power of each transmitted signal must not exceed 1500 Watts, or the maximum permitted output power for the station licence, whichever is less. Use a separate serial number sequence for each band.

g. Short Wave Listener (SWL): Receive only and all bands. One person performs all the logging functions. The call sign of the station 'being worked' by the heard station must not appear more than once in any group of 3 consecutive log entries on the same band.

h. Check Log: An entry that is submitted to assist with log checking. Check logs are not eligible for any awards or certificates.

8. EXCHANGE: RS(T) report plus a progressive contact serial number starting at 001 and incrementing by one for each contact. M2 and MM entries are to use a separate serial number starting at 001 for each band. If the station worked does not send a serial number for the contest, then the received number is to be logged as 001.

9. MULTIPLIER: The multiplier is the number of different valid prefixes worked. Note that the same prefix may be counted once on each band for multiplier credit.

a. The prefix is the letter/numeral combination which forms the first part of the amateur call.

b. Examples of valid prefixes are N8, W8, WD8, HG1, HG19, KC2, OE2, OE25, LY1000, etc. Any difference in the numbering, lettering, or order of same shall count as a separate prefix. A station operating from a DXCC country different from that indicated by its call sign is required to sign portable. The portable prefix must be an authorized prefix of the country/call area of operation. In cases of portable operation, the portable designator will then become the prefix. Example: N8BJQ operating from Wake Island would sign N8BJQ/KH9 or N8BJQ/NH9. KH6XXX operating from Ohio must use an authorized prefix for the U.S. 8th district (/W8, /AD8, etc.). Portable designators without numbers will be assigned a zero (Ø) after the second letter of the portable designator to form the prefix. Example: PA/N8BJQ would become PAØ. All calls without numbers will be assigned a zero (Ø) after the first two letters to form the prefix. Example: XEFTJW would count as XEØ. Maritime mobile, mobile, /A, /E, /J, /P, or interim license class identifiers do not count as prefixes.

c. Special event, commemorative, and other unique prefix stations are encouraged to participate. The prefix must be assigned by the licensing authority of the country of operation.

10. CONTACT POINTS: Each QSO is credited twenty points on 160M; ten points on 80M; five points on 40M; one point on 20M; two points on 15M; and three points on 10M. Note that the same station may only be counted once on each band for contact points.

11. THE FINAL SCORE is the sum of the Contact Points multiplied by the Multiplier (the total number of prefixes worked on all bands, noting that the same prefix can be counted once on each band).

12. AWARDS

a. Plaques will be awarded to leading entrants in various categories as listed on the web site at https://www.oceaniadxcontest.com/awards.

b. If an entrant is eligible to receive multiple plaques in a hierarchy, they will only receive the plaque for the highest level that they win. For example, if they win a continent level plaque, they will not receive any country or sub-country area plaques. The plaque inscription will include the details of any lower-level plaque categories that they have won. Any lower-level plaques will be awarded to the runner-up entrants in those categories and the inscription on those plaques will state that they are being awarded to the runner-up.

This rule does not preclude an entrant from receiving more than one plaque across different hierarchies. For example, a VK YL entrant who receives a plaque for a Phone Single Operator category can also receive the AUSTRALIA Phone YL Plaque.

c. **Certificates** will be awarded to the top scoring station in each category listed under Section 7 for each IARU WAC continent and each country. A participation certificate will also be awarded to

every station that makes at least one valid QSO. Participation certificates are not awarded to stations that submit check logs.

d. The certificates will be made available on the contest web site at https://ocdx.contesting.com/certificates.php for entrants to download and print at their convenience.

e. Awards may be withdrawn or added at any time, and at the discretion of the Contest Committee. Refer to the Oceania DX Contest web site at https://www.oceaniadxcontest.com/awards for the latest information.

13. GENERAL LOG REQUIREMENTS

a. **Transmitting** entries are to submit a log including the following details for each contact - date and time in UTC, frequency (or band), call sign of the station worked, RS(T) and serial number sent, RS(T) and serial number received. All QSOs must be submitted in date/time order. A log without all required information may be reclassified as a Check Log. All duplicate contacts must be shown - DO NOT delete duplicate contacts. No penalty will be applied for showing duplicate contacts.

b. **SWL** entries are to submit a log showing the following details for each contact - date and time in UTC, frequency (or band), call sign of the station 'heard', call sign of the station 'being worked' by the 'heard' station, and the RS(T) and serial number sent by the 'heard' station. The same call sign for the station 'being worked' may appear only once in any group of 3 consecutive entries on the same band. Note: in the case of non-Oceania SWL entries, only Oceania call signs should appear in the 'station heard' column.

14. ELECTRONIC LOGS are preferred and are mandatory for stations logging more than 50 contacts.

a. Electronic logs are to be submitted in Cabrillo format as specified at http://wwrof.org/cabrillo and supported by most popular logging programs. The Cabrillo log file must include an accurately completed header (containing the summary information) and the QSO log data. Failure to fill out the header correctly can result in the entry being placed in the wrong category or reclassified as a Check Log. See www.oceaniadxcontest.com for the latest information on the Cabrillo log format requirements.

b. The log file name is to be in the form callsign.log, for example, if ZL2WB submits a log file - then it should be named zl2wb.log.

c. Submit your Cabrillo log file using the on-line submission form on the web site at www.oceaniadxcontest.com. The web form will check the information in your log for any obvious errors and ask you to correct and resubmit the log if any such errors are found. Otherwise, the web form will acknowledge the successful receipt of your log, and a message confirming receipt (along with a copy of the received log) will also be emailed to you. Please contact the Contest Committee at info@oceaniadxcontest.com if you are experiencing any difficulties in submitting your log.

d. Entrants using paper logging, or logging software that does not produce a Cabrillo file, are encouraged to use the on-line forms at http://www.b4h.net/cabforms/ to create and submit a Cabrillo file.

15. PAPER LOGS

a. Electronic Logs are preferred (see Rule 14 above) but if this is not possible then paper logs in the Oceania DX Contest format (see Rule 13 above) may be submitted, provided they contain less than 50 contacts.

b. Each paper log is to be accompanied by a summary sheet that clearly states:
The station call sign
Operator call sign/s
Entrant's name and mailing address (for receipt of awards)

Mode and Category entered
Contact points claimed on each band
Number of multiplier prefixes claimed on each band
Total claimed score

c. Paper logs are to be either emailed to info@oceaniadxcontest.com or posted to: Oceania DX Contest, c/o PO Box 21088, Little Lonsdale Street, Victoria 8011, Australia. Airmail should be used when submitting a log from outside VK.

16. LOG SUBMISSION DEADLINE

All logs must be submitted on-line or postmarked NO LATER than 31 October 2021. A listing of all logs received on-line will be posted on the Oceania DX Contest web site at www.oceaniadxcontest.com.

17. DISQUALIFICATION

Violation of amateur radio regulations in the country of the contestant or the rules of the contest; unsportsmanlike conduct; or taking credit for excessive unverifiable QSOs or multipliers will be deemed sufficient cause for disqualification. Incorrectly logged calls will be counted as unverifiable contacts. Any entrant that uses means, other than contacts on the permitted bands and modes, to SOLICIT, ARRANGE, or CONFIRM any contacts in the contest is unsportsmanlike and the entry will be subject to disqualification.

18. DECLARATION

Although no signed declaration is required, by submitting a log you are deemed to have agreed that: 1) you have read and understood the rules of the contest and agree to be bound by them, as well as all rules and regulations of your country which pertain to amateur radio; 2) your log entry may be made available for public viewing; and 3) all actions and decisions of the Oceania DX Contest Committee are official and final.

19. FURTHER INFORMATION

The latest information about the contest is published on the Oceania DX Contest web site at www.oceaniadxcontest.com. Any queries should be emailed to info@oceaniadxcontest.com or posted to the Oceania DX Contest Committee, c/o PO Box 21088, Little Lonsdale Street, Victoria 8011, Australia.