The 4ᵗʰ A1CLUB STRAIGHT KEY CONTEST

Host : A1 CLUB
Date/Time: 27 October 2019 / 0600-1159UTC

Pre-qualification: CW Licensed Radio Amateur Station. Single Operator Only.

BANDS : 3.5 & 7MHz

Suggested Frequency : 3.510-3.530MHz / 7.010-7.040MHz

MODE : CW（A1A）

CQ calling : CQ A1 TEST

QSY Rule : **After completion of a QSO, the station "A" called by station 'B' has to QSY 1KHz or more as a standard. (This rule aims to avoid occupation of one frequency by one station.)**
    After "A" was moved (QSYed), 'B' may send CQ at the same frequency and may work QSO with another station "C", then 'B' must QSY as "A" did.   Continuous QSO as a called station on the same frequency is prohibited.   ※Log submission down to 1 KHz order is not mandatory.

POWER : **Less than 200W**

KEY : Only Straight Key or equivalent alternative*

    *Equivalent alternative means an item which produce both dot & dash by manual action and has a single contact. (For example, it is allowed to use only one side of contacts of a paddle or a bug key etc.)

    As far as the key is conformable to the above specification, an operator may change his/her key during the contest. Nevertheless, 'Name of KEY' used for the contest exchange shall not change thru the contest. (Even if you change the key during the contest, you must keep using the same 'Name of KEY' during the contest.)

CONTEST EXCAHNGE : RST + Name of KEY

    What is 'Name of KEY':

    (1) Combination of Letters (Alphabet A to Z) and/or Numbers (0 to 9), the total length shall be between 3 to 8 characters.
        (Do not include punctuation, prosigns and/or non-English codes. (ex.1: HK-808 → HK808))

    (2) No need to stick on precise model name of the key. You may create Name of your Key within the total number of characters between 3 and 8. (ex.2: 'SWEDEN KEY' is over 8 characters → 'SWEDEN' is OK)

        ※However, a Name with numbers only is not allowed. At least one Alphabet letter shall be included in the Name of Key. (ex.3: If you use a key made in 1999, '1999' is not allowed → 'Y1999' is OK)

        ※Please note the points to be earned will vary according to the number of characters of 'Name of KEY'. Details are described later part.

    (3)Even when you used multiple keys or change your key during the contest, you must not change your 'Name of KEY' as your contest exchange number. You must send the same 'Name of KEY' from start to end of the contest.

    (4)'Name of KEY' will be a MULTIPLIER

※**NOTE 1**
In case any number is included in the "Name of KEY", you should not use cut numbers in order to avoid confusion at receiving side.
Especially, you should NOT use   O(- - -) or T(-) for 0(- - - - -).
For example, in case your key is HK808, and if you send HK8o8 instead of HK808, the receiving side may confuse if the "0" part is 0(zero) or o(ou).

※**NOTE 2**
Do NOT use a string of letters/numbers which obviously different from KEY's name such as callsign, meaningless list of letters, etc.
Although this kind of act does not directly resulted into disqualification, the participants are requested to understand the concept of this contest which is to copy the name of key correctly.
Also, your "Name of KEY" may change even if you use the same key every year.

SCORING : **The score is calculated based on the rules listed below. The calculation of the score is performed by the contest committee's own program so that the participants are not required to calculate their score by themselves.**

The A1CLUB contest scoring program confirms matching of all QSO data submitted from participants and calculate the scores with the following rules.

- **A QSO which shows perfect matching of Stn-A's log and Stn-B's log gives 2 points to both A & B.**
- **A QSO which shows miss-copy at Stn-B's side only (one side matching) gives 1 point to A.**
- **In case Stn-A submits a QSO with Stn-C whose log was not submitted, the program searches Stn-C's multiplier using other participants' receiving data and if it shows Stn-A copied C's multiplier correctly, 1 point is given to A.**
  (The program judge "correct copy" when more than 2 other participants' receiving data shows identical multiplier.)

(Note) QSO which gives no point.
  (1)QSO worked outside of the contest opening time.
  (2)Duplicate QSO on the same band. (QSO with same station 2nd time and after)

- **Calculation of Total Score:**
Total Score = (Sum of QSO POINT per Band) x (Sum of Number of Multiplier per Band) x (S-KEY factor)

  ※**QSO POINT per Band is as follows.**
  QSO POINT = (Point per QSO) x (R-KEY factor)

- **S-KEY factor and R-KEY factor:**
S-KEY factor :
Depends on the number of characters of "Name of KEY" at Sending side, following S-KEY factor is assigned.
          3 characters → 0.4
          4 characters → 0.6
          5 characters → 0.8
          6 characters → 1.0
          7 characters → 1.2
          8 characters → 1.4

  R-KEY factor :
Depends on the number of characters of "Name of KEY" at Receiving side, following R-KEY factor is assigned.
          3 characters → 0.4
          4 characters → 0.6
          5 characters → 0.8
          6 characters → 1.0
          7 characters → 1.2

                8 characters → 1.4

        Note : This means, QSO POINT and Total SCORE will change according to the number of sending/receiving characters of multiplier 'Name of KEY''. Therefore, the number of characters of multiplier 'Name of KEY'' might be a 'tactics' to increase your score.

AWARDS :
    (1)Total Score Awards to Overall ranking 1 to 6
    (2)Area Awards to Area's ranking 1 to 3 per each area **(for JA only)**
    (3)Overseas Awards to Overseas's ranking 1 to 3 (for non-JA only)
    (4)Junior Awards (under 24) to Junior's ranking 1
    (5)Band Awards to Band's ranking 1 to 3 per Band
        ※Note: Total Score Awards' winners are exempted from other awards such as Area,**Oversea** Junior and Band Awards.
        Also, the number of Area/**Oversea** Awards will be reduced and given to 1st Rank only when number of participants are less than 5 in the area.

SUMMARY & LOG : must be electric data format specified below
    (1) Specified EXCEL format (for EXCEL95 & upper version) <u>Download EXCEL format</u>
    (2) Cabrillo format
    (3) JARL format
        ※In case Cabrillo or JARL format, please follow the remarks below. (Please confirm the contents before submission.)

Remarks on LOG submission
    (1)Time must be **UTC**
    (2)**Following information shall be included in your SUMMARY.**
        ・Call sign which you sent
        ・Operated place and call-sign area (in case of portable operation)
        ・Zip Code
        ・Postal Address
        ・Full Name
        ・Telephone Number (required to send Awards)
        ・E-mail address
        ・Used Key
        ・Age (required to apply Junior Awards)
        ・Output Power (W)
        ・Comments
        ※**Telephone number is required when you win the award and to send it by parcel.**
When you use a contest logging software and submit log by Cabrillo or JARL format, please make sure if above mentioned information is included.

LOG SUBMISSION : Send your log to the following E-MAIL address **as attachment file**
                a1c_contest(at)ktm.boy.jp <replace (at) with @>
                The Subject of the mail must be your Call Sign only.（ex. JO1ZZZ，JJ1IZW/4）

    Remarks when you submit the log
    (1) Summary & Log data file **must be attached to the mail** instead of writing on the contents body.
    (2) Subject of the mail（SUBJECT）shall be **Your Call Sign only**
        (When you were portable operation, **Call Sign/portable area**)

Deadline of Submission : 11 November 2019（time stamp of E-mail）

Inquiry : E-mail to testinfo(at)a1club.org <replace (at) with @>
                （Note：Address for log submission is different from that for Inquiry.）

Publication of Result :
  All results will be published on the A1CLUB website.

Disqualify : In case of violation of these terms

※Do not disclose your contest number in public place including internet before closing date of log submission.

Portable Operation :
   (1) You may move operating place within same area.
      Also, you can operate with or without portable indication following your call sign (JO1ZZZ/1, JO1ZZZ/JD1 etc.) , but do not mix it up during the contest.（Because log matching is performed including portable part. i.e.　/1 or /JD1 in the above）
   (2) Do not put suffix other than area indication. For example, do not put /M, /MM, /QRP etc.
      In such a case, your log will be treated as check-log. (Not eligible for each award)

Others
   (1)Cross band QSO is not allowed.
   (2)Any questions on this rule, 'Name of KEY"; etc. please use the E-mail address for Inquiry.
   (3)If any unclear point of the rule is found after the contest, the contest committee will make a decision.
   (4)There is no "categories" which is usually defined in an ordinary contest. Instead, categories for Awards are set.