

BRASSPOUNDER

July 2007



For those within FISTS who enjoy a challenge

Welcome to the July edition.

Hi All. Not a lot from me this month I'm afraid. The weather has changed somewhat over the past days, as I'm preparing BP it's glorious here in the West Midlands. What a change from the past weather we've had here and in neighbouring Counties. Long may the good weather stay with us. (Looks like I've spoken too soon, heavy rain today.14th Aug)

It seems that band condx must be improving, I've had reports from participants that 12m has been quite active recently. No long haul DX. But good openings into EU and a little further afield. Lets hope the WARC participants will find new squares and FISTS Members on there in the coming months.

Martin. IK2RMZ has asked me to make you aware of a forthcoming EUCW Event. He comments:

Since most of our friends aren't hardboiled contesters (of the 599qrz type) they may enjoy this event. It's great to hear Straight Keys in such a massive way....

Here's a summary of the rules.

EVENT	Straight Key Party (Handtasten Party, HTP)
DATE	1st Saturday in September, 1300 to 1600UTC
Frequencies	7,010 - 7,040 kHz (Observe your country bandplan)
Categories	A = up to 5W Output (or 10W Input) B = up to 50W Output (or 100W Input) C = up to 150W Output (or 300W Input) D = SWL
Exchange	RST and QSO-Number/Category/Name/Age (yl = xx). Example: 579007/A/Ernie/44 and 589009/B/Bertha/xx. It is mandatory to send the slashes.
Scoring	QSO-class A with class A = 9 points QSO-class A with class B = 7 points QSO-class A with class C = 5 points QSO-class B with class B = 4 points QSO-class B with class C = 3 points QSO-class C with class C = 2 points
LOGS	UTC, Band, Call, exchange sent, exchange received, class, station description used in the contest, final score claimed, word of honor to have used nothing else but a hand key. SWL-Logs must contain both calls and at least one complete rapport
NOTE	There are awards for the first, second and third place in each class and placement cards for each entrant. Non observance of the rules will lead to disqualification! All logs must contain a declaration that the contest rules have been respected. Send SASE or SAE plus one IRC to receive a list of the results (Be sure to add your complete postal address). The results will also be posted to the AGCW board of the Packet Radio BBS network and to the AGCW home page. Additionally, they will be published in 'AGCW-Info'.
DEADLINE	September 30: To: Friedrich W. Fabri, DF1OY Moselstrasse 17b D-63322 Roedermark-Urberach Germany Electronic entries via e-mail should be sent to: htp@agcw.de

Lets look at this months band reports.

First up, Peter, G4LHI with his Activity Ladder report

Hello Robert,

I attach my claim for July Ladder. I had to choose two out of three sessions & thank those members that helped again this month including Eric G3VRU & Bryan G0GSY who gave me a QSO in both sessions. Unfortunately I had to abandon the evening session of the 8th, which I am sorry to say Robert was the period we had our QSO, it was a tough one for you, you only gave me 329, but I was hearing you ok at 589 but there certainly was very deep QSB. Better luck next time mate. I missed Erkki OH7QR on the 22nd session, thanks for the Ladder QSO on the 8th Erkki. Sorry if you came on the evening of 22nd Robert, but as I had a fairly good score with my two sessions, I had a nice evening with Jean watching the TV, quite a change for a Sunday evening for me hi.

Again, from Peter regarding his WARC Activities during July.

OK, so for my WARC Band Challenge report. Not quite as much activity as usual, but could be down to being "Summer" here & poor conditions, but I managed 44 QSO's for 68 points with 8 new Fists grid/locator squares. Very many thanks to all those members & non members that helped with this score & look forward to a better entry in August. It will be too hot to be gardening hi. My new grid/locator QSO's were with, Josh, 6Y5WJ: Rick, KC4KNN: Jack, WB2FXK: Clo, VE2CBW: Vic, W9RGB: John, K9HE: Bob, K3MQ: & Richard, F5VJD: All on 30 meters. Thanks a lot chaps. Many thanks to the members that I had worked many times before & had previously claimed their squares, but the two points very much appreciated. I do enjoy this WARC Band Challenge & when the bands are open it's a nice change to get away from all the noise & QRM on the 80 & 40m bands. Once again Robert very many thanks for all your help & encouragement with these activities & do hope a few more members may soon join in the fun.

From Stan, K4UK

Not as much activity this past month. I did get a kick out of working Tony, LZ1JZ operating his club callsign LZ1KSP. I purchased an Elecraft KX1 kit and built it, which took a few hours. I'm getting the 30 Meter mod for the rig which I hope to have installed before we leave for our trip to Alberta, Canada. We fly from Dulles to Calgary on August 9 and rent a car. We will visit a couple of my wife's nurse friends. First in Olds, Alberta - Grid Square DO21. Then we'll drive to Grand Prairie, Alberta - Grid Square DO04. We'll be returning from Calgary on August 16. So maybe some of the members will be able to work me while I'm in those areas. The KX1 runs all of 4 watts, so I won't have a "big" signal. - Hi!

Stan emailed me later on and went on to say;

Had my first WARC Band Challenge QSO with my new KX1 with John, N2JI in Grid FN30. Unfortunately John is not a member of FISTS - Hi !

I hope that by the time you've read this offering that you'll have heard/worked Stan from his temporary locations and new squares with his "Big signal"

No more reports this month so lets look at the latest tables.

Firstly the WARC Challenge.

WARC	2007															
CALL	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEPT	OCT	NOV	DEC	TOTALS	MULTI	MASTER	PWR
F2YT	431	575	0	0	0	0	0						1006	70	70420	QRO
G4LHI	149	131	119	187	124	137	68						915	64	58560	QRO
K4UK	55	99	30	97	49	34	56						420	83	34860	QRP
IK2RMZ	106	73	91	147	148	108	35						708	39	27612	QRO
OH7QR	59	68	115	30	30	35	28						365	30	10950	QRO
W4YE	26	28	14	42	18	54	62						244	33	8052	QRO
W4FCR(c)	0	2	1	0	18	83	9						113	30	3390	QRO
DL1GBZ	0	0	0	46	57	22	66						191	14	2674	QRO
K4ORD	4	20	21	16	6	21	15						103	20	2060	QRP
KA3NZR	5	24	7	27	9	8	2						82	17	1394	MIXED
SM0PMJ	0	0	0	0	30	63	0						93	5	465	QRO
2E0TEK	16	0	23	16	0	0	0						55	5	275	QRO

And now the Activity Ladder.

LADDER	2007														
CALL	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUG	SEPT	OCT	NOV	DEC	TOTALS		
G4LHI	33	40	47	39	33	34	33						259		
M5ABN	35	46	44	43	28	21	30						247		
IK2RMZ	4	11	20	19	16	24	32						126		
2E0TEK	8	0	14	24	12	21	10						89		
G6GUN	26	30	32	0	0	0	0						88		
GM4WZL	0	0	21	35	8	8	0						72		
OH7QR	14	4	16	6	7	8	10						65		
M0DRK	13	8	10	12	0	13	0						56		
2E0AYQ	9	0	10	0	0	0	0						19		
M0JRQ	0	0	4	0	6	2	6						18		
G8XGQ	6	0	0	0	0	0	0						6		
PA1SOP	6	0	0	0	0	0	0						6		
PA3AFF	0	0	0	2	0	0	0						2		

Also, a reminder that the SKW (Straight Key Week) is running during September.

The 2nd to the 8th of September to be precise.

Here's a summary of the rules.

DATES	0001 UTC on 2nd September to 2359 on 8th September 07.
BANDS	All licensed amateur bands except the WARC bands.
SCORING	5 points FISTS club stations, 3 points for a FISTS affiliated Club Station, 2 points for a FIST Member, 1 point for a Non Member
EXCHANGE	RST/NAME/QTH/FIST No or NM/DAY No. Sunday is Day 1 Monday is Day 2 and so on To Saturday as Day 7.
GENERAL	All entrants must have used a straight Key for all their QSO's but the worked station Does not have to use a straight key. PLEASE vacate or pass on the FIST calling frequency after 5 continuous QSO's or QSY off the calling frequency.
LOGS	DATE/CALL/NAME/QTH/QRG/RST/TIME/FIST No or NM/DAY No/POINTS. Any contact not showing the required return information will be excluded from the total scores. Formats excepted: Excel (Preferred) csv. MS Word. Notepad. Wordpad. Etc.Paper logs, or 1.4Mb disc, CD Rom are accepted as are photocopies of your logbook (Readable please)
SEND TO:	All entries can be received by post to: R.D.Walker, 125, Devereux Road, West Bromwich. B70 6RQ. Or EMAIL In Excel format if possible please. (All entries to be received by the 22nd of September 2007)

Lets hope we hear the bands alive with members on their straight keys!

I hope to be active with GX3ZQS/p for one or two days during the activity. Listen out for me!

Thats about all from me for this month.

73, "Keep bashing the Brass"



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