

BRASSPOUNDER

July 2011

Issue 64

Welcome once again.

As the year progresses at an alarming rate; it's time for another BP to arrive in your mailbox. As each month goes by we all tend to look back and ask ourselves "Where has the time gone?" We all lead such busy lives in today's world, which is why I thank each and every member who takes time to come on air and spend a few hours on air supporting the activities.

Firstly, some EUCW news.

The HTC (Helvetia Telegraphy Club) Sprint is scheduled for the 11th of September.

Full rules can be found at <http://www.fists.co.uk/news.html>

Also an interesting one from the GTC (Greek Telegraphy Club)

See below;

Dear fellow CW Operators worldwide,

It gives me great pleasure to invite you to participate in the

1st Greek Telegraphy Club CW Cup

which will be held on Saturday, 24 September 2011 -

12:00UTC until Sunday, 25 September 2011 - 12:00UTC.

It is the first international event organized by the G.T.C. and we consider it to be a joyful event.

The planning of the 1st G.T.C. CW Cup was done, having in mind the ideals and purpose of the G.T.C., primarily instituted by the late and beloved SV1NA, George. Attached: the rules and conditions of participation of the 1st G.T.C. CW Cup.

Vy 73

Stathis Maliakis, SV5DKL, G.T.C. #028

E.C.M. of Greek Telegraphy Club

RULES

1st Greek Telegraphy Club (G.T.C.) CW Cup

Aim of the contest: To contact members of the Greek Telegraphy Club (G.T.C.) in CW mode and to promote CW mode to the Radio Amateur community

Contest Period:

Saturday, 24 September 2011 - 12:00UTC until Sunday, 25 September 2011 - 12:00UTC

Modulation: Exclusively CW (A1A)

80m (3.520Mhz – 3.530Mhz)

40m (7.020Mhz – 7.030Mhz)

20m (14.030Mhz – 14.060Mhz)

15m (21.030Mhz – 21.060Mhz)

10m (28.030Mhz – 28.060Mhz)

The above working bandwidths are recommended by the G.T.C. , but all CW QSOs in accordance with the official band plans will be considered valid

Categories: A. SOAB (Single Operator, All Bands, regardless of power output to the antenna

B. SOAB/QRP (Single Operator, All Bands, power output to the antenna input limited to 5W PEP). Stations participating in this category are obliged to send /QRP after their callsign (e.g. SV5DKL/QRP)

RST: G.T.C. Members: RST + GTC + 3-digit member number (e.g. for G.T.C. member nr. 28 the sent report should be 599 GTC 028)

Non-members : RST + Serial No. starting from 001

Who to work: Everyone may work everyone, but just once per each band. Participating members of the G.T.C. should take part under their own callsign and not under any special callsign

QSO Points: QSOs with G.T.C. members : 10 points

QSOs with non-G.T.C. members : 1 point

Multipliers: Each QSO with a G.T.C. member per band counts for one (1) multiplier. For instance, if you work the same G.T.C. member in three (3) different bands, then this counts for three (3) multipliers

Total Score: The total score is calculated by the sum of QSO points (as described above) multiplied by the multiplier total

Log submission: Electronic logs of your participation should be e-mailed at latest by 30 October 2011 to the:

European Communications Manager of G.T.C.

Stathis Maliakis - SV5DKL

to the following e-mail address:

sv5dkl@rho.forthnet.gr

*At the <Subject:> field of your e-mail you must write the
callsign used as well as the*

*category of participation (A / B). For instance, SV5DKL -
Category A*

*Valid logs will be considered those that will have been
received up to the above mentioned date and that will be
fully completed (the logs should contain at least the following
data for each QSO: Date, UTC, Callsign, Band, Mode, RST
sent, Serial No. sent, RST received, Serial No. received)*

*There is no special software developed yet for logging GTC
CW Cup QSO data, so logs of the following formats will be
accepted:*

*ADIF, Cabrillo , .csv , .xls , .txt , .dat (dBase) , .wl (Writelog for
Windows).*

*Also, hand-written logs sent by mail with postal signature up
to 30 October 2011 will be accepted, as long as they, too,
contain at least the required data mentioned above for each
QSO*

*All hand-written logs should be mailed to the following
address:*

*Efstathios Maliakis, SV5DKL, 2, G. Georgiadi str., GR-85100,
Analipsi, Rhodes, Greece.*

All submitted logs must clearly mention the details of the participating station

(Callsign, Name/Surname of the station's licensee and postal address) as well as the following sentence:

'I hereby state responsibly that my participation to the 1st G.T.C. CW Cup is fully complied with the rules and conditions set by the G.T.C. CW Cup committee and with the permissions and restrictions defined for my station's radio amateur license. Furthermore, I will wholeheartedly accept the results and decisions of the 1st G.T.C. CW Cup Committee"

Results: The official results of the 1st G.T.C. CW Cup will be published during the Greek Hamfest 2012 which will be possibly held in the first weekend of June 2012.

The results and decisions of the G.T.C. CW Cup Committee are final and no objections will be considered

Awards: Top scorer of category A. SOAB (regardless if he is a G.T.C. member or not) will be awarded with a 30 cm. height cup with a commemorative plaque

Top scorer of category B. SOAB/QRP (regardless if he is a G.T.C. member or not) will be awarded with a 18 cm. height cup with a commemorative plaque

All stations that will submit their logs will receive a commemorative lapel pin for their participation in the 1st G.T.C. CW Cup

Vy 73.

Efstathios Maliakis, SV5DKL , GTC #028

European Communications Manager - Greek Telegraphy Club.

Hope some of you will fly the FISTS Flag as this is the first GTC event. I notice too that all entrants will receive a commemorative lapel pin as it's the first GTC Event!!

Nice to see that EUCW Member clubs are very active. As you may be aware; FISTS are a member OF EUCW, So lets hope some members will be able to participate. I'd like to receive a report of your activity if you are able to.

Onto our monthly reports and comments for the month of July.

From Erkki. OH7QR

Hello Robert,

I enclose my FSA log for July. Many thanks for nice QSOs to all I met during the month and hope to meet you again soon. Good hunting and take care.

73 de Erkki OH7QR

A good score this month Erkki.

From Peter. G4LHI

Hello Robert,

I attach my claim & report for July the first month of the Summer Session of the FSA.

My summary for this month. A fairly average score for my last three months, but certainly down from the scores for the first few months of the award, I think I have worked more non Members, than Fists Members this month again, but a good opportunity to spread the work of our Fists Club, but where are all our Members?, such a pity there is not more support from them, I do hope that this will not be another event closed because of lack of support from our members?

I almost got an identical number of QSO, & points as I did in June, 64 QSO's for 200 points. (72 for 219 June), but considering the conditions on the band again, not a bad score, very many thanks to all those that support this event, members & non members, & let's hope the band conditions will soon improve?

I was very pleased to work two new Fists members, Stan, N1ZX, 14204 from Stuart, FL, & Dave, 2W0CPO, 14858, from Llanidloes, many thanks for 8 points Stan & Stuart & hope to find you on the Ladder? & FSA again in August.

No highlight DX members this month, apart from Stan above & one other stateside member Roger, 10462 from Naugatuck, CT most of the DX were not Fists members, but very pleased to chat, & hope these friendly chats & info about the Fists Club may encourage a few new members?

Once again, dear Erkki, OH7QR & I managed to obtain the maximum points in the 90 minutes allowed; very many thank again my dear friend, a pleasure to QSO with you. I think we also got another point for your Rag Chewers Award this

month, isn't it wonderful how time passes so quickly when you are enjoying yourself on the key hi

Very many thanks as always to all members & non members that suffered the poor conditions on the bands again to make this a very interesting & challenging event, looking forward to August & many more nice QSO's.

Take care & until we meet again, keep bashing the brass & keep the bands open & most of all enjoy CW & have fun.

73 de Peter G4LHI # 2219

Once Again Peter, many thanks for a concise report of the months happenings from your perspective. I can assure all that I will not end the activity early; but regarding a continuation into 2012, I shall consider this as the year progresses.

From Graham. G3ZOD

Hi Rob.

I wasn't able to find much time for getting on the air during July, missing the 10th July Ladder completely. Although I did come on during both the 24th July sessions, I'm not going to comment on my results, hi!

Four Seasons fared little better. I had a short /P session from the car on 6m and worked some European stations for as long as my FT-817's battery would let me. In amongst the very short 6m-style QSOs, I did have a very nice chat with Eric G3KPU that did qualify for Four Seasons.

73 de Graham G3ZOD FISTS #8385

Good to hear from you Gra. 6m is something that I've not
fared well with.

And from "Uncle" DickSV0XBN/9

Dear Cousin . . .

Another disastrous month!

So many visitors, and from so many countries, including UA9
would you believe.

Best QSO was with 15yr old E73ECJ on 40m at no more than
12 WPM – my kinda speed!

Still, at least the WX remains nice while the beer remains
cold!

73.

Uncle Dick. SVØXBN/9.

Hello Uncle. Cold beer, warm weather, what more do you
want? Gratifying to hear the youngsters (Compared to me)
are getting involved with the mode. The next generation of
CW aficionados' are making themselves heard!

From Piet. PA3AFF

Robert,

Please find my Ladder and FSA logs for July.

For Ladder 7 points. Could only be QRV on the last day, with less activity. (Summer holidays)

For 4 seasons: 80 points.

I did some statistics on QSO's made this month.

(Apart from some contest QSO's)

51% of my QSO's was with stations which I gave only short report (DX, Sota, WFF, IOTA and so on)

35% of my QSO's did last 5 min or longer and counted for FSA the remaining 14% were QSO's less than 5 min duration.

Good luck and hope to meet everyone again in August, may be using my homemade sideswiper!

Piet, PA3AFF

Hello Piet. Good to hear from you, and thanks for your report.

From Greg. G0DUB

Hi Rob,

Some points are better than no points at all :-)) I wasn't able to operate in the first weekend session at all so on the 24th I had to get my operating time in while on holiday. Sending G0DUB/A just to raise a little awareness that I wasn't at home in Chester, instead I was in the village of Brane, Cornwall using an Elecraft KX-1 with a W3EDP antenna pulled around the gutters of the stone cottage we were staying in. Thanks to M6PHL and EI3IK for their patience in pulling out my 3W signals.

73,

Greg. GODUB #6095

Hi Greg. Nice to hear that the /A got a couple of results. I hope the vacation in Cornwall went well? A mention here to the long suffering YL's for accommodating us and our hobby!

You did do well to get permission to take and use the equipment Greg! (Hi)

From Derek. MODRK

Hi Robert, Yet another very small log again and yes, Phil M6PHL and I did work on 20m. Take care. 73 for now, Derek, MODRK

Good to hear from you Derek. No matter how small the log, thanks for your support and taking time to send it in, Hope you and Mollie well?

From Phil. M6PHL.

Hello Rob,

Hope you had a good break and all is well with you.

Here is my log for the July Ladder. A good month with much more activity, particularly on the second Sunday evening, working some Fists members for the first time also being called during the evening by non members from Europe as well, needless to say I tried to promote our cause Hi!.

40m continues to be a very good band for me, Let's hope the conditions also continue to improve on 80 very soon.

Again many thanks for all the QSO's and look forward to next month's Ladder activity.

73, Phil, M6PHL. Fists 14543.

Good to hear from you Phil. Other comments received say that 40m is favouring them well. 80m is in the doldrums, but things can only get better.

From Graham. 2EOJYK.

hi Rob,

Very nice to take part in the activity ladder again, my CW is still a bit on the slow side but it all takes time; still learning at a slowish rate with Peter G4LHI.

I have got the examination for the advanced licence on the 5/8/11 for the full licence; so I have been studying quite a lot.

Hello Graham.

Good to hear from you, CW is all part of a natural progression; and a learning curve that continues for many of us. With all the practice that you manage to do, your speed will improve over time; stick with it, the rewards for your efforts will arrive. By now, you will have sat your advanced examination; I look forward to hearing your results.

And from Peter G4LHI with his ladder report.

Hello Robert,

I attach my claim & report for July Activity Ladder.

Very many thanks once again to all members, future members? & non members who persevered the ruff conditions to try & make the Ladder Activity again this month.

The conditions on 80m particularly, were ruff yet again on both days, my score was very poor again & I do hope that others may have had better luck than I did, conditions appear to be very much better in the evenings than the afternoon sessions on 80m, I usually get back in the shack a few minutes before closing time in the evenings & there seems to be quite a lot of activity, so not all lost, good luck to you all. All my thanks, as ever, to members, future members? & non members that are always there in spite of the ruff condition. I think I worked just about as many non members this month as members; I do like to chat with the non members & hope to persuade them to join our Club one of these days? You never know.

For the month I only had 15 QSO's for 23 points, so can't complain, I do enjoy the challenge.

Looking forward to August Ladder & perhaps conditions may improve & my new ant perform on 80m a little better. Keep bashing the brass & good hunting to you all.

73 de Peter G4LHI # 2219

Thanks again Peter for your report and overview for the month of July. As mentioned earlier; many found the going tough, but contacts were wheedled out of the ether.

Time for the results tables.

CALL	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	TOTAL	POWER
G4LHI	28	37	34	20	34	23	23						199	QRO
M6PHL	20	25	28	15	29	23	30						170	QRO
OH7QR	27	27	19	22	26	19	22						162	QRO
MODRK	0	22	19	10	16	14	10						91	QRO
PA3AFF	13	8	10	17	16	17	7						88	QRO
2EQYK	10	12	12	0	19	14	12						79	QRO
G0DUB	4	16	17	11	0	17	4						69	QRO
G3ZOD	5	18	18	4	6	12	1						64	QRO
G0BAK	9	24	6	0	0	0	0						39	QRO
2E0TEK	17	12	0	0	0	0	0						29	QRO

Ladder progressing along nicely. Top three, Peter, Phil, and Erkki all poised for an interesting run to the finishing post.

CALL	JULY	TOTALS	CLASS	FISTS
G4LHI	200	1013	A	EU
OH7QR	186	851	A	EU
IK2RMZ	73	523	A	EU
JO3HPM	105	440	A	EA
PA3AFF	80	422	A	EU
K4UK	0	244	A	NA
DL1GBZ	90	116	A	EU
G3ZOD	9	101	A	EU
SV0XBN/9	14	95	A	EU
DL1GBZ/DR40AGCW	0	88	A	EU
DL1GBZ/DA2MORSE	0	42	A	EU

The FSA starts the third quarter this month with a few changes in position for some. Peter has passed the 1000 point barrier. Well done!

FINALLY!!!

Don't forget Straight Key Week!!

0001 UTC Sunday 4th September to 2359 Saturday 10th
September 2011. UTC

Full rules can be found here

<http://www.fists.co.uk/activitiescalendar.html#fistsskw>

Always an enjoyable event.

Hope you can make it

That's all from me for yet another month. Hope you've
enjoyed your read. I look forward to hearing from you with
the next batch of reports/comments.

Till then;

Keep well;

Keep pounding brass!

73.

MOBPT