

Results of the 2002 CQ/RJ WW RTTY DX Contest

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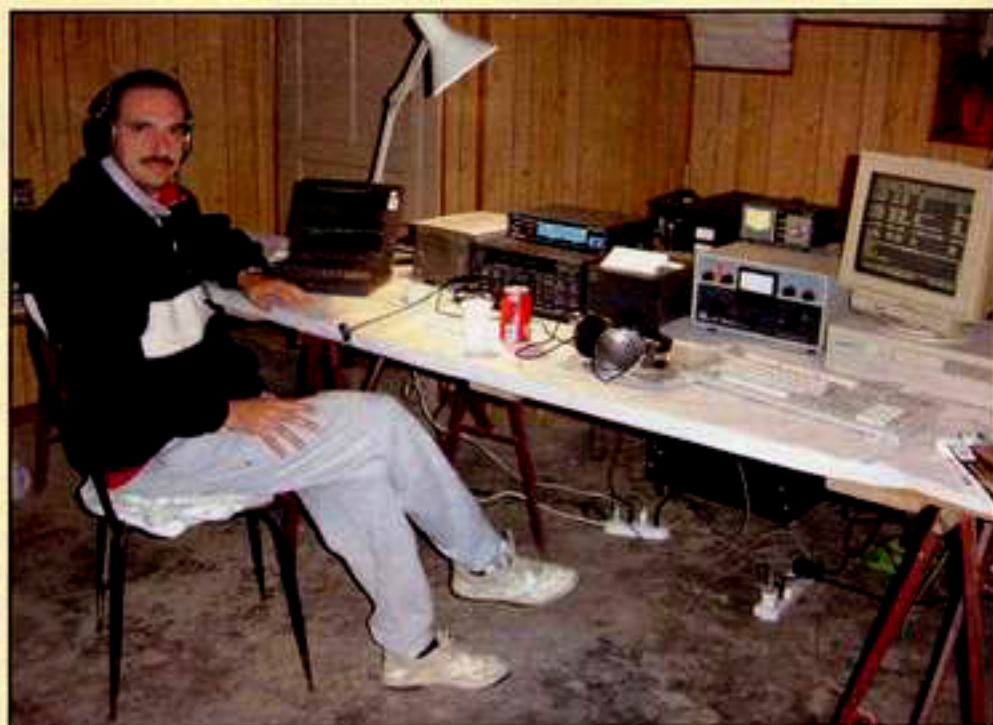
The 16th Annual CQWW RTTY Contest, sponsored by *CQ* and *The New RTTY Journal*, was held September 28–29, 2002 with solar Cycle 23 now clearly in decline. Nevertheless, geomagnetic conditions were generally good, with the low bands beginning to show more activity. More than 800 logs—the largest participation in any RTTY contest—were submitted, and many new regional and world records were set, including Single Operator (SO) 10 meters, SO 15 meters, SO 20 meters, Single Operator Assisted (SOA), and Multi-Operator Two Transmitter (M2). These records show, in part, how much interest in this contest continues to grow, as well as the on-going improvement in contesting skills among RTTY operators. Single ops now must make at least 3 million points to win any multi-band class, and multi-op stations must exceed 6 million points in most categories to be competitive.

Single Operator

Single Operator, Low Power (SOL). Jacobo, P43P, was back this year and won SOL with 4,857,890 points (2725 QSOs, 599 multipliers). This class always has the most entries and is quite competitive. However, from his great P4 location, Jacobo is very tough to beat. Barry, W2UP, repeated as second in the world and North American champion, beating his own NA record set in 2001 and establishing a new NA SOL record of 3.2 million points (2015 QSOs, 627 mults), an excellent low power score from the U.S. Repeating as world third was ZX2B (Op.: PY2MNL), who scored 2.3 million points (1683 QSOs, 470 mults). Scoring close behind and placing world fourth and fifth from Asia and Europe, respectively, were UA9CDV and RU3QW.

Single Operator, Assisted (SOA). Increasing his score by 50% over 2001 (when he was world third), DL5AXX set a new SOA world record with an impressive score of 3,770,340 points (2212 QSOs, 658 mults). World second was well-known contesting JH4UYB, just missing the Asia record, while scoring a fine 2.95 million points (1856 QSOs, 559 mults). Third was RN6BN, with 2.7 million points (1886 QSOs, 583 mults).

Single Operator, High Power (SOH). The most interesting development in 2002 SOH was the conversion of Don, AA5AU, from low power to high power (see Soapbox, below). Instead of duking it out with W2UP in SOL, Don won World SOH and set a new



Forty meter Italian powerhouse Mario, IK1HXN.

NA SOH record, achieving a score of 3,669,860 points (2416 QSOs, 653 mults), a very big total from a 1-point location. Second in the world was RK4FF, who scored 3.3 million points (2323 QSOs, 596 mults). Setting a new Oceania SOH record, KH7X (Op: KH6ND) was world third with 3.2 million points (1925 QSOs, 551 mults), more than twice the old OC record established by 9M6BG.

Single Operator, Single Band 28 MHz (28). Ten meter scores bounced back from the 2001 dip with a new world record being set by LU1HF at 765,268 points (1429 QSOs, 181 mults), exceeding ZS6EZ's 2000 record of 692,346 points. Second was PJ2EL with 506,814 points. World third was 9A5Y (Op: 9A3MN), who set a new European record with a score of 474,220 points.

Single Operator, Single Band 21 MHz (21). On 15 meters, 9A5W continued his dominance by again winning first in the world and again establishing new world and Europe SO 21 records with a score of 648,740 points (1245 QSOs, 199 mults). UX0FF moved up from SO (3.5) class into world SO (21) second with an excellent score of 566,444 points. Third in the world was S55W (Op: S57IIO), scoring 537,894 points. Also notable was the new USA

SO(21) record set by ARRL Headquarters station W1AW (Op: WS7I), with a score of 436,351 points.

Single Operator, Single Band 14 MHz (14). The old SO 14 world record, set back in 1997 by CT3BX, was broken this year by S50U, who scored 589,447 points (1270 QSOs, 179 mults). We will see how long this record stands. For example, 2001 world SO14 second, and 2000 and 1997 SO14 world winner 9A2DQ was again world second and very close behind S50U with a score of 542,520 points. In addition, world third, setting a new NA and VE record, was CK6WQ, scoring 508,432 points. As predicted last year, we are seeing more new records on this band as the solar flux continues to decline.

Single Operator, Single Band 7 MHz (7). Every year we mention how tough 40 meters and 80 meters are in the RTTY World-Wide contest, partly because of different frequency allocations in different parts of the world and partly because of QRN. Nevertheless, participation and scores on these bands continue to improve as the solar cycle winds down. As in the past, European entries were dominant on 40 meters, with S50A winning the world at 243,243 points (710 QSOs, 143 mults). World second was UT2II with

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