



International Amateur Radio Union Region 1

Europe, Middle East, Africa and Northern Asia

Founded 1950

Committee C4 (HF Matters) Interim Meeting 19-21 February 2010 InterCity Hotel, Vienna

SUBJECT	First European HQ Team Meeting		
Society	DARC	Country:	Germany
Committee:	C4	Paper number:	VIE10/C4/09
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Introduction

HQ Contest teams from 5 different countries met in Poland for the first time to present their national activities and to exchange their views and experience.

Background

When the International Amateur Radio Union decided to continue the IARU Contest as IARU HF World Championship one of its new features was the so-called HQ category. Every IARU member is allowed to designate one station as its representative. HQ stands for "Headquarters". In addition to the new competition between these representatives the IARU also wanted to make the participants aware of the different IARU associations worldwide. If you consider the fact that DA0HQ (the HQ station of the DARC) sent the report "59(9)DARC" in more than 27.000 QSOs this should be regarded as a success. And much more has happened. The popularity of the HQ stations has attracted thousands YLs and OMs worldwide to show up on the bands!

Moreover, these HQ activities are also good for the clubs themselves. Many contesters and teams who compete with each other in contests usually join together in a team now in order to achieve the best result for their club. However, this is not just happening in isolation within a country, because contesters know each other, come together to discuss the rules and drink a beer together afterwards.

Communication between HQ teams is established via e-mail as well as at personal meetings during the HAM Radio fair in Friedrichshafen or other occasions. So it was obvious to think about a European HQ meeting. Our friends of the Polish team SN0HQ took the initiative and made the first step. They proposed to meet in Olawa near Wroclaw and set the date for the third weekend of August 2009. This first European HQ meeting was attended by the HQ teams from G, YO, OK, DL and SP - a good start.

One representative of each HQ team introduced the stations and operators in a presentation for all. This offered several looks behind the scenes and inspired further discussions. We decided to discuss the basic principles of this championship and fair play among each other to initiate discussions far beyond this meeting. Dietmar Kasper, DL3DXX, presented our opinion – partly provoking intentionally – and we were very surprised that the following discussions were very objective and left room for further talks on a larger HQ scale.

DARC proposes to organize such HQ meetings regularly every two, three or at least four years and is interested to know the opinion of other HQ teams of the IARU Region 1 about such meetings.

Recommendation

That the HF Committee discusses this proposal and eventually recommends to organize HQ Team Meetings on a regular basis.