

**Contest Advisory Committee
Semi-Annual Report**

**For the American Radio Relay League
Board of Directors Meeting**

January 2008

**Submitted by
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Summary

Since the July 2007 Board meeting, the CAC has not been assigned any tasks, although several are anticipated. These include Remote Operation, adding contest categories, and reporting Top Ten and regional winners in the result writeups.

Remote Operation

Background - The increasing availability of receiving and transmitting equipment that can be operated transparently via the Internet is stretching some of the contest rules and category definitions to their limit. As reported in July 2007, by a vote of 9-2 the CAC requested authorization to discuss Remote Operation and make such recommendations to the PSC as are found to be necessary.

It is my understanding that the discussion of Remote operation is underway already within the DXAC. Repeated requests have been made by the CAC to the PSC for authorization to proceed, but it has not been forthcoming. I am concerned that the DXAC and CAC discussions of this important issue will be conducted in relative isolation from each other with the result being conflicting recommendations that cannot be implemented. The administrative constraints and methods of the DXCC program are often in conflict with those of the ARRL contesting program. Public logs and real-time QSO reporting are two such examples. However, participation in both programs has many common elements - clearly demonstrated by the many contest contacts submitted for DXCC credit. It is important that we make a coordinated response to the problems posed by this technological issue. Such an approach is much more likely to result in changes that both the DXCC and contesting programs can accommodate together.

Administrative Notes

Dakota Division representative Ad Dewey KØAD is now editor of the *National Contest Journal*. A detailed two-part article on the CAC by Rocky Mountain Division representative Bob Neece KØKR has been published in *NCJ*. Southwestern Division representative Bruce Horn WA7BNM created the excellent Web reporting page for the 2008 Frequency Measuring Test, largely automating event reporting and illustrating how more small events can be run without requiring additional resources at ARRL HQ.

Midwest Division representative Jon Jones NØJK and Delta Division representative Jimmy Roller N4IR have left the committee. The chair wishes to acknowledge the years of service to the CAC on the part of both gentlemen. Their positions have been filled by Jim Cochran KØRH and Ted Bryant W4NZ, respectively. The chair wishes to thank both gentlemen for volunteering their time and expertise!

Ward Silver NØAX
CAC Chair
Northwestern Division Representative

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