

CQ WW DX SSB 2007

This is an edited version of the Post-Contest Analysis.

The full version can be found in the Previous Contests section of the CUWS Contest Manual

Summary						
BAND	QSO	CQ	DXC	DUP	POINTS	AVG
160	53	7	52	0	72	1.36
80	289	13	73	1	329	1.14
40	513	27	100	6	758	1.48
20	882	28	111	10	1488	1.69
15	743	28	111	8	1499	2.02
10	105	15	64	0	157	1.50
TOTAL	2585	118	511	25	4303	1.66
FINAL SCORE: 2 706 587						

2007 Equipment

Run:

FT-1000MP

TL-922

DVK (G4BAH)

Dunestar band-pass filter

SteppIR yagi

Mult:

FT-1000MP

Quadra Linear

DVK

Dunestar band-pass filter

A3S beam

Shared equipment:

40m rotating dipole

40m 4-Square

80m dipole

160m dipole

Support equipment:

Shack computer

Laptop

Network hub and cables

Outboard laptop keyboard

Outboard laptop mouse

Packet connection on 4m

USB-Serial lead

Extra 4-way mains extension

Equipment needed

Kettle (purchased for the shack, TNX M0DEG)

12V DC cable for BAH's voice keyer (borrowed from CW keyer)

2007 Pre-contest Propagation Forecast

Propagation in 2007 is expected to be very poor. Last year, my forecast was based on a solar flux of 75 and A of 15 on the Saturday, decreasing to 5 on Sunday, due to a recurring coronal hole. This year, we are expecting a flux of just 67 units, but with A following a similar trend (high on Saturday, improving on Sunday).

Consequently, the forecast openings are not much changed from last year, and so a new forecast has not been prepared. A copy of the forecast from last year will be in the shack during the 2007 contest, and is also available from me on request.

2007 Actual Propagation Summary

Conditions this year for the contest were much worse than in the last couple years on the previous years. With absorption very much higher than we are used to, we were very glad to have the 4-square for the tough conditions. We even struggled to work VE on 40m! Higher bands were generally better than expected in their performance.

2007 DX Spots

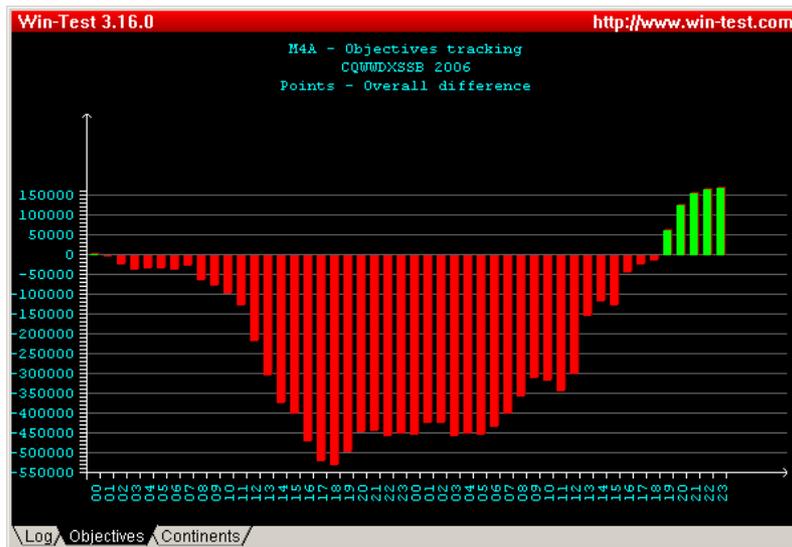
RK9AWN	7061.4	M4A		0014	27	Oct	2007
9K2HN	7061.4	M4A		0016	27	Oct	2007
N2RM	7176.5	M4A		0141	27	Oct	2007
R450WA	14236.0	M4A		0704	27	Oct	2007
SV1EIA	21305.8	M4A	test	0944	27	Oct	2007
S52W	21334.2	M4A		1030	27	Oct	2007
RN6BY	21333.8	M4A		1031	27	Oct	2007
AA3B	21330.0	M4A		1549	27	Oct	2007
DL4CF	14257.0	M4A		1645	27	Oct	2007
DK8EY	14182.0	M4A		1715	27	Oct	2007
N2RM	14182.0	M4A		1744	27	Oct	2007
K3FT	14182.0	M4A		1804	27	Oct	2007
DL1ARS	70866.0	M4A	** CQ WW - WAZ 14 **	2206	27	Oct	2007
DL1ARS	7086.6	M4A	** CQ WW - WAZ 14 **	2208	27	Oct	2007
N1MM	7091.0	M4A	QSX 7288.00	0057	28	Oct	2007
RA9LE	7095.0	M4A		0127	28	Oct	2007
S52W	14232.3	M4A		0921	28	Oct	2007
K1TH	21333.3	M4A		1248	28	Oct	2007
K9CT	21313.1	M4A		1541	28	Oct	2007
W2CDO	21434.8	M4A		1542	28	Oct	2007
KA1R-@	21446.6	M4A		1616	28	Oct	2007
DC8SG	7018.9	M4A		1707	28	Oct	2007
DC8SG	7018.9	M4A		1707	28	Oct	2007
DL7JV	7017.5	M4A	cqww	1919	28	Oct	2007
DL7JV	7017.5	M4A	cqww	1919	28	Oct	2007

Problems encountered

There were not really any problems of great note. The USB mouse on the laptop was found to be subject to RFI and stopped working when transmitting on 10m. Also, there was a brief period on Saturday/Sunday night when rig-control was lost after the serial cable came loose.

General Observations

The contest was a struggle, despite the fact that this year, we were able to benefit from having a beam for the mult station, which we had not had in the previous year. As can be seen easily in the graph, which compares hour-by-hour our score in 2007 with the 2006 score, we were well behind on 2006 for most of the contest, particularly during Saturday afternoon, and we only managed to catch-up and finish ahead of the previous year during the final evening. This was not only put down to propagation, as other entrants do not seem to have been affected too badly by this, but rather on inexperienced operators, and some particularly disappointing band choices. Operators did have the propagation predictions and a detailed hour-by-hour description of openings and the best bands to be on in the shack, but some operators seem to have ignored this advice.



Time spent per band

Band	QSO	%	Time	%	QSO/min.
160	53	2	21	1	2.520
80	290	11	261	14	1.110
40	519	20	435	23	1.190
20	892	34	631	33	1.410
15	751	29	513	27	1.460
10	105	4	72	4	1.460
Total	2610	0	1933	0	0.908

There were three break periods:

#	Break, min	Bands	Time
1	23	7092 - 7007	2354 - 0018
2	26	7070 - 7064	0244 - 0311
3	22	7096 - 3673	0414 - 0437

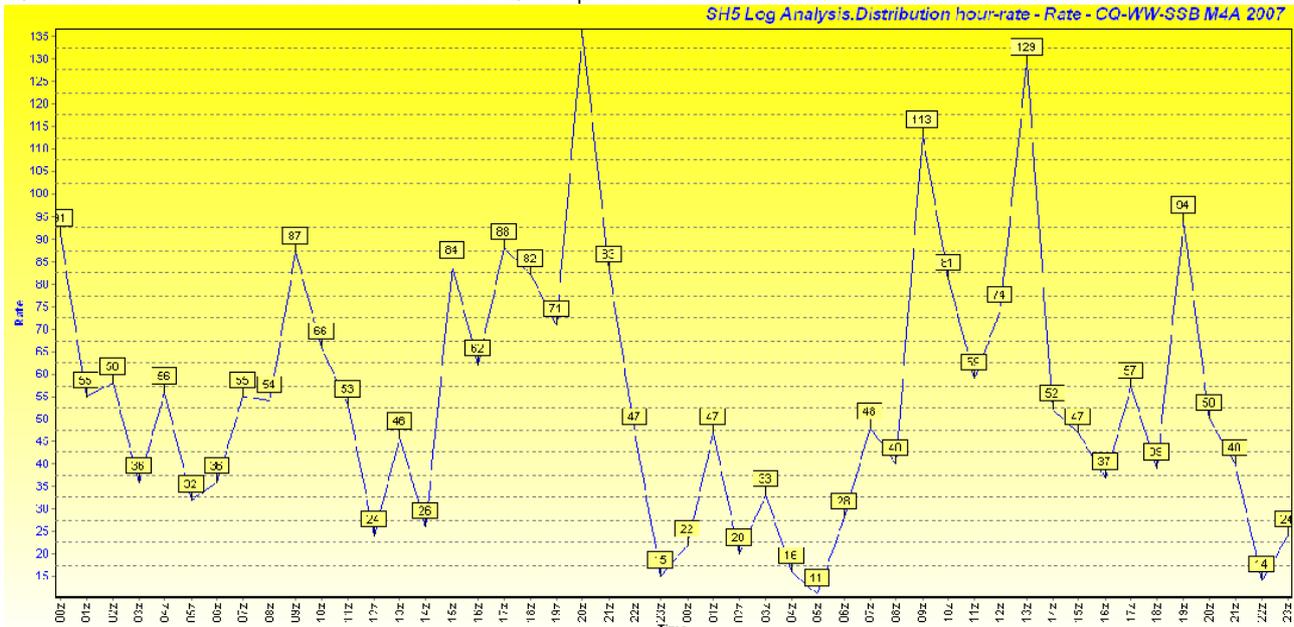
Log analysis

Of 2610 QSOs, there are 1969 unique callsigns. Three people contacted us on all bands (1A3A, HB0/HB9AON, TS6A), 11 people got us on five bands, and 24 on four bands.

21% of our QSOs were with the USA, 13% with DL, 6.2% I and 5.4% DL.

301 callsigns appeared once only in our log and were also not in the Super Check Partial database, implying that they might have been busted calls.

QSO Rates were between 137 and 11 QSOs per hour:



Breaking down the rates still further, it is notable that, for example, at 13:00z on the Saturday, we worked just 27 NA stations, and it was 123 on Sunday at the same time. Given that NA are worth three times the points score of EU stations, this had a significant impact on the final score.