

SANGSTER SHIELD 2016 RESULTS (Amended from that published in Break In)

This report has been amended to show Open Section 3rd equal places which were overlooked in the printed version in the July/August 2016 Break In. Scores were all shown correctly but only one 3rd place was identified in the report. Apologies to Graeme ZL2APV. This means that both 3rd equal and 5th equal scores were recorded this year. The results chart has also been amended to show the correct placings.

Thanks again to all who took part this year. Numbers were up with 18 logs received as against 10 last year. From logs there were 22 participants in total. It was good to see entrants returning from some time back but we did miss a few of our regulars such as Tom ZL1WW, Sid ZL2BIF & Ken ZL1AIH.

Scores were generally more competitive than last year.

Congratulations to newcomer Lars ZL1IF operating ZL1AM Club Station in winning the Sangster Shield.

Frank ZL2BR (our NZART Contest Manager) takes second place ahead of Paul our senior four time champion ZL1PC together with Graeme ZL2APV – both third equal this year.

Barry ZL2LN takes the Arthur Stevens Trophy as top South Island station with Bill ZL3VZ second & Alistair ZL2ARC. This is Barry's 9th South Island win from 2006, many of which were multiple hat tricks.

Since Lars ZL1IF is also a Sangster first time entrant I have awarded him the Transistor Trophy as per the new rules. No other operator qualifies and in any case no one can outscore the Open Section winner!

Two Branches - Whangarei 28 & New Plymouth 27 each managed 3 entrants. The Tony Fletcher (ZL2ALJ) Memorial Trophy (Branch) award goes to Whangarei Branch with the highest overall score. Charlie ZL1DAC, also Branch 28, operated for a while but must have decided to leave it to the 3 capable remaining entrants to carry off the award!

The 16 qualifying active Branches were:- 3,16,22,24,27,28,41,42,50,56,65,69,80,84,87,88.

Many more VK DX contacts were recorded this year with John ZL1VD topping the pole with 5.

By accepting that none of us got consistent serial numbers I did allow VK5NJ where this station was logged. Many of us assumed 001 as he did not seem to be au fait with our rules. Later on Sunday he was stronger than some of the ZL's but he did not return my calls - or others - judging by the logs.

Logging was generally accurate this year with only a few dupes & branch number errors needing correction. There were no branch multipliers deleted for low contact reasons.

The serial number exchange now assists me to track down & make a definite correction or locate a dupe in both? logs. Strangely, in most cases, a dupe was recorded at one end only as the other station repeated the earlier serial number rather than persevering to deter the duped contact.

There should be a Q code to indicate "worked already this period". Maybe there is but I have not learned it! If we follow Toyota's advt. a blunt QBO could be sent but I think a more gentlemanly QWA would better apply to the Sangster Contest. Suggestions welcome.

While on this subject we also need to distinguish between "exchange again pse" & "OK but callsign pse". When using pounce & seek it is easy to miss the call but then perfectly copy the exchange. IMI then elicits the exchange again but mostly not the callsign. I think that QRZ is too confusing when a contact has reached this point. More suggestions?

Comments received:-

- Enjoyed new format with new lease of life & more stations to work
- Storm Saturday/ lightning crashes & 50dB/S9 rain static part Sunday
- No Auckland Bch 02's
- Called & searched - how could I miss so many?
- Gentlemanly operating & good company
- More effort needed than in the past with number exchange
- Deep QSB on weaker sigs both nights [top of South Is.]
- Good quality operating throughout
- Rule change has attracted more entrants this year
- Although noise was down propagation was poor from North Auckland
- QSB often took out the serial number needing embarrassing repeat requests

- Sorry for duped number. *Don't worry there were a number of these & no contacts were deleted for this reason – 2KZ*
- Better turnout but where are the regulars & SI stations?
- New rules give operators a better idea of our position - is this good or bad?
- Hard going [down South] with S8 noise QRM this year & getting worse
- ZL1AM was a very good signal in Ch-ch
- 1st period everyone seemed deaf except ZL2LN [just across the water]. Checked & found that output had slipped to 1 watt - thereafter in business
- Good conditions [Central] & great fun

Publicity:-

Thanks again to Jim (ZL2BHF) for carrying news items in official broadcasts, to the NZART webmaster, Infoline team & Break In editor (Mark) for running publicity & publishing the new rules this year. Acknowledging also Bruce Horn, WA7BNM who lists this contest in – <http://www.hornucopia.com/contestcal/weeklycont.php> which hopefully alerts DXers looking for international activities.

Once again it was great to have a log from most operators which makes checking easy.

- 73's de Glenn ZL2KZ