ARRL VUAC Committee Executive Report

To The ARRL Board of Directors

July 2011

Respectfully submitted by:
Steve Clark, AG4V
VUAC Committee Chairman
On November 13, 2010, the VUAC was tasked by the P&SC to make recommendations to encourage, explore and expand the ARRL VHF and UHF contests and other operating activities by using the multi-band and multi-mode capabilities of modern transceivers and related equipment.

Through May the VUAC debated various means to expand existing V/UHF contests. Key items of discussion included the addition of an FM category, ways to expand 6m contests, and introduction of alternative scoring methods (including Distance Scoring for use only as an option).

By June the VUAC had approval to distribute the following survey for public input:

The ARRL would like to encourage more participation in its several VHF/UHF contests held each year. Many of the HF transceivers sold in recent years include 50 MHz, and some also include the 144 and 432 MHz bands with multi-mode capabilities. The question at hand is how can we encourage more owners of such radios to utilize these bands and modes to participate in VHF/UHF contests?

The ARRL VHF/UHF Advisory Committee (VUAC) has been asked to consider this question, and to make recommendations to encourage, explore and expand the ARRL VHF and UHF contests and other operating activities by using the multi-band and multi-mode capabilities of modern transceivers and related equipment.

The VUAC would like to ask the Amateur Radio community to provide their comments and ideas for consideration.

Please send any comments or ideas you have on this matter to your ARRL VUAC Division representative no later than July 1, 2011. A listing of each Division’s VUAC representative can be found at http://www.arrl.org/arrl-staff-vuac-cac.

As this survey has recently closed, the VUAC is currently reviewing the wide variety of responses. Popular suggestions include creation of a V/UHF entry class for owners of modern radios that include the 50, 144, & 432 MHz bands, addition of a FM only class of operation, and bridging of HF & VHF bands within new or revised contests.

Respectfully submitted,
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VHF / UHF Advisory Committee
July 2011

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