

**Contest Advisory Committee
Semi-Annual Report**

**For the American Radio Relay League
Board of Director's Meeting**

July 2025

**Craig Thompson, K9CT
Chairman, CAC
craig@k9ct.us
309 251 9805**

Overview:

CAC has been relatively quiet the last few months. We have considered requests and discussed topics as they arise but no consensus on any changes were contemplated.

Most of our discussions take place online in our discussion group. The CAC members report our activities to their respective board members. Our liaison to the PSC is Tom Frenaye, K1KI and he is kept updated, monitors our discussions and updates CAC on PSC actions. The previous ARRL group is not working at this time, and we are using a groups.io account.

Tasks:

We have completed tasks asked of us to consider. No other tasks have gone beyond discussion.

CAC has been observing the discussions on the internet discussion groups for issues related to all contests in general. Both the ARRL contest group and the CQ contest group are the most active. We also get input from our respective contests groups that the CAC members belong to.

CAC Membership:

The CAC membership has not changed in the last six-month period. We still need a representative for the West Gulf Division.

- Atlantic – Jon, AA1K. jz73@verizon.net
- Central – Craig Thompson, K9CT; Craig@k9ct.us (Chairman)
- Dakota – Jon Platt, W0ZQ; W0ZQ@aol.com
- Delta – Stan Stockton, K5GO; wa5rtg@gmail.com
- Great Lakes – Dan Kovatch, W8CAR; w8car@bex.net
- Hudson – Zev Darack, N2WKS; zevdarack@gmail.com
- Midwest – Dr. Glenn Johnson, W0GJ; w0gj@arrl.net
- New England – Rudy Bakalov, N2WQ; r_bakalov@yahoo.com
- Northwestern – Jim Cassidy, KI7Y; ki7y@arrl.net
- Pacific – Jim Brown, K9YC; K9YC@arrl.net
- Roanoke - Don Daso, K4ZA; k4zadondaso@juno.com
- Rocky Mountain – Darryl Hazelgren, K7UT; darryl@hazलगren.net
- Southeastern – Charles Wooten, NF4A; NF4A@knology.net
- Southwestern – Mike Fulcher, KC7V, mikekc7v@gmail.com
- West Gulf – TBD
- Radio Amateurs of Canada – Samuel A. Ferris, VE5SF; ve5sf@sasktel.net

VHF CAC Subcommittee:

Committee members:

Jon Platt, W0ZQ (Subcommittee Chair)
Craig Thompson, K9CT
Jeff Ach, W2FU
Rus Healy, K2UA
Steve Kostro, N2CEI
Bob Striegl, K2DRH
John Kalenowsky, K9JK
Jim Duffey, KK6MC
Eric Olson, N7EPD

CAC and VHF Subcommittee work and recommendations:

The CAC has recently discussed the reduced number of logs in the SS Phone and CW contests. It is apparent that we don't have as many operating as before and the Sunday activity is reduced. We brainstormed and decided to try an overlay for the last 6 hours of the 2025 SS weekends. The reasoning is that some don't want to operate the entire 24 hours and that 6 hours might attract those with less time while 24-hour operators are looking for contacts.

We are submitting a proposal to the PSC for consideration in January, 2025. The CAC committee makes the following recommendations.

☐ Amend the SS Phone and CW contest rules to add a Sunday afternoon overlay operating class that includes just the last six hours of each contest.

At the January meeting of the PSC, this was discussed and tabled. We are asking for the PSC to proceed with our recommendation to see if that affects the number of participants in SS in a positive manner.

We have received questions about remotes, multipliers for ARRL 10 and 160, self-spotting/assistance, logs submitted over the past few years for trends, Field Day, and RAC sections. No one topic has gained any traction for a change or recommendation.

For 2025, the CAC's VHF+ subcommittee will:

1. Continue to monitor the EME communities reactions to the recent EME contest changes. No further recommendations are planned at this time.
2. Regarding the 10 GHz & Up contest and the use of remote stations, we have received the PSCs discussion points and questions and responded in March recommending no changes at this time.

The CAC and subcommittee did discuss a letter about the January contest but did not reach any consensus on any changes at this time.

Respectfully submitted on behalf of the ARRL Contest Advisory Committee

Craig Thompson, CAC Chairman