The 32nd annual 2010 ARRL International EME Competition once again provided vigorous activity and produced incredible scores. As technologies continue to offer new ways to aid the EME station, QSO rates are increasing. Smaller stations are scoring higher and bigger total scores have been logged by most participants. Portable operators made a larger appearance in the competition this year, too.

Portable EME operations are becoming more significant during this contest, often being from rare and even First Activations of new grids, zones and DXCC entities. I have personally seen the first three Worked All Zones (WAZ) occur on 144 MHz during my portable operations.

The event features three separate weekends of competition. For the accomplished microwave contester, the initial weekend of September 4-5 offered operation on the 2.3 GHz and up microwave bands. Competition on 50 MHz through 1296 MHz is always held on two separate weekends.

This year, the “good Moon” rose on October 2-3 and 30-31.

The overall highest score and the first-place winner of the Multioperator, All Mode, All Band category went to Team K1JT with a new All-Time record of 6,643,200 points. The first-place winner of the Single Operator, All Mode, All Band category was Kozlov, UA3PTW, who also produced the second-highest overall score of 2,575,800 points. Very closely trailing Kozlov in the same category was Viljo, ES5PC, with 2,488,800 total points. Turning in a huge score in the Single Operator, CW Only, All Band category was Dimitris, SV1BTR, with 2,208,900 total points. A very close finish to Dimitris was Stig, OZ4MM, with 2,147,300 points. The table shows the top scores for each category.

Statistics and Observations

A total of 109 logs were received this year. There were many more participating stations than there were logs received on every band.

Another huge turnout on 1296 MHz and 2.4 GHz: these two bands see more activity every year and the scores continue to rise.

There were very close races in these categories:

- Single-Operator, CW Only, All Band: SV1BTR and OZ4MM
- Single-Operator, All Mode, All Band: UA3PTW and ES5PC
- Single-Operator, All Mode, 144 MHz: RK3FG and IK1UWL
- Multioperator, All Mode, 144 MHz: RU1AA and IK3MAC
- Single-Operator, CW Only, 1296 MHz: SM4IVE

Looking at the scores, it is apparent the 2010 ARRL International EME Competition brought out the contesting mood. Large scores were once again seen through the use of increasingly user-friendly wideband reception techniques, improvements in the digital modes and the likely contribution from the large population on Internet chat websites. This phenomenon illustrates that the collective mass of the chat environment is adding more than just a few points to the contest log.

See You on the Moon

Please plan to participate in the 33rd Annual ARRL International EME Competition in September and October (watch the contest website for date announcements — www.arrl.org/eme-contest — and give yourself a challenge in a demanding contest.

Line Scores On the Web

The complete listing of all contest scores and a breakdown of activity by band is available online at www.arrl.org/contests.