Australia Day Contest Report 2025

This year saw an uptick in the number of logs over the past 2 years with 26 VK Logs and 11 Dx Logs

The most common mode was FT8.

A number of VK & DX stations lost points due to some simple errors.

- Mistyping call-signs and using a Zero instead of an O and vice versa
- Logging portable stations incorrectly /p# instead of just /# in VK
- **Accepting 2 contacts from the same person using different callsigns:** *this is a contravention of the General WIA contest rules. The duplicate contact was disallowed*.
- Not logging a grid square
- Many Logs had the QRZ default Grid Square of PG66 which in fact is VK8 - Alice Springs. The operators were clearly not in VK8 but various locations in many states. This meant I had to give Zero points to the stations as the distance calculation was incorrect.
- See the notes below:
    - Almost all of the PG66 grids were given on FT8 which indicates that there may have been a user error setting up WSJTX/ JT65.
    - vklogchecker.com now has a grid square locator for easy checking of your grid square (AKA Maidenhead locator)
    - HamGPS is an Android app that shows your grid square to 10 characters & Height ASL
    - Ham Square is available for iPhone.

On SSB there are a number of anomalies with callsigns.

I'm not sure if operators are mixing up VK / AX when transmitting or receiving but there are a number of logs with either or both calls.

I take the callsign the log is submitted under as the correct one. If you use AX please only use that call, if you use VK please only use that one for the duration of the contest.

If you are operating a Club Station: you cannot give out contacts under your own call during the duration of the contest: *this is a contravention of the General WIA contest rules. The duplicate contacts under your own call are disallowed*. If there are multiple instances of this happening the manager has the right to convert the Club Log to a checklog.

There was an instance of a VK Station also giving out a DX Callsign using the same Grid square.

This is not allowed

Incorrect callsign logging causes loss of points.

Peter VK2PR has also written an excellent ADIF to Cabrillo converter that is now available on the vklogchecker.com website and his own vk2pr.com website.

The results and statistics are on vklogchecker.com

The results and certificates are available on the WIA website

Diane Main VK4DI

Australia Day Contest Manager