

ARRL Programs and Services Committee Minutes April 14, 2015

The Programs and Services Committee of the ARRL Board of Directors met by teleconference on Tuesday April 14, 2015 at 8:32 PM. Participating in the conference call were Brian Milesosky, N5ZGT Chairman, Richard Norton, N6AA, Doug Rehman, K4AC, Tom Abernethy, W3TOM, and Art Zygielbaum, KØAIZ. Also participating were Field Services and Radiosport Department Manager Dave Patton, NN1N, Public Relations Manager Sean Kutzko, KX9X, Emergency Preparedness Manager Mike Corey, KI1U, and Regulatory Information Manager Dan Henderson, N1ND, serving as committee secretary.

- 1) The agenda for the meeting was adopted by consensus.
- 2) On the motion of Mr. Abernethy and second of Mr. Rehman, the minutes of the January 15, 2015 PSC committee meeting were accepted as previously corrected.
- 3) The committee discussed the report of the Contest Advisory Committee on the possibility of mobile categories in HF contesting. There being no consensus from the CAC on the tasking, it was decided, on the motion of Mr. Abernethy and second of Mr. Zygielbaum, that to accept the CAC report and not to implement mobile HF categories at this time.

David Norris, K5UZ joined the meeting at 8:47 PM

- 4) Discussion moved to discussion of a potential DXAC tasking on a mobile DXCC award. By consensus, PSC requested Mr. Patton to prepare wording for a tasking to the DXAC to study the possibility of a mobile DXCC, the language to be given to the PSC at its July meeting.
- 5) The PSC next considered the issue of formally adopting of the ICS-213 form as part of the NTS. Mr. Corey presented an overview of why this change has become necessary in order to address the changing needs of the served agencies with which ARES partners.

Mr. Zygielbaum left the meeting at 9:15 PM.

- 6) On the motion of Mr. Norris, seconded by Mr. Rehman, the PSC voted that: "The Programs and Services Committee approves the use of the ICS-213 (as found in the NIMS ICS forms booklet as published by FEMA September 2010) as an additional official format for NTS traffic and requests the NTS leadership to develop procedures to incorporate the ICS-213 format into the NTS system. NTS leadership is to have this integration implemented by January 1, 2016. PSC members and ARRL headquarters staff will be available to assist NTS leadership in the development and implementation requested."

- 7) Mr. Corey next presented an update on the status of the design and development of a web-based reporting system to gather information on activities performed by field volunteers. Headquarters staff has been reviewing various options and is working to have a beta-version of the first forms working by the end of the year.

Mr. Corey left the meeting at 9:53 PM.

- 8) Mr. Kutzko answered questions on the proposal to partner with the National Parks Service to develop an on-the-air yearlong special event to commemorate the centennial of the NPS. By consensus, the PSC approved moving forward with the planning stages of this project and will revisit it again as it becomes more fully developed to be presented to the full Board of Directors.
- 9) The need to clarify language in DXCC Rule 9, modified at the January 2015 Board of Directors meeting, was discussed. On the motion of Mr. Rehman, seconded by Mr. Abernethy, the PSC voted to clarify the rule by using the following language:"

"9. Station Location and Boundary

9a. All stations used to make contacts for a specific DXCC award must be located with the same DXCC entity.

9b. All transmitters and receivers comprising a station used for a specific contact must be located within a 500-meter diameter circle.

9c. QSOs made with legally licensed, remotely controlled stations are allowed to be used for DXCC credit."

- 10) Mr. Patton presented status updates on various ongoing projects.
 - a. Modernization of the WAS program and certificate is nearing completion.
 - b. Development of guidelines and expansion of 160-meter card-checking program is a work in progress by Mr. Patton
 - c. Implementation of public contest logs is a work in progress looking for a target of 4th quarter.
 - d. The new Assistant Section Traffic Manager (ASTM) is waiting for website work to be completed so it can go live.
 - e. Discussions on the Volunteer Instructor database are ongoing.
 - f. The Service to Scouting award is up and running.

On the motion of Mr. Abernethy and second of Mr. Norris, the meeting was adjourned at 10:30 PM.