

WRTC Definition and Overview

Rev. 1 August 2006

Purpose

The WRTC Sanctioning Committee has created this document to help host committees by listing the goals, fundamental requirements, and suggested guidelines for WRTC events. Providing this information will encourage potential hosts to come forward and will assist active hosts as they plan and organize their event.

WRTC Sanctioning Committee

The committee consists of invited members of previous WRTC host committees. The committee's role is to act as a store of information about WRTC events so subsequent host committees have the benefit of knowledge from previous events. The committee works with potential hosts so that they are aware of the basic requirements of WRTC. Once the planning for an event is underway, the committee endorses the event plan at certain milestones and its members are available as consultants to the host committee.

Current committee members include (in order of event):

Dan Eskenazi K7SS	desk@nwlink.com
Ward Silver NØAX	n0ax@arrrl.net or hwardsil@gmail.com
Bob Cox K3EST	bcox@sentientmedical.com
Rusty Epps W6OAT	w6oat@sbcglobal.net
Tine Brajnik S5ØA	tine.brajnik@guest.arnes.si
Martti Laine OH2BH	martti.laine@kolumbus.fi
Atilano Oms PY5EG	py5eg@inepar.com.br

WRTC Goals

The goals of WRTC are to:

- Publicize radiosport worldwide both inside and outside Amateur Radio
- Facilitate international gatherings of radiosport participants
- Promote advances in radiosport technology, such as
 - Team operating technique
 - Real-time scoring and logging
 - Spectator viewing and education
 - Log-checking and reporting
 - Operator ranking and comparison
- Encourage the growth of radiosport participation worldwide, especially to
 - Youth and young adults
 - Regions with populations under-represented in radiosport

WRTC Twenty-Year Vision

By 2026, WRTC should be a premier international radiosport event with two or more events under active management or development at any time. The WRTC operator evaluation process will have become one accepted method of comparing operator abilities and performance.

The WRTC event will consist primarily of competition between teams, plus several auxiliary or satellite competitions that attract visiting radiosport participants, spectators, and the mainstream sport media. Vendors of Amateur Radio and related products will participate as sponsors and advertisers.

The international WRTC organization itself will act to sponsor the development of radiosport standards for operating, adjudication, and technology. It will also act to solicit and to evaluate applications by potential WRTC host committees. Regional WRTC organizations will administer WRTC-related activities between events, assisting with operator selection and team funding.

WRTC Host Committee Application Process

1. A potential host committee provides a written Letter of Intent to WRTC Sanctioning Committee stating the following:
 - identity of host committee
 - officers of the host committee
 - proposed time frame of event
 - proposed location of event
2. WRTC Sanctioning Committee acknowledges receipt of the Letter of Intent and requests a more detailed proposal with respect to the WRTC Event Requirements listed above. A deadline for initial and final proposal delivery is specified.
3. The host committee delivers a preliminary proposal that must address all of the requirements to some degree.
4. A process of negotiation begins with the host committee until the WRTC Sanctioning Committee is satisfied that the proposal satisfies the requirements.
5. The WRTC Sanctioning Committee evaluates proposals from all host committees for the time frame in question and selects one of the proposals with sufficient time to satisfy the two-year operator performance evaluation requirement.
6. As the event planning proceeds, the WRTC Sanctioning Committee must endorse initial publication of the following:
 - a. Operating rule set
 - b. Operator and referee selection process
 - c. Log Checking process
7. A final endorsement of the event must be made by the WRTC Sanctioning Committee no later than 6 months prior to the date of the event.

WRTC Requirements

The WRTC Sanctioning Committee presents the following basic requirements for events presented as a “World Radiosport Team Championship.” By applying to host a WRTC event, the host committee agrees to accept these requirements. The methods, procedures, or rules by which the event satisfies these requirements are left to the host committee.

The requirements ensure that the basic principles of WRTC are preserved, while allowing and encouraging the host committee to accommodate technical and operating innovation.

1. Event Design
 - a. The event shall have as its primary focus team operating skills.
 - b. Teams shall consist of two operators supervised at all times during the event by an on-site referee.
 - c. The date of the event shall be fixed at least two years in advance.
 - d. The event shall coincide with an established major contest in which scoring emphasizes both volume of QSOs and geographical multipliers, such as DXCC entities and/or CQ or ITU zones. (Rationale – This insures sufficiently challenging on-the-air activity. The number of multipliers should be maximized with DXCC entities preferred.)
 - e. The event shall include both voice and Morse code operating.
 - f. Event results shall be based solely on on-the-air performance. Auxiliary events such as pileup copying or technical exercises may be included in the event, but shall not be used in determination of the final results.
2. Operator and Team Selection
 - a. The process and criteria for operator selection shall be public, including the requirements for acceptance or rejection of an operator’s application.
 - b. Numeric data used for operator selection shall be public or generated from public data, such as from published or otherwise certified contest results. (Claimed and reported scores shall not be used for operator selection.)
 - c. The process of operator selection shall be announced with sufficient advance notice to allow at least a two-year period to evaluate performance.
3. Referee Selection
 - a. The process of referee application and selection shall be public in all regards.
 - b. Referees shall be assigned to teams in a random process.
 - c. Referees shall not be assigned to teams containing one or more operators of the same nationality as the referee. (Discussion - Following the random initial process, referees may be manually reassigned to avoid same-nationality assignments or according to languages spoken in order to aid team-host-referee communication. Reassignments must be made public in accordance with requirement 3a.)
4. Site Selection and Management
 - a. The host committee shall provide a set of operating sites that minimize differences in elevation, local topography, and noise level. Sites shall have roughly equivalent operator housing facilities.

- b. Backup sites shall be available and assigned at the discretion of the host committee.
- 5. Rules Management
 - a. The initial version of the operating rules shall be published at least one year in advance of the event.
 - b. Amendments to the rules may be made at any time up to the beginning of the event.
- 6. Station Technical Design
 - a. Before the event, each station shall submit a station plan that must be approved by the host committee and verified on-site by the team referee.
 - b. Technical assistance to the team in any form after the beginning of the event shall be prohibited, including assistance from the team's host or referee.
(Recommendation - Technical assistance to the team at their operating site at any time should be discouraged, if not prohibited altogether. The wording and administration of such a rule depends on the nature of the event.)
 - c. Only one transmitted signal at any time shall be allowed.
 - d. No more than four frequency channels may be received simultaneously.
(Rationale – two operators, each with two ears)
 - e. Mechanized, automated, or assisted copy of signal content shall be prohibited.
 - f. Equipment provided and installed by the host committee shall be verified by the host committee as functional prior to operator arrival on the site.
- 7. Operating
 - a. Use of third-party spotting assistance shall be prohibited.
 - b. All QSOs shall be monitored by the referee.
 - c. All claimed QSOs shall be recorded. (Discussion - recording for every team is needed in order to resolve log-checking questions and disputes.)
 - d. Partial call checking databases used during the event shall not contain calls obtained outside of the event.
 - e. All operation shall be conducted in English or by internationally accepted signals.
- 8. Spare and Replacement Equipment
 - a. Teams may bring equipment and supplies to repair or replace any equipment that they bring to the event.
 - b. Repair or replacement of equipment provided by the host committee shall be performed under the supervision of the team referee and only under circumstances approved by and after receiving permission from the host committee.
- 9. Operator Identity
 - a. During the event, operator identity shall be concealed to the greatest extent practical.
 - b. Intentionally disclosing identity during the event shall be grounds for team disqualification.

10. Log Checking

- a. Competitors shall be allowed up to 15 minutes following the event to review and modify their log at which time the submitted version shall be placed in the custody of the referee for delivery to the host committee. Call checking databases or tools containing call signs obtained outside the event may not be used at this time.
- b. Log checking shall be performed under the supervision of and in accordance with a process approved by the WRTC Judging Manager. The WRTC Judging Manager shall be an individual acceptable to both the WRTC Sanctioning Committee and the host committee.
- c. The process by which logs are checked shall be public.
- d. The following log checking output shall be public:
 - submitted logs
 - audio and video records made during the event to support log checking
 - log checking reports identifying all invalidated QSOs and associated scoring penalties.

WRTC Guidelines

The following guidelines are suggestions based on the experiences of previous WRTCs.

1. The event should be designed to encourage interaction between operators, referees, hosts, and spectators.
2. Ethical standards for all participants should be published on the Web site and enforced by the host committee. It is strongly recommended that the host committee adopt the WRTC2006 policy of not accepting applications from operators that have been disqualified from any of the qualifying contests during the past five years.
3. It is recommended that English be adopted as the official language of the event for all official and public communications. It should be preferred, but not required, that station hosts and committee members with the ability to communicate in English.
4. The host committee should require that participants waive legal liability against the host committee. All other event operations should be insured by the host committee. (Discussion - liability waivers have been used at past WRTCs. The host committees have also formed corporations to acquire the necessary insurance and legal protection.)
5. The event should be held during the Northern Hemisphere summer (May to September) to take advantage of summer vacation and holiday opportunities.
6. Team allocation should be representative of contest participation by region and country.
7. The host is also encouraged to create a limited number of special teams to promote radiosport in under-represented areas and populations.
8. Sponsorship of teams by individuals or organizations is encouraged. Auctioning team positions in order to support WRTC is acceptable but has the potential to result in unethical behavior and should be carefully conducted.
9. Awarding of operator positions based on direct contributions to another competitor or sponsor (i.e. - "selling" teammate positions) is strongly discouraged.

10. Based on the experiences of WRTC2006, use of amplifiers makes the stations much more complex. Unless there is a compelling reason to use amplifiers (such as the distances encountered in Brazil), station power should be limited to 100 watts.
11. Auxiliary operating opportunities or competitions such as at headquarters stations or multi-operator stations are encouraged.
12. Awards to encourage other testers to contact the WRTC teams or submit logs to the log-checking committee are desirable.
13. Visitors to the operating sites during the contests should be reminded that they are not to assist or interfere with the operators in any way or provide them with any information regarding the competition.

WRTC Rule Set

The existing set of WRTC operating rules (see **www.wrtc2006.com**) is specified as the current “WRTC Best Practices.” The host committee is encouraged to begin the planning process based on these rules. Changes to the rules should be made in consultation with the WRTC Rules Committee.