

----- Forwarded Message -----

Subject:RE: Have Contest callsigns been forgotten in the Amateur Radio Consultation [REDACTED]

Date:Tue, 19 Sep 2023 04:05:55 +0000

From [REDACTED]

To:Colin [REDACTED]

Consiglio [REDACTED]

CC [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

From: Colin [REDACTED] Consiglio [REDACTED]

Sent: Sunday, 17 September 2023 10:53 PM

To: [REDACTED]

Cc: [REDACTED]

Subject: Have Contest callsigns been forgotten in the Amateur Radio Consultation

17th Sept 2023

Greetings,

The attached document relates to amateur radio "contest callsigns".

These callsigns are currently issued by the AMC to properly qualified applicants for a one year tenure. The AMC maintains a register and issues renewable notices as required. These callsigns do not appear on the current RRL.

I cannot find any reference to these callsign types in the ACMA consultation documents.

I believe these callsigns are important for those amateurs who are dedicated contesters.

Since these are valid and legal callsigns, consistent with the callsign formation template and are available only to properly qualified people, it would seem reasonable that there should be continued availability when the ACMA takes over from the AMC.

I believe that the effort to manage these callsign could be undertaken with minimal effort.

Eligibility would only require that the applicant is already a properly licenced amateur, similar to issuing a callsign after issuing an ACMA recognition certificate.

Including the Contest callsign onto the proposed callsign register would also provide an extra benefit to the amateur community (even though these types of callsign currently have a limited tenure)

The pricing of the service to issue a contest callsign would presumably have to be on the basis of cost recovery.

At present these callsigns are issued for a 1 year tenure, but perhaps they could be issued on the same basis as the normal callsigns, i.e. single payment for allocation and then free until relinquished. I do not know anything about the scarcity of these types of callsign that would preclude this.

If the ACMA will consider taking over the assignment of these types of callsigns presumably there needs to be a fee determined and added into the CRIS document.

There are contest callsigns that need to be renewed before February 2024, to maintain continuity, the transition from AMC to ACMA for those affected should be considered or suggestion as to how they might be allowed to be used.

Thanks in anticipation

Colin C Consiglio / VK3NCC

The above discussion is based on the consultation paper where the ACMA has decided to manage call sign assignment, though contest call signs are not mentioned in the consultation documents.

Reference, from the Consultation paper

"0 consultation_paper_-_amateur_radio_qualification_and_assessor_accreditation_arrangements.docx"

'The issue

By deed with the ACMA, the University of Tasmania's Australian Maritime College (AMC) currently:

- 1. issues amateur radio qualifications*
- 2. conducts amateur radio examinations*
- 3. makes call sign recommendations for amateur radio operators.*

The AMC has decided not to extend this deed beyond February 2024.

*We have considered how amateur radio qualifications and call signs can be best supported under a class licence framework. We propose to manage the overall amateur radio qualifications **and call sign assignment ourselves**, with certain examination activities undertaken by accredited assessors.*

We propose to start implementing parts of these arrangements in December 2023, so they are in place when the new amateur class licence begins in February 2024.

We want your feedback on the proposed arrangements for the new amateur qualification framework and assessor accreditation scheme."

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