

FIFA World Cup 2006 Radio Activities

By Dave Aldridge G3VGR

To coincide with the World Cup Finals in Germany last year, DARC, the German National Society embarked on an ambitious programme to promote Amateur Radio activity during the competition.

Thirty eight special event stations were active on all bands from 13th May to July 16th. Two types of station were on the air. Stations with the prefix DR2006 were active from each of the twelve cities that hosted the matches in their stadia. The prefix DQ2006 was used by stations from the twenty five DARC Districts. Each type of call had a single letter suffix which indicated the District, e.g. DQ2006F was in Hessen and DR2006F was in Frankfurt (which is also in Hessen).

As there is no DARC District designated by the letter "J", the DARC set up DQ2006J as a YL-only operated station.

After establishing the thirty eight special event stations, the DARC needed to create an incentive for people to work all the stations. The solution was a short-term award issued in three classes for various combinations of stations worked.



Bronze Award	4 stadia	6 districts	25 other DL stations
Silver Award	10 stadia	20 districts	100 other DL stations
Gold Award	12 stadia	24 districts	200 other DL stations

The event stations caused many pileups during the whole activity period whilst they were operated by members of the local DARC affiliated clubs. The most active station was DQ2006X with 49,790 QSO's. This is more contacts than many large DXpeditions manage in rare DX locations. The lowest level of activity was from DQ2006O with 14,871 contacts in their log. I spent quite a few early evenings chasing the event stations on CW and eventually worked all thirty eight with DQ2006P being the final and most elusive station worked on June 11th.

The imaginative decision to make a requirement of working quantities of ordinary DL stations as well as special event stations for the award was a major boost for German hams. Modestly equipped German stations were now elevated to the position of being akin to rare DX.

It was fun listening to these operators adapting to their new status and handing out snappy rubber stamp QSO's to all comers. Every day, award hunters could be heard calling CQ DL attempting to find the requisite numbers of DL's to work. Any DL who appeared on a band was immediately pounced on for a quick contact and a point.

It isn't too easy trying to find 200 DL stations on CW outside of major contests. Being at the bottom of the sunspot cycle meant that almost no short-skip conditions were present on 20 metres, so most activity was restricted to the LF bands, mainly 40 and 30 metres. However, I did manage to work the event stations on all nine HF bands.



Some QSL's from the Special Event

Although I was quite active, a few business trips and my annual alpine backpacking holiday coupled with a Friedrichshafen visit to HamRadio 2006 during the period resulted in only a total of 112 extra DLs worked, nowhere near enough for the Gold award.

At the end of the World Cup, the special event stations totaled 920,045 contacts during the period. These contacts were QSL'd 100%, so thousands of cards arrived at the RSGB Bureau around the end of January 2006.

The last of the 3,844 award certificates were sent out around the same time. I am now the proud holder of the Silver Award (2-way CW). John, G1DJJ holds the Bronze Award for 2-way RTTY, not the easiest mode with which to make the requisite number of contacts.

Fußball-Weltmeisterschaft in Deutschland 2006

Aus Anlass der Fußball-Weltmeisterschaft 2006 in Deutschland verleiht der Deutsche Amateur-Radio-Club (DARC) e.V. für Verbindungen mit unseren Weltmeisterschaftsstationen an

G3VGR
David Aldridge

das Diplom in **SILBER**
Diplom Nr. 280

Otto Leithner DK6CQ, Diplom-Manager
Jochen Kleibrich DL9KDX, DARC-Vorsitzender

Angola	Argentinien	Mexiko	Niederlande
Australien	Brazillen	Portugal	Peru
Costa Rica	Deutschland	Portugal	Saudi Arabien
Ecuador	Dänemark	Schweden	Schweiz
England	Frankreich	Serbien und Montenegro	Spanien
Ghana	Iran	Togo	Trinidad und Tobago
Italien	Japan	Tschechische Republik	Türkei
Korea (Süd)	Kroatien	Ukraine	USA



Fußball- Weltmeisterschaft in Deutschland 2006



Angola



Argentinien



Australien



Brasilien



Costa Rica



Deutschland



Ecuador



Elfenbeinküste



England



Frankreich



Ghana



Iran



Italien



Japan



Korea (Süd)



Kroatien

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G1DJJ

John Short

das Diplom in

BRONZE

Diplom Nr. 319

Otto Leath
DK6CQ, Diplom-Manager

John Friedrich
DL9KCX, DARC-Vorsitzender



Mexiko



Niederlande



Paraguay



Polen



Portugal



Saudi Arabien



Schweden



Schweiz



Serbien und Montenegro



Spanien



Togo



Trinidad und Tobago



Tschechische Republik



Tunesien



Ukraine



USA

The DARC must be very satisfied with the results of the activity period. One hopes the RSGB will adopt a similar imaginative approach to the 2012 Olympics. However, judging by their past performances (Queen's Silver & Diamond Jubilees, VE Day etc), it's most unlikely.

73

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