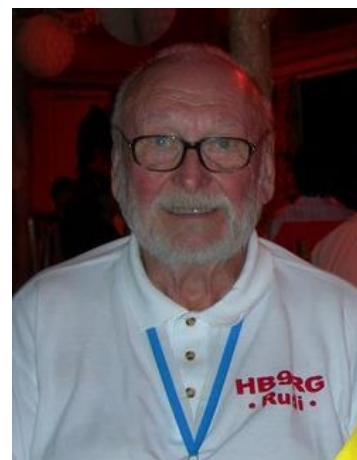


AMSAT-HB

"Hans-Rudolph Lauber, HB9RG Memorial Trophy"

Category: Distance



Regulations for the AMSAT-HB HB9RG Trophy – Category Distance

1. Introduction

On **March 10, 1965**, a historic connection in amateur radio via satellite was established between HB9RG (Hans Rudolph Lauber) and DL6EZA (Alfons Häring). This first satellite connection of radio amateurs marks a significant moment in the history of amateur radio. The AMSAT-HB HB9RG Trophy honors this event and recognizes HB9RG's interdisciplinary achievements.

The "Distance" category is the first to be unlocked as part of this trophy. It focuses on the establishment of further radio connections, instead of – as in many other contests – the number of QSO connections. In doing so, AMSAT-HB aims to create a competition that focuses on technical and operational innovation and highlights HB9RG's historical legacy.

2. Competition period

The competition takes place every year for 2 weeks in the first two full calendar weeks of March.

- **Start:** 00:00 UTC on the first Monday of the first full calendar week in March
- **End:** 23:59:00 UTC on Sunday of the second full calendar week in March

3. Aim of the competition

The aim is to establish the widest possible radio connections during the competition via satellites orbiting the Earth on a LEO, MEO or HEO orbit. In total, the 10 furthest connections in the valid competition period will be evaluated.

The use of a GEO satellite is currently deliberately avoided, as the equal treatment of participants cannot be guaranteed either on the GEO satellite itself or worldwide.

4. Conditions of participation

- **License:** The participants have a corresponding amateur radio license.
- **Operating modes and performance:** All operating modes that are intended/defined by operators/owner for the respective satellites may be used. Only the minimum power required for the respective QSO should be used. Endangering the satellite due to excessive transmission power must be avoided at all times by the participants.
- **Station types:** Both one-man stations and club stations can participate.
- **Location and remote operation:** In order for the 10 connections to be established as innovatively and with appropriate commitment, the connections may be made by different locators and callsign suffixes (or DX Call, if the appropriate license is available). A fixed location is therefore not prescribed. Using of Remote-Stations is only permitted if the competent communications authority of the respective country allows it for this purpose.

- **Categories:**
 - *Category 1:* Portable stations with handheld radio and omnidirectional antennas (whip, telescope)
 - *Category 2:* Portable and fixed stations

5. Radio operation and connection conditions

- **Allowed QSO:** QSOs must be made via LEO, MEO or HEO satellites for amateur radio service.
- **Repeated QSO to the same station:** The same station can be worked multiple times, as long as it is located in a different locator field each time.
- **Distance determination:** The distance between the two amateur radio stations is calculated using the midpoint of the 6-digit Maidenhead locator fields. This is ensured by the evaluation tool provided by AMSAT-HB.

6. Evaluation and award

- **Total points:** The total score is calculated as the sum of the distances (1 kilometer = 1 point) of all 10 radio connections, plus the additional bonus points if the HB9RG station was operated on March 10.
- **Bonus points HB9RG:** Participants who reach HB9RG on March 10 will receive an additional 500km as bonus points. HB9RG may be used in any way permitted in the amateur radio service bands and operating modes (both via satellite and directly). Thus, also via a geostationary satellite. (For HB9RG counts only 500 Bonuspoints, no Points for Distance)
- **Diploma for participants:** All participants will receive an electronic diploma provided that the QSO data has been submitted on time using the AMSAT-HB evaluation tool.
- **HB9RG Trophy Winner:** The station with the highest score wins the HB9RG Trophy in the respective category. The winners will be informed personally and then announced via the AMSAT-HB website and its social media channels. Further publications are possible.

7. Logbook keeping and submission of results

- **Logbook entry:** The AMSAT-HB provides a tool with which the connections must be recorded and submitted. The tool contains only the competition-relevant data. The form of the tool will be announced before the competition on the AMSAT-HB website.
- **Deadline:** The complete logs must be submitted to AMSAT-HB by the end of March of the competition month.

8. Ethics and Fairness

AMSAT-HB appeals to the spirit of the participants and expects the connections to be carried out with the necessary commitment and innovation. Fairness and respectful behaviour towards other participants and all other users outside the competition are essential prerequisites for the competition. The requirements for the use of the satellites by the respective satellite operators must be complied with.

9. Conditions for the recognition of logs

AMSAT-HB reserves the right to randomly check the submitted logs to ensure the accuracy of the information. There is no entitlement to a trophy or prize money. The AMSAT-HB decides annually on the way in which the winners of the HB9RG Trophy are honored.

10. Reports on own activities

AMSAT-HB encourages participants to report on their activities before and during the competition. When using social media, the hashtag is **#HB9RG Trophy** to be used. On the AMSAT-HB website, publications may be redistributed under this hashtag.

Note: Participation is at your own risk and in accordance with the applicable laws and regulations of the amateur radio service. AMSAT-HB declines any responsibility for the activities of the participants.