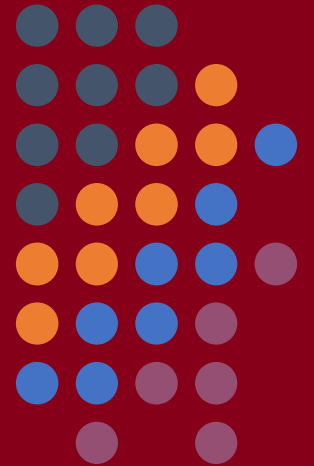


Youth – the Future of Contesters

Philipp Springer
DK6SP | DQ5M

2021 Contest University



AGENDA



- Introduction
- Current Situation
- Future Plans
- Best Practice Examples
 - Youth Contest Program (YCP)
 - YOTA Contest
 - Youth Activities
- Get started now!



INTRODUCTION

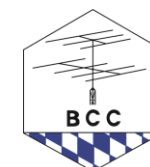


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Positions

- IARU Region 1 Youth WG Chair
- WWROF Inc. Director on the Board
- YOTA PR Manager
- YOTA Contest Committee
- Coordinator YOTA Team Germany

Member of



Youngsters On The Air

CW enthusiast | Contest crazy | Travel addict | DX-Pedition (e.g., A44A, Z66DH, P40X, 9J2LA)

Contact dk6sp@gmx.de

CURRENT SITUATION



Think about your own club ...

- Increasing average age of radio hams
→ Also contest community affected
 - Impact by decreasing number of participants in future contests
- “We **CAN** lower the average age of operators by encouraging more youths to join in!”

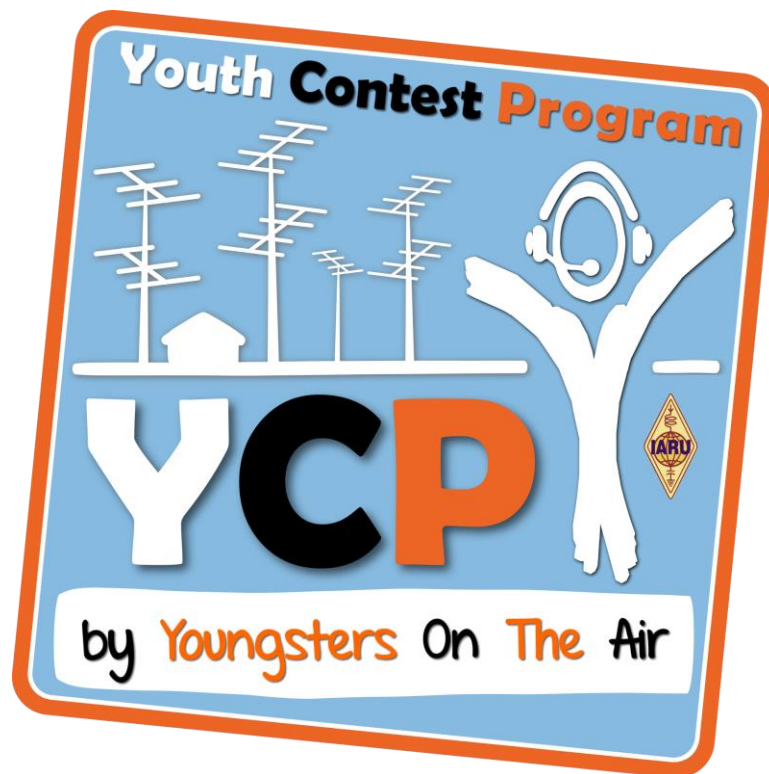
FUTURE PLANS



What to do?

- Opportunity for youths AND interested people to join contest teams
 - Show off this awesome aspect of our common hobby
 - Get people interested
 - Networking amongst clubs, events etc.
- “It will not be all about the youths, but they will make up a noteworthy percentage in the near future!”

BEST PRACTISE EXAMPLES



YOUTH CONTEST PROGRAM



What is YCP in IARU Region 1?

- Youth members invited to take part in contests
→ participating from so called “Big-Gun” stations
- Learn how to
 - Operate a contest and improve own skills
 - Work as a team
- Get to know host country
- Meet local ham operators and make new friends

YOUTH CONTEST PROGRAM



Key Data

- Young people aged ≤ 25 years
- 1 or 2 participants per IARU member society
- Any level of contest experience is accepted
- Group of ~6 international youths and ~6 domestic youths
- Participants are asked to fund their own travel costs
→ ALL OTHER costs will be covered by IARU Region 1 Youth WG

YOUTH CONTEST PROGRAM



Participating Stations in IARU Region 1 since 2013

- 4O3A | Montenegro
- 9A1A | Croatia
- A44A | Oman
- DM9EE | Germany
- EC2DX | Spain
- ES5TV / ES9C | Estonia
- LX7I / LX2A | Luxembourg
- LZ5R | Bulgaria
- OZ5E | Denmark
- SK3W | Sweden
- More stations upcoming!



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 **ICOM**[®]

YOTA CONTEST



Key Data

- Organized by IARU Youth WG and MRASZ
- Contest on 22nd May, 17th July & 30th December
→ lasting 12h each
- Participation open for everyone!
 - Open category (everyone)
 - YOTA category (age ≤ 25)
 - Multi-Operator
(per two youths max. one operator ≥ 26 years)



YOTA CONTEST



Rules

- General Rules
 - Bands: 80m, 40m, 20m, 15m, 10m
 - Modes: CW and SSB
 - Exchange: RS(T) + age (on 1st of January)
→ Multi-OP: Ø-age or 25, whichever is less
- Scoring
 - Extra points for Youths
→ the younger the better
- Details to be found at ham-yota.com/contest

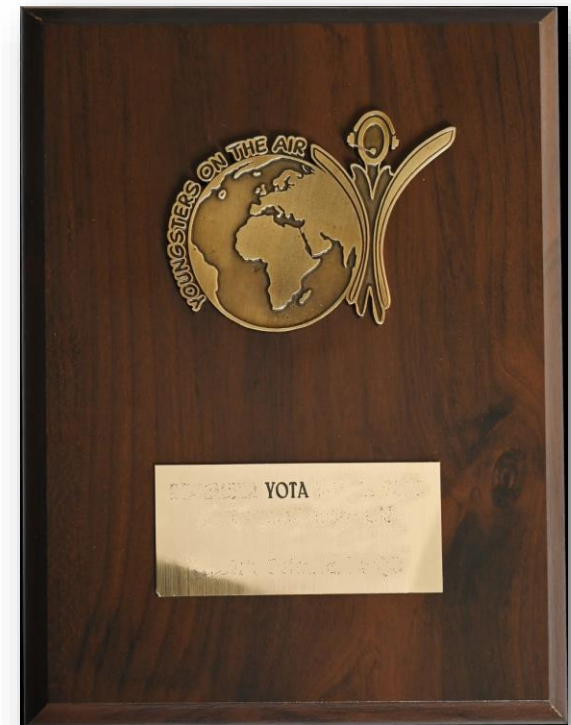


YOTA CONTEST



Categories

- Single Operator 3 Bands [SO3B]
- Single Operator All Bands [SOAB]
- Single Operator All Bands 6 hours (only YOTA) [SOAB 6h YOTA]
- Multi Operator Single Transmitter All Bands [M/S AB]
- SWL All Bands [SWL AB]
- Station Sponsors (opening stations for YOTA OPs)



YOTA CONTEST



Our drive for the project

- Special focus on Youth
 - Extra categories for Youths
 - Attractive to work Youth due to scoring system
- Get to know Youth
- Focus on support of Youths
 - Category for station sponsors



YCP during CQWW SSB 2018 | Team DQ5M @DM9EE

YOUTH ACTIVITIES



What to do?

- Networking as key figure
 - YOTA Summer Camps
 - YOTA Subregional Camps
 - Youth Contest Program
 - December YOTA Month Activities
- Building up future winning teams
 - Youth teams forming already
(e.g., YCP, Team Exuberance, RHR Youth Teams)
- Get to know the next generation
 - Highlighted youth scores in upcoming NAQP contest results from August 2021
 - Mention of “Youth” scores in NCJ “Next Gen” column by WB9VPG
 - Implementing a “Youth” check box including overlay category on 3830scores.com
 - Hopefully more contests following the trend in the future

YOUTH ACTIVITIES



How it can turn out ...



Jim – K1IR:

"Building a station. Learning from both failure and success. Celebrating small victories."

GET STARTED NOW!



Youth work starts in front of your door!

- Find youths in your local club
- Be open minded
- Small contest activities
- Youths the next technicians of YOUR station?
→ Definitely!
- Youths are the most important and dynamic segment of the population in any country!
- Develop the future of ham radio contests now!



NEXT GENERATION NOW!



Youth work starts in front of your door!



Elmers can be found anywhere at any time.
WRTC 2018 on-site team @Y82D



Team Y82D | WRTC 2018 – Wittenberg, Germany
L-R: Tomi (HA8RT – 22y), Philipp (DK6SP – 23y), Ref. Wies (SP4Z)

THANK YOU



Contact & Questions

For any further questions feel free to drop me an email at dk6sp@gmx.de.

Or directly here during the CTU 2021 Q&A session.



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