

ARRL ARDF Committee Report to the ARRL Board of Directors July 2021

Committee Purpose

The ARRL ARDF Committee serves to fulfill, in the name of the ARRL, those responsibilities assigned to IARU member societies that participate in Amateur Radio Direction Finding as administered by the IARU regional organizations. Those responsibilities include assigning a society representative to represent the League in an IARU regional ARDF administrative committee or working group, and delegating single competitors or teams to participate in international competitions. When authorized by its corresponding IARU regional organization a member society may organize a World or Regional Championship.

Developments Since January 2021

2021 USA ARDF Championships

This year's USA ARDF Championships event scheduled for October 11-17, 2021 will be hosted by the Backwoods Orienteering Klub (BOK) with Ruth Bromer, WB4QZG, and Joseph Huberman, K5JGH the Event Directors. The games are slated to take place in central North Carolina. The exact locations for the competitions will be announced once venue approvals have been secured. Continuing concerns and restrictions related to COVID-19 have delayed planning and restricted some of the traditional festivities. [Bulletin 1](#) has been posted.

2021 Region 1 ARDF Championships

IARU Region 1 ARDF Championships and the Youth ARDF Championships will be organized by the Bulgarian Amateur Radio society (BFRA) in 2021, in Bansko, Bulgaria, August 28 – September 3, 2021.

IARU ARDF World Championships

At the time of this writing plans for the next ARDF World Championships had not been finalized. But information coming out of the IARU Region 1 ARDF Working Group indicates that the following plans are likely to be approved:

The bi-annual ARDF World Championships postponed in 2020 will likely be held in August 2022 in Zlatibor, Serbia, hosted by the Serbian Amateur Radio Society (SRS).

IARU Youth ARDF Championships will likely be hosted by the Romanian Radio Federation (FRR) in the June 2022 timeframe.

Notable Accomplishments

USA ARDF Sanctioning Documents

The Sanctioning Subcommittee crafted and received Committee approval for a set of documents designed to support ARDF event hosting groups and individuals:

1. [ARDF Event Sanctioning](#) - Describes the sanctioning process
2. [ARDF Event Planning](#) - Describes all that goes into planning a sanctioned event
3. [ARDF Equipment](#) - Describes all that is needed to put on a sanctioned event

In addition, an [application form](#), and a [brochure](#) to help with recruiting ARDF organizers were created and approved. All those documents are now available on the [ARRL website](#).

ARDF Equipment Development

To help address the high cost and low availability of ARDF equipment an open source DTMF decoder and transmitter controller capable of turning many standard 2m FM handy-talkies into remotely-controlled ARDF transmitters was developed. Dubbed “Arducon” [the design](#) is complete, fabricated boards have been successfully built and tested, and a complete [User Manual](#) is available online. An article for QST (or QEX) has been submitted to ARRL for consideration for publication.

Respectfully Submitted,

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