

ZS6SSC BULLETIN 11 JUNE 2017

Good morning, this is the Monthly Bulletin for ZS6SSC the Southern Suburbs Amateur Radio Club, today – 11 June 2017, presented by ZR6AUI – Christo Greyling and compiled by ZS6WC – Willie Wright

This bulletin is transmitted on 145.7875 MHz, with the kind permission of ZS6HVB, The Highveld Club.

There is also a relay on 439.125 MHz with a 88.5 tone, Please be aware that a time out timer is active,

HF relays to start soon on 80m on 3,7875 MHz LSB

In the news today:

1. Repeater information and requests for reports on UHF repeater and bulletin content;
2. 6m, VHF, UHF & SHF Vertical polarization, Fm only contest;
3. Digital interest group and ZS6SSC digital contest;
4. HF happenings;
5. How about a UHF-net one night a week;
6. Repeater link discussion;
7. Hamnet.
8. Call-in on 2m and 70cm

1. Repeater information and requests for reports on UHF repeater and bulletin content;
 - The Southern Suburbs Amateur Radio Club has received it's official licence from ICASA
 - Call Sign: ZU9SSC
 - Licence Number: 550-199-1
 - Location : Walkerville, Platberg.

We request listeners and users to send signal reports via "e"qsl " to ZS6SSC,

This can be done via the SARL web page or directly to the secretary at: zs6wc@vodamail.co.za.

SARL Members and Non members alike may use this SARL service.

Please include in your report the following:

Your name & call sign, RX Signal strength,

Your location: GPS coordinates if available, detail please,

Your antenna being used and approximate height above ground.

This will assist us to plot out a coverage map or footprint of the repeater.

2. 6m, VHF, UHF & SHF Vertical polarization, Fm only contest;
 - Under discussion is a contest – sponsored by ZS6SSC - catering for the Amateurs who only have VHF, UHF and SHF FM equipment and vertically polarized antennae.
3. Digital interest group and ZS6SSC digital contest;

- There are quite a number of Amateurs who are exploring the use of Digital communications on almost all of the amateur bands.
- Our Chairman ZR6AUI, is a keen Digital enthusiast who has worked stations all over the world on different bands – even during the current bad conditions,
- Are you interested in this mode of operation?
- Would you like an interest group to be formed with a weekly net?
- Maybe even a SPRINT type contest?

So far the rules for the above contests have been written in draft format and will be published on the website for comments.

4. HF happenings;

- As reported on most bulletins and HF DX forums – there is not a lot of propagation around in order to keep us DX'ers happy.
- The low bands are keeping our quest for rare DX satisfied.
- 160m had some openings local and some difficult DX has been worked by ZS6WC.
- Band noise and late openings have not been in our favour,
- The 40m Band has been active to the United States and South America. As well as to the East,
- Local short skips, especially on 40m has been very unpredictable.
- Stations in Div 1 and Div 5 were heard, but local Div 6 stations are sometimes not heard.
- 40m seems to have some ground wave propagation.
- Skip distances more than 200 – 300kms away have been the norm.
- The 30m Band should work during daylight hours and give better coverage. Remember that we are allowed to use SSB on the 30m Band in daylight hours only.

5. How about a UHF-net one night a week;

- Wednesday night maybe?
- This would be a good time to chat and get to know our fellow Amateurs, as well as asking technical questions and so on,
- The Club advocates that this should be an open net format, IE: a round robin format with a controller keeping a list/log of joiners, but only taking his turn when it comes up again. The controller can interject in order to correct the sequence if need be.
- Participants should pass on to the next operator in line and not back to the controller after their round has ended.
- All we have to do is remember who to pass it on to, beat the time out timer and have some fun....
- Please supply us with your feedback.

6. Repeater link discussion;

- The 6m Band is not used to its full potential, especially in the FM mode
- There is a 6m repeater in Pretoria but has not been active in the past few months.
- ZS6WC has had better results on a 10m repeater active in the USA using FM, a 5 Element Horizontal Yagi and 100W.
- We have spoken about this project and would really get on with it...time allowing of course.
- Something as follows:

- OPTION ONE:

- Tx output of UHF rpt to input of 6m Rx.
- Tx output of 6m to input of UHF rpt Rx.
- With a lot of refinement of course.
- If properly set up we would not need cavity filters,
- There should be enough frequency separation to do the job of cavity filters.
- OPTION TWO:
 - Very similar to the above but not linked to the ZS6SSC repeater.
 - Straight forward cross band repeater where one could activate the repeater on either UHF or 6m.
 - Site One: Rx - 6m input to UHF output
 - Site Two: Tx – UHF input to 6m output
 - The advantage might be that persons could activate the repeater on either inputs if need be.

The difference is that the transmitter and receiver per band have to be at two different locations....NOT A BAD THING?

Also no expensive cavity filters are needed!

7. Hamnet.

- There was a time when HAMNET was quite active in the Johannesburg area, including the Southern part of Johannesburg. Visit the SARL website and read about it.
- Are you still listed?
- Can you be of assistance of the Organization?

You have been listening to the official bulletin of the Southern Suburbs Amateur Radio Club, transmitted on the second Sunday of each month. This bulletin is also available for download on our website.

If you require any information regarding the Southern Suburbs Amateur Radio Club or if there is any news or content you would like to be included in the next bulletin please sent this to

The Secretary: zs6wc@vodamail.co.za

Also visit our website for membership application form and Club information

www.zs6ssc.co.za

This brings our bulletin to an end and we hope you enjoyed good reception and thank you for listening

8. Call-in on 2m and 70cm

2m Call-in now please

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70cm Call-in now handled by David ZR6DLG

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This brings an end to the post bulletin net, thank you for joining us

We release these frequencies now for general use

Good bye