

Nomination for SARL Amateur Radio Hall of Fame: Harold R. Lund, ZS6WB

Brief Biography of Nominee

Hal Lund ZS6WB was born in 1935 and licenced as W8LIM in 1952. He obtained the callsign ZS6WB in 1975.

Nominee's Contribution to Amateur Radio

Hal's early professional life involved assignments to various radar tracking stations, starting in the Caribbean and progressing through Ascension, South Africa and Madagascar. He left the radar world and settled in South Africa in 1975.

Hal was an early pioneer in VHF operations, especially on the 50 MHz band. Many early Magic Band DXers will remember VP7CX in the Bahamas and a series of DXpeditions to Caribbean islands, including the Dominican Republic, St Kitts, Puerto Rico, Montserrat and Turks and Caicos.

Starting in the early Eighties, Hal became very active on 50 MHz and other VHF bands in South Africa. He became the first African to achieve DXCC on this band in 1998. Until 2015, only three other South Africans were able to follow his example.

What made Hal's activity unusual is that he did not only pursue his own achievements. For more than a decade, Hal published a VHF/UHF newsletter which he widely circulated in southern Africa at his own cost. He developed voice protocols for meteor scatter contacts, resulting in numerous contacts that would not have happened otherwise. He also provided mentorship to a number of aspiring VHFers and contesters that have subsequently continued to great things. He actively promoted VHF contesting in southern Africa, by proposing a square-based rule system in the Eighties and donating numerous trophies and certificates. He also provided log checking services and supported numerous contest expeditions to activate more grid squares.

Hal also provided equipment and other logistical support to a large number of DXpeditions and resident operators in neighbouring countries. Examples include residents such as 3DA0CA, A22KZ and ZS3AT, as well as DXpeditions by ZS4TX (7P), ZS6EZ (3DA, 7P, A2, V5, ZS9, ZS0), ZS6JDE (9J, 7Q) and others.

Hal's example and motivation have led to a quantum leap in achievements on VHF in South Africa. He opened the door to a series of recent achievements, including two new DXCCs on 50 MHz and the first on 144 MHz.

Nominee's Other Achievements

Hal was the first South African to achieve VUCC in 1999. As of 2015, he is still the leading station on 50 MHz. He was also the first winner of All Africa Award and Worked All ZS on 50 MHz.

Hal is on the DXCC Honour Roll, both on Mixed Modes and Phone. He has the third-highest DXCC Challenge score in southern Africa, using a modest station. He has recently brushed up on his CW skills and is now also in the Top Six in South Africa on that mode.

Professionally, he started a series of successful businesses. At one point, his business was the largest Hewlett-Packard distributor in the southern hemisphere.

He was the SARDT's Radio Amateur of the Year in 2011 and has won several other SARL trophies.

He has set foot in over 40 countries and operated from at least ten of them.

Word Count

494 words.

Links to Source Material

<http://www.qrz.com/db/zs6wb>

<http://zs6a.blogspot.co.za/2011/06/hal-lund-zs6wb-radio-amateur-of-year.html>

Details of Proposer

Chris R. Burger, ZS6EZ and Tjerk Lammers, ZS6P.

We are both members of the SARL in good standing since 1979.

Date submitted: 2015-12-20