

## Report of the RSGB ARDF Committee for the period ending 31 Dec 2018

The ARDF Committee is a group of committed volunteers who have been driving forward the development of this aspect of 'Sport Radio' in the UK.

On the International scene, the 19th IARU World ARDF Championships were held in Korea in September. Only two RSGB members were able to travel out to Korea (all RSGB participants are self funded) but both returned with a podium place and a bronze medal for their category in the competition..

A total of seventeen events were staged during the year including three competitions at the British ARDF Championships, which were held in the Midlands in the early spring. Competitions have embraced not only the 'Classic' format of five transmitters in a five minute cycle, but also the FoxOring and Sprint formats. Some organisers used other variants, such as 7 transmitters in a five minute cycle or five 30 second transmissions in 2.5 minutes.

The RSGB equipment has been loaned to a number of Affiliated Societies, Cadet and Scout groups during the year. The 3.5MHz equipment is configured to provide 5 transmitters in a five minute cycle accompanied by ten receivers. A map of the area to be used is not essential but the equipment gives a realistic feel for the 'classic' ARDF format.

The 144MHz equipment comprises a set of five transmitters and antennas but there are no receivers included. The 144MHz transmitters contain rechargeable batteries, which do cause issues with Parcel Force and so collection of the 144MHz loan kit from Leicestershire is recommended

The 22nd ARDF Region 1 Championships will be held in Rogla, Slovenia in September 2019 and the hope is that the RSGB will send a strong team.

Participation remains an issue. Our stands at the RSGB Hamfest and at the RSGB Convention generate interest and in 2018 the Committee ran two 'Taster Days' for RSGB members to sample ARDF with some tuition to get them started. The hope is that more RSGB members will be tempted to try this exciting activity, which has implications for good health as well.

There was a new departure during 2018 in the form of a series of introductory events during the summer. From May to September there was one event each month in the East Midlands. This succeeded in attracting over twenty people mostly with a radio background but also a few from Orienteering.

The event format was adjusted to be more suitable for newcomers. Participants were asked to plot bearings on all five 80m transmitters prior to their start. Once these had been confirmed as being reasonable the competitor was given the 'good to go' and then moved to the start to commence the timed element of the competition

The events offered mentoring and a format well suited to the newcomer.

The series was well received and it is hoped to run a similar series in the East Midlands in 2019 plus the possibility of having similar events in other parts of the UK.

Finally, I wish to acknowledge the enthusiasm and contributions of the Committee members in running events and promoting the sport. In addition those who ran events without being committee members are also thanked. These were Stuart G1ZAR, John M0OJM, Tim G4ARI and David G6HGE.

The Committee is also grateful for the unfailing support it has received from the RSGB Board member responsible for Sport Radio, Stewart Bryant G3YSX and from Radcom editor Elaine Richards.

R G Titterington  
G3ORY  
Chairman RSGB ARDF Committee

**Composition of the RSGB ARDF Committee at the end of 2018**

Chairman: R G Titterington G3ORY

Full members: J R Vickers G3ORI  
V Boev 2E0VLB  
D Williams M3WDD  
A Soltysik G4KWQ  
J Ullersperger M0JIN  
R Bishop RS213497

Corresponding Members: D Hutchinson GI4FUM  
T Mitchell GM0JHF  
D Deane G3ZOI

Ex Officio S Bryant