Dear ARDF friends,

BFRA is proud to host the 23rd IARU R1 / European ARDF Championships and the 4th World Youth ARDF Championships. Both events will take place simultaneously in Bansko, Bulgaria between 28 August and 3 September 2021.

In the days before these events, namely between 24 and 27 August 2021, another ARDF competition, so-called Euro Cup, will be held in Bansko, too, but on different terrains.

After missing a lot, a lot of time due to the pandemic situation, it's time to meet again and restore the traditions of our favorite sport. Below you will find detailed information about these events. Events homepage will be open soon.

1. The pandemic situation in Bulgaria

A large percentage of Bulgarian population has already been vaccinated. Almost all restrictions have already been removed. Hotels and restaurants work normally and without restrictions. Sports events can be attended by public. Wearing masks is mandatory only in shops and public transport. That requirement is also expected to be abolished after 31 July. Bulgaria recognizes so-called European Green Pass. For the requirements for arrivals from individual countries you can follow the website of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (latest information on 27 May):


Pay attention to item 8h, concerning participants in sports events.

Important: In case of a sharp deterioration of the epidemiological situation in Bulgaria and impossibility to hold the competitions, all amounts transferred to the organizers will be returned back to the senders.
2. Organizing society

Bulgarian Federation of Radio Amateurs (BFRA)
Telephones: +359 889318297, +359 897949888, Viktor Tsenkov, President of BFRA
Emails: lz3nn@abv.bg, bfra_hq@hotmail.com
Address for correspondence:
BFRA, P.O. Box 830, BG-1000 Sofia, Bulgaria

3. Venue:

The venue of the Championship will be Bansko. This is the most famous Bulgarian winter ski resort, but it is also beautiful in summer. It is located about 130 km south of Sofia at the foot of Pirin Mountain. For those who will travel by car/bus, it is important to know that half of the Sofia-Bansko road is a highway, so the entire distance is covered in about two hours. You can find more details for Bansko in: [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bansko](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bansko)

4. Accommodation

Accommodation will be in two neighboring four stars hotels – Hotel Sunrise and Hotel Mountain Paradise by the Walnut Trees. Both are located only 5 - 10 minutes walking from the historic center of Bansko. It should be noted that there will be 42 double rooms (studios) for single or double accommodation, 95 triple rooms (apartments) and 17 double apartments with the possibility of accommodating 4, 5 or 6 persons.

5. Dates and types of competitions

**IARU R1 / European ARDF Championships and World Youth ARDF Championships (simultaneously)**

*Individual ranking in each category every day, team ranking only in the classic disciplines each of the two days:*

- 28 August, Saturday – arrival, accommodation, testing the equipment, official opening;
- 29 August, Sunday – sprint, awarding;
- 30 August, Monday – classic 1, awarding;
- 31 August, Tuesday – rest day;
- 1 September, Wednesday – classic 2, awarding;
- 2 September, Thursday – foxoring, awarding, hamfest
- 3 September, Friday – departure.
Total 6 nights.

**Euro Cup**

*Only individual ranking in each category and every day, complex individual ranking of the sum of the results of the four days:*
24 August, Tuesday – arrival, accommodation, testing the equipment, sprint, awarding;
25 August, Wednesday – classic 1, awarding;
26 August, Thursday – classic 2, awarding;
27 August, Friday – foxoring, awarding.
Total 4 nights.

6. Participation restrictions

IARU R1 / European ARDF Championships – maximum 3 competitors per country in each category.
World Youth ARDF Championships – maximum 5 competitors per country in each category.
Euro Cup – no restrictions / unlimited number.
Team leaders, trainers, visitors – no restrictions / unlimited number.

7. Costs of accommodation and board, starting fee

*Accommodation and full board (all inclusive) – for all events, for all participants, officials, visitors including additional days in case of earlier arrival and/or later departure:*
Single accommodation – **45 EUR per day**;
Double room accommodation – **35 EUR per day, per person**, 32 EUR for categories W14/M14, 28 EUR for children 7-13 years old;
Apartment for three or more persons – **30 EUR per day, per person**, 27 EUR for categories W14/M14, 25 EUR for children 7-13 years old;
**Children up to 6 years old – free** (if accompanied by two adults).

*Starting fees:*
IARU R1 / European ARDF Championships – **50 EUR per person per start**;
World Youth ARDF Championships – **30 EUR per person per start in classics and sprint**, 20 EUR in foxoring;
Euro Cup – **10 EUR per person, per start**.
Transportation to the terrains and back for all events for competitors, officials, visitors – **5 EUR per person per day**;
Fee for officials participating in team leaders meetings, Working Group meetings etc., if not competitors – **50 EUR per person** (once only per team).

*Important: If all the costs and fees per competitor/team will be paid in packet, not later than 15 July 2021, starting fees will be reduced by 10%.*

8. Letter of Intent

All societies are kindly asked to fulfill and send to organizers the **Letter of Intent**. See bellow at the very end of this Bulletin.
9. Chairman of the Jury and Siting Referee

Chairman of the Jury: Ole Garpestad, LA2RR, Norway
Siting Referee: Viktor Tsenkov, LZ3NN, Bulgaria

10. Payment

All teams / participants are kindly asked to pay by bank transfer the amounts specified in item 7 (costs of accommodation and board, starting fee) by **30 July 2021** at the latest. An email to the organizers (lz3nn@abv.bg) must describe in details the amount for each participant. Payments after this date, as well as payments upon arrival in Bansko, will be accepted only in very exceptional cases, and the probability that the respective team / competitor will not be allowed to participate is high.

The bank account of the Bulgarian Federation of Radio Amateurs is:

**Bank:** UNITED BULGARIAN BANK  
**IBAN:** BG81UBBS80021413582613  
**BIC:** UBBSBGSF  
**Beneficent:** BULGARIAN FEDERATION OF RADIO AMATEURS

11. Transportation to Bansko and back

Those traveling by car / bus must reach the entrance of Sofia and head south on the highway to Blagoevgrad / Kulata. Then they turn left to Blagoevgrad, pass through the city and continue to Bansko. Arriving by plane will be met at Sofia Airport. A transfer to Bansko and back will be arranged for them. The cost of the transfer will be further determined depending on the number of passengers and will be notified in advance to users of this service. Payment will be made upon arrival in Bansko.

12. Visas

The citizens of the majority countries, expected to take part in the Championships/Euro Cup, do no need visa to enter Bulgaria. Participants from few countries (Belarus, China, Kazakhstan, Mongolia, Russia) require visa. Please see and check for your country in: [https://mfa.bg/en/services-travel/consular-services/travel-bulgaria/visa-bulgaria](https://mfa.bg/en/services-travel/consular-services/travel-bulgaria/visa-bulgaria)

BFRA will assist the above societies in obtaining free of charge entry visas. Please, contact the organizer. **Schengen visa** is valid for entering Bulgaria.
13. Terrains

The sprint terrains will be flat and easy to cross. The terrains for the other competitions will be pop-mountainous, moderately rugged, covered with deciduous and coniferous forests, with frequent presence of small rivers and streams, with a relatively good network of forest roads and trails. Competitors’ clothing must comply with the above features.

14. Climate

The climate in Bansko at the end of August / beginning of September is characterized by clear weather, relatively little or no precipitation and temperatures at night 10-12 degrees C and during the day 21-23 degrees C.

15. Forbidden areas

Starting from 1 June 2021 the following areas are declared forbidden for visits:

https://www.google.com/maps/d/viewer?fbclid=IwAR3FE3mYO-dHi7BYepSkI2TKrX8gAP_yvi32JHYmAd3MXvCCufd6S4ttls8&mid=1J4LrGg6TVMv6FboXILAX9Tamw7dz9LbA&ll=42.038420042923995%2C23.36880421641587&z=13

16. Transmitters and antennas

Frequency allocations for 3.5 MHz competitions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>frequency/competition</th>
<th>classic</th>
<th>sprint</th>
<th>foxoring</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3530 kHz</td>
<td></td>
<td>TX 1…5</td>
<td>TX 1, 1F, 2, 2F</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3550 kHz</td>
<td>TX 1…5</td>
<td>Spectator (S)</td>
<td>TX 3, 3F, 4, 4F</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3570 kHz</td>
<td>TX 1F…5F</td>
<td></td>
<td>TX 5, 5F</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3600 kHz</td>
<td>beacon</td>
<td>beacon</td>
<td>beacon</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Frequency allocations for 144 MHz competition

144.500 MHz TX 1…5
144.900 MHz Beacon

Output RF Powers:
3.5 MHz Classic TX 1…5 and Beacon 5 W;
3.5 MHz Foxoring 50 mW;
3.5 MHz Sprint 1W;
144 MHz TX 1…5 and Beacon 1 W.
**Antennas:**
3.5 MHz Classic and Sprint – 6 m vertical and 3 counterpoises each 2.5 m;
3.5 MHz Foxoring vertical 30 cm and vertical counterpoise 30 cm;

144 MHz – Crossed Dipole, horizontal, 2.5 m above the terrain.

17. **Description of the marking devices**

**SportIdent** classic system will be used.

18. **Child Protection Policy**


The organizers, including voluntaries and Bulgarian referees will be well acquainted with the requirements of the policy and will complete the Declaration in Appendix 1. **Team leaders must submit the Declaration in Appendix 2 upon arrival in Bansko, and those whose teams have participants under the age of 18 must also submit the Declaration in Appendix 3.**

**More information will be spread in Bulletin 3.**

If you have any additional questions, please, do not hesitate to ask by mail to **lz3nn@abv.bg**

**We are looking forward to meeting you in Bansko.**

**Bulgarian Federation of Radio Amateurs**
LETTER OF INTENT

We:
(Full name of the society)       (Official abbreviation)

intend to take part in the ARDF events in Bansko, Bulgaria as follows:

a) in IARU R1 / European ARDF Championships (28 August – 3 September 2021). Our delegation will consist of:

1. Number of competitors:
2. Number of officials:
3. Number of guests/visitors:

**TOTAL NUMBER** of participants in this event (1+2+3):

b) in World Youth ARDF Championships (28 August – 3 September 2021). Our delegation will consist of:

4. Number of competitors:
5. Number of officials:
6. Number of guests/visitors:

**TOTAL NUMBER** of participants in this event (4+5+6):

c) in Euro Cup (24 – 27 August 2021). Our delegation will consist of:

7. Number of competitors:
8. Number of officials:
9. Number of guests/visitors:

**TOTAL NUMBER** of participants in this event (7+8+9):

Contact person regarding IARU R1 / European ARDF Championships, Youth ARDF Championships and Euro Cup (responsible for the correspondence with BFRA):

Name and Family Name, Callsign:
Telephone number (including country and area codes):
E-mail:

On behalf of the society:      Date:
(Name and Family name, Position in the society)

Please fulfill this Letter of Intent and send it back to 22 June 2021 to: bfra_hq@hotmail.com with a copy to lz3nn@abv.bg