International Amateur Radio Union, Region 1
27th General Conference - Vienna, Austria
19 September - 23 September 2026

Subject	ARDF WG report 2024-2026		
Society	IARU-R1, ARDF	**Country:**	
Committee:	C3	**Paper number:**	
Author:	Dušan Ćeha YU1EA		

2024

During 2024 ARDFWG successfully completed all planned activities from the previous year and propose activities for the following year. Here are the major activities for 2024:

24th IARU REGION 1 ARDF Championship 2024

The 24th IARU R1 ARDF championship took place from 01-07th September 2024 in Primorsko, Bulgaria. Event centre was hotel "Forest Beach" where all participants were accommodated. It is important to note that the organizer of the 24th IARU R1 ARDF Championship was originally supposed to be MRASZ. However, due to organizational difficulties, MRASZ withdrew from hosting event and the organization was subsequently taken over by BFRA-Bulgarian radio amateur society. More than 200 participants from 20 MS took part at the championship in four disciplines: Classic 80m- 186 competitors, Classic 2m- 189 competitors, Foxoring- 150 competitors and Sprint-165 competitors.

The International Jury consisted of following members: Dusan Ceha YU1EA, the Chairman of the Jury, Franci Zankar S57CT, Igor Lazarev US0VA, Stipe Predanic 9A5SP, Dejan Grozdanovic YU1AS, Pavel Babeu YO9TW, Karl-Heinz Schade DL7VDB, Viktor Cenkov LZ3NN- Sitting Referee and Stoyan Topalov LZ1STQ- Technical Director.

Matters concerning IARU Region 1:

Child protection policy was properly carried out. No misbehaviour of any kind with total respect among all participants of the championship. No issues during awarding ceremonies. Everyone congratulates winners regardless of nationality.

6th WORLD IARU YOUTH ARDF Championship

The 6th World IARU Youth ARDF Championship took place from June 30th – July 4th in Orhei, Moldova, in the Orhei Region, the touristic complex "Codru", 34 km from the capital city Chisinau.The total number of participants was 90 from 7 countries in three disciplines: Classic 80m, Classic 2m and Sprint.

The International Jury consisted of: Dušan Ćeha YU1EA- Chairman of the Jury, Siting referee Nikolai Ivanchikyn-UR8UA, Vladimir Hudaev, Viktor Cenkov LZ3NN, Pietrzykowski Vladyslav, Panciuk Lyudmila, Maleta Viktorya, Adrian Marcu YO7LOI, Lajos Krajcar HA2QW.

Notes concerning WYAC 2024:

Child protection policy was properly carried out. No misbehaviour of any kind with total respect among all participants of the championship. No issues during awarding ceremonies. Everyone congratulates winners regardless of nationality.

46th IARU R1 ARDF WG meeting

The annual plenary IARU R1 ARDF WG meeting took place on September 2nd 2024. Present at the meeting were: Dušan Ćeha YU1EA ARDF WG Chairman, Jan Palmquist SM5FUG, Jiri Marecek OK2BWN, Barbora Simeckova Igor Lazarev US0VA, Kai Pastor DG0YT, David Williams M3WDD, Viktor Cenkov LZ3NN, Franci Zankar S57CT Lajos Krajcar HA2QW, Marc Vanhalst ON6HI, Svein Olsen LA6KCA, Marcu Adrian YO7LOI, Stipe Predanic 9A5SP Mindaugas Nakvosas LY5AI, Attila Mezei OE1LTS, Dejan Grozdanovic YU1AS.

Several topics were discussed:

Forthcoming IARU ARDF events:

ARDF WG approved the reports from 6th WYAC 2024 and 24th IARU R1 ARDF Champioships and reports from CRC and LRMD about organizing status of the 7th WYAC to be held in Czech Republic in 2025 and 22nd IARU World ARDF Championship in Lithuania in 2025.

ARDF WG approved the application for International ARDF class Referees from Kazakhstan- Aidana Zharylkasin

UN7ZAL, Aidos Meldebek UN7ZAR, Sherkan Korkinbay UN7ZAX and Nikolaev Kasev LZ2MNK.

Changing the rules:

Detailed proposal was presented by Viktor Cenkov LZ3NN and the main point of the proposal is to update the rules regarding the Foxoring in ARDF Rules, Part B, Paragraph 23, especially for the following categories:

- W55,W65, M60, M70.
- Proposed Map adjustments to change map scale to 1:7500,
- The type of the colour, to use black colour to clearly indicate the Start, Finish and Transmitter point to ensure visibility for all participants including those with visual impairments,
- Font size: increase the font size used for Start, Finish and transmitter points from the Standard 0.52mm to 0.8mm to improve clarity. After short discussion, Viktor Cenkov was requested to prepare short text to send to the WG no later then October the 15th which will be added to the Rules. The proposed text WG approved by e-mail voting. The additional text of the proposal was sent to the other IARU Regions for the final approvement. The proposal to amend the rules was approved by all three IARU Regions and was subsequently incorporated into the rules.

2025

22nd IARU World ARDF Championship

The 22nd IARU ARDF World Championship took place from August 16-22, 2025 in Birstonas, Lithuania. More than 310 participants from 25 MS took part at the championship in four disciplines: Classic 80m, Classic 2m, Foxoring and Sprint.

The International Jury consisted of the following members: Viktor Cenkov LZ3NN-The Chairman of the Jury and members: Kai Pastor DG0YT, Karl-Heinz Schade DL7VDB, Jiri Pavlu,OK1CHE, Keneth Harker, WM5R, Hyeongmoon Choi HL5CFN, Panayot Danev LZ1US, Dusan Ceha YU1EA, Remigijus Masilionis LY1RM-Siting referee. All jury members fulfilled their duties and actively participated in all stages of the competitions. Jury meetings were held regularly after the end of each competition day.

Child protection policy:

During the entire event, the rules of the IARU P1 for child protection policies were strictly observed. During registration, all team leaders filled out the relevant declarations. Declarations were also filled out by all members of the international jury, as well as the organizers of the competition. All signed declarations are kept by the Chairmen of the ARDF Working group Dušan Ćeha YU1EA.

ARDF WG meeting

The 47th IARU ARDF WG Plenary meeting was held at Birštonas,Lithuania, August the 18th 2025. Out of 27 WG members, 16 were present in person or by proxy. One of the 16 WG member was online by internet (Igor Lazarev US0VA). Several topics were discussed:

ARDF event reports

The 7th IARU World ARDF Youth Championship held in Marianske Lazne, Czeh Republic was reported by the Chairman of the Championship International Jury Jiri Marecek OK2BWN.

The 25th IARU R1 ARDF Championship Targoviste, Romania in 2026, the short report was presented by the representative of FRR. The WG approved Franci Zankar S57CT as the Chairman of the International Jury.

The ARDF WG received two applications to host upcoming ARDF events: the 8th WYAC in 2026 submitted by MRASZ and the 23rd IARU World ARDF Championship in 2027 submitted by KARL-Korean Amateur Radio. Both applications were approved by the ARDF WG.

International class ARDF Referee

ARDF WG approved the proposal by MRASZ for Varga Tamas HA5TV, Nagy Gyorgy HA3PA.

ARDF Rules changes

Detailed proposal by ARRL was presented in paper to all WG members and some details were explained by Ken Harker WM5R, Charles Scharlau NZ0I and Jospeh Huberman K5JGH . The main point of the proposal was to add W75 and M80 ARDF categories. After the discussion, the proposal was not approved. Proposals presented by Jiri Marecek and Viktor Cenkov were not approved as well.

Future championships

Procedure for selection of the host of the next ARDF events IARU World Youth ARDF 2027,2028, IARU World ARDF Championship 2029 and IARU R1 ARDF Championship 2028 will start on October 20th 2025 with deadline for submission of official bids In August 2026.

2026

8th IARU WORLD YOUTH ARDF Championship

1. The 8th IARU World Youth ARDF Championship took place from 1-5 July 2026 in Veszprem, Hungary. The total number of participants was 148 from 12 countries in three disciplines: Classic 80m, Classic 2m and Sprint.

The International Jury consisted of: Pavel Babeu YO9TW- Chairman of the International Jury, Siting referee Gabor Pap HA8MGC, Viktor Cenkov, Miroslav Vlach, Zeljko Pilat, Nick Ivanchikyn, Ana Radics, Ludmila Hudaeva,

Wladislaw, Pietrzikowsky, Adrian Marcu, Alla Adriunina, Cufer Stanko, Slavo Nosal, Liudmila Panchuk.
Note: Following the proposal by MRASZ, the ARDF WG had initially approved Jiri Marecek OK2BWN as the Chairman of the International Jiri. However, he later withdrew due to other commitments and following the voting by the WG Pavel Babeu YO9TW was appointed as the Chairman of the International Jury.

Matters concerning WYAC 2026:

Child protection policy was properly carried out. No misbehaviour of any kind with total respect among all participants of the championship. The organizer fully complied with all instructions provided by the President of IARU R1 Sylvain Azarian. The IARU E.C. was represented by Oliver Tabakovski Z32TO.

25th IARU R1 ARDF Championship

The 25th IARU R1 ARDF championship will take place from 16-22 August 2026 in Targoviste, Romania. Full scale preparations are ongoing.

ARDF WG Meeting

The 48th IARU R1 ARDF WG Plenary meeting will take place on August 19th in Targoviste, Romania. The report of the WG meeting as well as the Report on the IARU R1 ARDF Championship will be submitted later as an appendix to this report.

Main objectives for the forthcoming period

- to help the ARDF community and IARU event organizers to restore the growth of the ARDF community and activities
- to continue working on further guides and cookbooks for the ARDF community
- to encourage IARU societies to bring up new ARDF referees and encourage them to take part in organizing of ARDF events
- to do everything possible to maintain organizing of the regular IARU ARDF Championships which is essential for the survival of the ARDF.

The Chair of the IARU R1 ARDF WG
Dušan Ćeha YU1EA

