



Leiston ARC

(Affiliated to the Radio Society of Great Britain)

GX6FS

Subject: LARC Foxhunt – General Rules

Eligibility:

The foxhunt, although organised by Leiston Amateur Radio Club, will be open to all radio amateurs and short wave listeners either as individuals or teams. All participants will endeavour to keep within the following rules:

Foxes Location:

The fox will be hidden in a fixed location accessible by foot on public land, and will be positioned such that he/she can observe traffic on a nearby public road. Access to the fox will be free from undue risk to any normal road vehicle. A map of the general area, which includes the location of the fox, will be made available or notified to the participants before the start of the event. Please note that the foxhunt is a test of one's radio direction skills and hounds must at all times follow the Highway Code. Beware of using a radio whilst on the move.

Foxhunts may be either mobile (car based) or pedestrian. In either case the general principles above apply; the prime difference will be the radius over which the activity takes place.

Winning Hound:

The overall winning hound or hounds team will be the first to arrive at the fox's location. The winning hound will, by tradition, become the fox for the next hunt!

Fox's Equipment:

The fox will transmit an FM signal on the agreed frequency in the 144 MHz band. The power used for fox transmissions may be changed as the hounds close but will remain constant at all other times. The minimum power for the fox will be 5 watts in the case of mobile hunts, and a maximum of 5 watts in the case of pedestrian hunts. The fox's antenna and polarity will be declared to the hounds during the first transmission and will remain constant throughout the duration of the event. These details may be requested at any time by the hounds but only transmitted during the next scheduled transmission. At the discretion of the fox, and by agreement with the hounds, power levels may be reduced as the hounds close in.

Hound's Equipment:

Doppler receivers and their displays are NOT permitted. Basic necessary facilities: transport (car), watch/clock, and 2m FM receiver. Additional desirable but not essential equipment: directional antenna, map, compass/protractor, attenuator (s).

Schedule:

At the agreed start time, the fox will transmit a signal for 60 seconds stating operating conditions etc. An important part of this initial transmission is to establish that all hounds can hear the fox on their own receivers at the start location. Thereafter, the fox will transmit for 1 minute at five-minute intervals. A time limit for the event may be agreed upon at the start. This schedule may be varied by agreement between the fox and hounds as the hunt progresses, if this is felt necessary.

Start:

All the hounds participating should meet at the agreed/published start location at a time before the first transmission is due. They should all be ready to take bearings then move to other locations of their choice to take subsequent bearings, from which to gradually establish the fox's location.

Finish:

The foxhunt finishes when either all the hounds have arrived or conceded, or the agreed duration of the hunt has expired. SWL's are particularly encouraged to take part, and are requested to make their participation known to the fox through any hounds transmitting capability.

Clues:

At the discretion of the fox, clues to his/her location may be given as the event progresses.

Frequency:

The actual frequency used in the 144 MHz band will be agreed before the event although the default frequency will be S16 (145.400 MHz). If the frequency becomes occupied during the event, the hounds should politely request its use for the foxhunt. Hounds are encouraged to use the frequency between scheduled transmissions in order to pass comments and keep the frequency in use. Hounds who have found the fox should not give the location away or mislead others in any way.