

THE MID-THAMES RADIO DIRECTION-FINDING CLUB  
Rules Governing the Organisation and Competition for the  
GAGE-TYLER CUP

1 The contest is open to all persons, who may compete upon the strict understanding that they take part entirely at their own risk and that neither the Mid-Thames RDF Club, the Contest Manager, or the organisers shall be held liable for any loss, damage or injury resulting from taking part in the contest.

2 The club will appoint, each year, a Contest Manager (CM) who will oversee the running of the annual contest. The CM will be authorized to appoint a deputy to act in his or her stead at rounds at which the CM cannot attend in person. The CM will be permitted to compete provided he or she has no knowledge of the location of the hidden transmitter (Tx).

3 The contest will comprise seven rounds to be held on the third Wednesday of every month from March to September.

4 Of the seven rounds, competitors may compete in six rounds only. Of those six rounds, competitors will have their best four results included for calculating total points accrued.

5 Competitors may take part in all seven rounds, but if they have not informed the CM that they are not officially competing before leaving the starting point, they will be considered to be competing officially, and after their sixth round they will be considered to have completed all their official entries.

6 Competitors will be encouraged to use their "non-event" by organising a Tx, by will receive no points advantage by the organisation thereof.

7 Each of the seven rounds will start at the same location (Starting Point) on the O. S. Map 175, Reading and Windsor. and may be extended onto the adjoining maps: Aylesbury and Leighton Buzzard Map 165 or West London Map 176, provided that the total distance from the starting point to the Tx does not exceed 25 miles (this being the length of one side of the map).

8 The organiser of each round will ensure that signals are audible to the competitors at the starting point, to the best of his or her ability.

9 If inadequate signals are provided at the starting point, the CM will proceed in accordance with rules number 12 to 14.

10	Transmission times:	1930 - 1932	Morse (A1A)
		1932 - 1935	Telephony (A3E)
		2000 - 2001	Morse
		2001 - <del>2003</del>	Telephony
		2002	Amended January 1989
		2015 }	Minimum 2 minutes telephony, preceded by a short Morse transmission for identification
		2030 }	

After the 2030 transmission, transmissions of the same duration and type will be made at: 2040; 2050; 2100; 2110, after which time they may be at random intervals of not more than ten minutes, and a minimum transmission time of two minutes, and they may be continuous at the organiser's discretion. The round will end at 2130 hours, or when every competitor has visited the Tx.

11 The organiser for each round will provide the CM with sufficient sealed envelopes, one for each competitor, which will contain details of a rendezvous at which the competitors should meet after the round. The exposed front of these envelopes will carry the Call Sign and frequency of the Tx, the name of the competitor, his or her competitor's number and space for the time of arrival at the Tx to be entered. The competitor must hand the sealed envelope, unopened, to the CM after the round to qualify for points.

12 The organiser will provide the CM with an envelope marked "Approx Bearing", which will contain a bearing, which when drawn on the map, will be in the general direction of the Tx, and will pass within 4 kilometres of the Tx. The same envelope will contain a further sealed envelope marked "Approx distance".

This latter envelope will contain the information "More than 16 kilometres" or "Less than 16 kilometres" as the case may be.

13 If only some of the competitors are unable to obtain a bearing, the CM will invite all those who are satisfied to leave the starting point. When the CM is ready to leave, he will reveal the approximate bearing only. The CM will, however, reveal the information by 1945 hours.

14 If none of the competitors is able to obtain a satisfactory bearing from the signal provided, the CM will reveal both the approximate bearing and distance.

15 Access to the Tx will be such that competitors do not have to trespass upon any private or restricted property. Public footpaths, bridle ways, tow paths and dismantled railway tracks are considered proper means of access.

16 The Tx will be located not less than 50 feet from any public highway, nor less than 50 feet from any inhabited, unfenced building.

17 The Tx will be connected directly to a radiating aerial, and will not be remotely controlled.

18 Competitors may use any form of transport, but each team will comprise no more than four persons.

19 No team will tamper with the antenna, the Tx or its equipment, or the operator.

20 Only one D/F receiver per team will be used at any one time. The use of any transmitting equipment during the contest is prohibited. The use of fixed monitors is permitted.

21 On arrival at the Tx, competitors must be in possession of their D/F receiver and their envelope (see rule 11).

22 The Tx crew will mark the time of arrival, to the nearest minute, and the position on the envelope, and return it to the competitor, initialled to show that the seal was intact. If conditions allow, the Tx crew will keep a separate list of times of arrival.

23 Points will be awarded on the following basis: the winner will receive -5 points. Subsequent arrivals will receive one point for each minute they are behind the winner, plus a number of points equal to their position in the round. E.g. the competitor coming in fourth would receive four points added to the time penalty points.

24 The Gage-Tyler Cup will be awarded to the competitor with the lowest number of points accrued in the four rounds selected for consideration. The club will pay for the cup to be engraved with the winner's name and year of winning.

25 The CM will be responsible for the accurate computation of the results.

26 The CM will adjudicate in any dispute, and his or her interpretation of these rules will be final and binding.

Major amendments made January 1986. A minor amendment to rule 10 made January 1989.