



ÍRA – Íslenzkir radióamatörar IRA - Icelandic Radio Amateurs

Overview

*Introduction at the NRAU meeting in Porvoo, Finland,
15-17 August 2014*



IRA – A Society of 150 (+/-) with a Board of 5 and Multiple Roles under one Roof

- 1. National Society**
- 2. - PTA Liaison**
- 3. - International Liaison**
- 4. Local Radio Club**



1. National Society Activities

- n *Of major importance is our magazine, CQ TF, which is meant to be published quarterly. But editor position is vacant now.*
- n *IRA's web site (www.ira.is) is actively maintained in order to fulfill the members' need for the latest amateur radio news.*
- n *Amateur radio courses and examinations 1-2 times per annum.*
- n *IRA published a grand annual report under chairmanship of TF3JB, this has not continued.*
- n *IRA established for the first time an EMC committee in December 2011. The committee will seek a close relationship with specialized bodies of other national societies and the EMC coordinator.*
- n *IRA was the 2nd society in the world to translate and publish ON4UN's "Ethics and Operating Procedures for the Radio Amateur," in 2009. The booklet was distributed free to all members.*
- n *QSL Bureau.*

ÍRA – IRA From the Beginning



- n *ÍRA Íslenzkir radióamatörar*
IRA Icelandic Radio Amateurs - just had a 68 year anniversary
was founded August 14th, 1946
- n *the same year that Icelandic Post- and Telecommunications*
authorities had revoked the wartime ban of radio amateur activities.



IRA 2014 Annual General Meeting in May

A Completely new was Board Elected



TF3HP Haraldur Þórðarson, Chairman

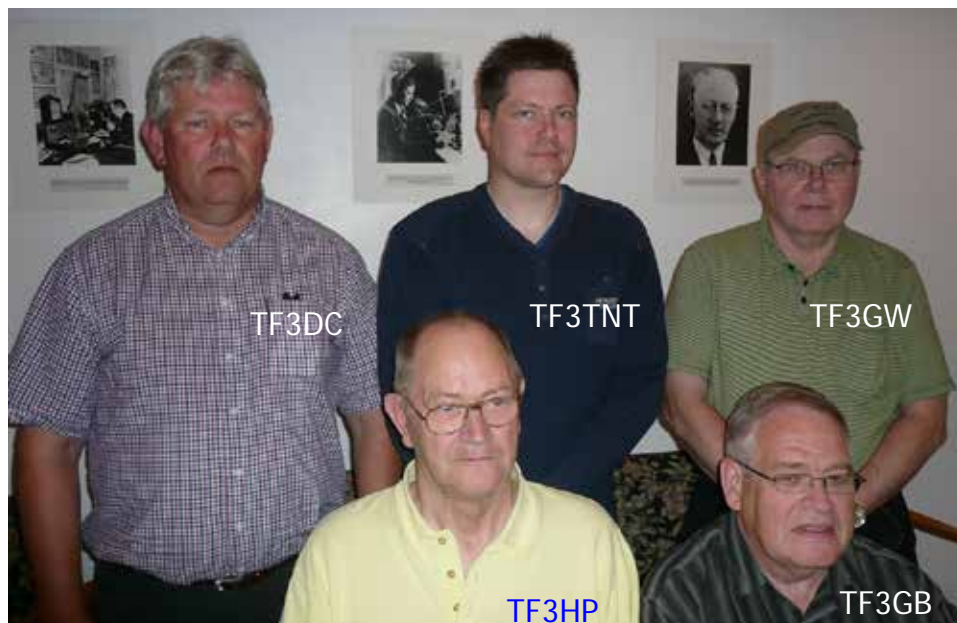
TF3GW Þór Þórisson, Vice Chairman

TF3GB Bjarni Sverrisson, Secretary,

TF3DC Óskar Sverrisson, Cashier

TF3KX Kristinn Andersen, Member

TF3TNT Benedikt Guðnason, Vice Member



Working for IRA and the Board: Committees of About 25 Positions



Embættismenn 2014-2015

EMBÆTTI	NAFN	KALLMERKI	LEYFISBR.
Skoðunarm. reikninga	Haukur Konráðsson	TF3HK	215
Skoðunarm. reikninga	Yngvi Harðarson	TF3Y	89
Skoðunarm. reikninga, vara	Vilhjálmur Ívar Sigurjónsson	TF3VS	235
IARU tengiliður	Kristján Benediktsson	TF3KB	41
Neyðarfjarskiptastjóri	Jón Þóroddur Jónsson	TF3JA	46
PFS tengiliður	Ritari stjórnar ÍRA	TF3GB	180
Prófnefnd, formaður	Vilhjálmur Þór Kjartansson	TF3DX	44
Prófnefnd	Kristinn Andersen	TF3KX	91
Prófnefnd	Kristján Benediktsson	TF3KB	41
Prófnefnd	Sigurður Smári Hreinsson	TF8SM	196
Prófnefnd	Vilhjálmur Ívar Sigurjónsson	TF3VS	235
EMC nefnd, formaður	Sæmundur E. Þorsteinsson	TF3UA	90
EMC nefnd	Gísli G. Ófeigsson	TF3G	105
EMC nefnd	Yngvi Harðarson	TF3Y	89
QSL stjóri, útsend kort	Matthías Hagvaag	TF3MHN	411
QSL stjóri, innkomin kort	Matthías Hagvaag	TF3MHN	411
Rekstrarstjóri vefmiðla	Benedikt Sveinsson	TF3CY	200
Ritstjóri CQ TF	Vacant		
Stöðvarstjóri TF3IRA	Benedikt Guðnason	TF3TNT	236
TF útileikar, formaður	Bjarni Sverrisson	TF3GB	180
TF útileikar	Brynjólfur Jónsson	TF5B	125
Umsjónarm. endurvarpa	Guðmundur Sigurðsson	TF3GS	251
Umsjónarm. endurvarpa	Sigurður Harðarson	TF3WS	218
VHF leikar, umsjónarm.	Guðmundur Löve	TF3GL	321
VHF stjóri	Benedikt Guðnason	TF3TNT	236
Viðurkenningastjóri	Brynjólfur Jónsson	TF5B	125

Auditors

IARU/NRAU Liaison

Emergency Manager

PTA Liaison

Examination
Committee

EMC Committee

QSL Mgr outgoing

QSL Mgr ingoing

Web manager

Editor CQ TF

TF3IRA Station Mgr

Field Day Chairman

Field Day Awards

Repeater Managers

VHF Field Day Mgr

VHF Manager

Awards Manager

A decorative graphic consisting of overlapping yellow, red, and blue squares with a black crosshair.

2. PTA Liaison

Maintaining close relationship with the PTA is one of IRA's highest priorities. Among tangible results are:

- n Joint semi-annual to annual meetings between IRA and the PTA, discussing amateur radio issues.*
- n Now for decades IRA has composed and conducted amateur radio examinations in Iceland on behalf of the PTA.*
- n Secondary privileges on the following bands: (1) 493-510 kHz; (2) 5.260-5.410 MHz; (3) 70.000-70.200 MHz; and (4) 1850-1900 kHz (in certain international contests).*
- n Exchange of notes between IRA and the PTA prior to the WRC-2012 conference, where support of the Icelandic delegation was secured for the 472-479 kHz new band segment at the conference.*
- n WRC-2015 discussed*



3. International Liaison

- q *As member of IARU/IARU-R1/NRAU, IRA seeks to be as active in the international radio amateur arena as possible, but that is limited for a such a small society and of such limited means.*

Recent points include:

- q *A delegate was present 2011 both at the NRAU meeting and the annual Norwegian amateur radio event at Eidsvoll, which included NRRL's AGM and a meeting with PB2T. This was possible at low cost to IRA, due to NRAU's and NRRL's generous support.*
- q *Organizing the venue for Region 1 EC meeting in May 2013*
- q *This year 1 delegate to NRAU Finland and 2 delegates to Varna-Albena*
- q *Increasingly in the last few years, a few IRA members, at their own cost, have been going to the Ham Radio Exhibitions in Friedrichshafen, Germany, which made possible for some IRA appointed members to be present at the informal IARU annual gatherings there.*



Budget Limitations of a Tiny Society

- q *Though average per capita income in Iceland is high, IRA has limited means due to low membership count.*
- q *Full participation would cost a significant portion of IRA's annual budget.*
- q *Some IRA members highly question the usefulness of such expenditure.*
- q *Reduced financial support from the IARU Region 1 in recent years has made it more difficult than earlier for IRA to send a delegate to the 3-ennial R1 conferences.*
- q *This may put pressures on the personal expenditures, which may not be sustainable in the long run.*



IRA Participation so far in the 3-ennial Region 1 Conferences

1978	Miskolc-Tapolca	Hungary	TF3AX	
1981	Brighton	United Kingdom	TF3KB	
1984	Cefalù	Italy	TF3KB	
1987	Noordwijkerhout	Netherlands	TF3KB	
1990	Torremolinos	Spain	TF3KB	
1993	De Haan	Belgium	TF3KB	
1996	Tel Aviv	Israel		
1999	Lillehammer	Norway	TF3KB	
2002	San Marino	San Marino		← NRAU in Iceland
2005	Davos	Switzerland	TF3KB	
2008	Cavtat	Croatia		
2011	Sun City	South Africa		
2014	Albena	Bulgaria	TF3KB	TF3DX ←

For the first time 2 delegates from IRA
The added cost paid by personal expenditure, not by IRA

Among Recent Events:



Region 1 EC Meeting in Reykjavik May 2013



Framkvæmdanefnd IARU Svæðis-1 2011-2014. Hans Blondeel Timmerman, PB2T (formaður) er þriðji frá vinstri. Aðrir stjórnarmenn: Hani Raad, OD5TE (varaformaður), Dennis Green, ZS4BS (ritari) er fjórði frá vinstri, Andreas Thiemann, HB9JOE (gjaldkeri), Thilo Kootz, DL9KCE (meðstjórnandi), Colin Thomas, G3PSM (meðstjórnandi), Nikola Percin, 9A5W (meðstjórnandi), Anders Larsson, SM6CNN (meðstjórnandi) og Panayot Danev, LZ1US (meðstjórnandi).

Visit of Region 1 EC Meeting Participants to IRA Headquarters





TF3JB
then president



Smiling Guests - After Visit to IRA HQ and TF3IRA

Enjoyable Events Continued: Joint Meeting 7th May 2013 Icelandic PTA with IRA + LA2RR and PB2T





Among Foreign Visitors: ON4UN

- n *An Excellent Opportunity used for initial in Depth Discussions on his book “Ethics and Operating Procedures for the Radio Amateur.”*





Independent YL's Own Successful Event

International YL MEETING — 2014

The organizers for the IYL meeting 2014 are

Vala Drofn Hauksdottir, TF3VD Anna Henriksdottir, TF3VB
tf3vd(at)iyl.ritmal.is tf3vb(at)iyl.ritmal.is





4. Club Activities

- n *Our headquarters in Reykjavík are open to our members and those interested in amateur radio on Thursdays.*
- n *Many also bring their outgoing QSL cards and check for incoming cards, but the IRA QSL Bureau is located there.*
- n *Our club station TF3IRA QRV in HF and VHF is open to licensed members and in weekends for activating the station in international contests. Also run in some contests as TF3W.*
- n *The society offers an ambitious program of lectures and seminars that are given each year from February to May and from October to December. The total number of such events exceeds 40 per annum.*
- n *IRA owns and runs 4 VHF repeaters in around the country and has an APRS digipeater located at its headquarters in Reykjavík.*
- n *The society sponsors a TF Field day which is held annually in early August. This event first took place in 1979. A separate VHF field day is a new event.*
- n *For a number of years the society has actively supported participation in the annual International Lighthouse Lightship Weekend.*

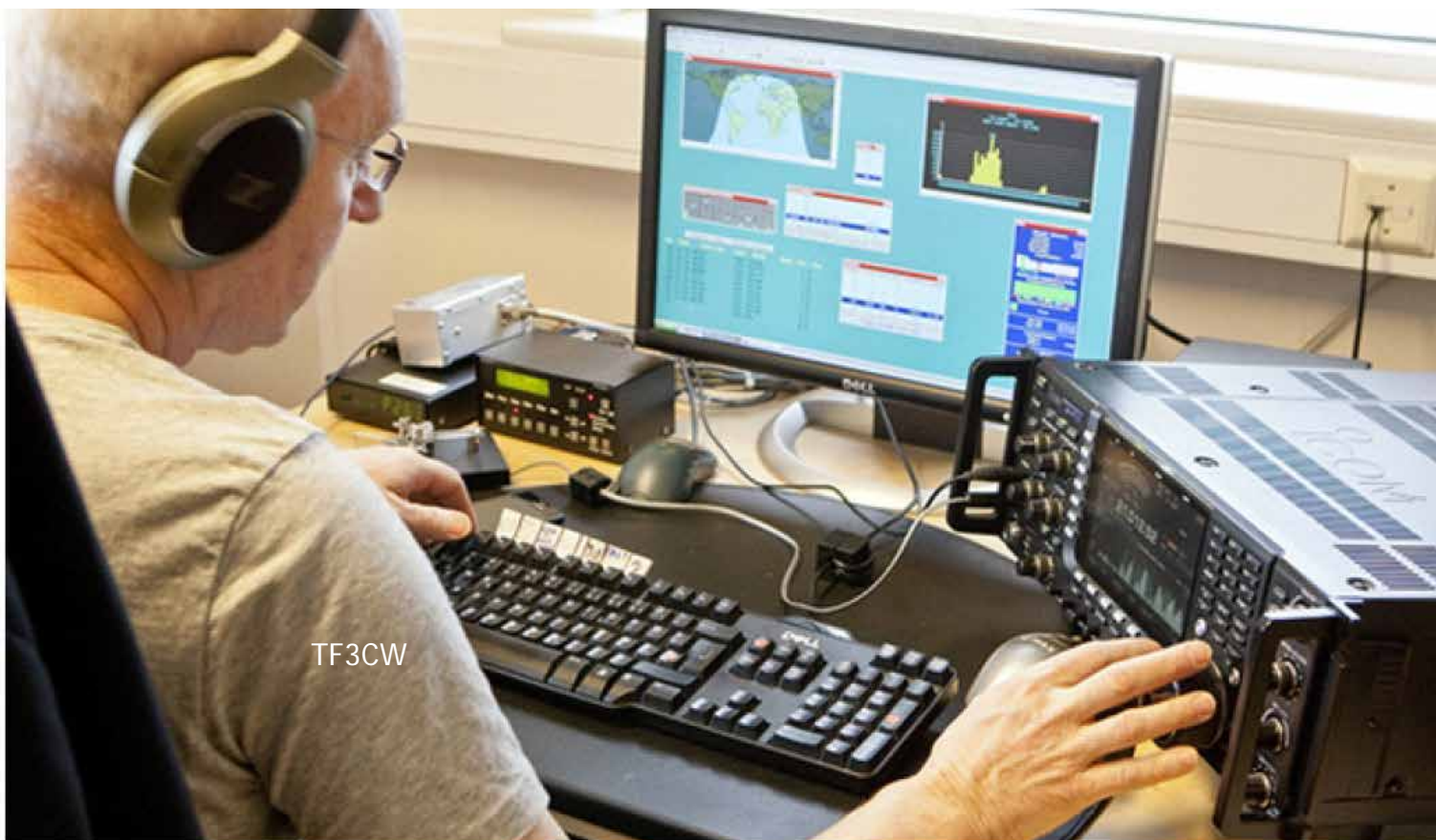
IRA Club Headquarters

- n *ÍRA rents its facilities from Reykjavik city*





TF3IRA Club Station and TF3W call also used for Contesting



TF3CW var með ICOM IC-7700 stöð í láni frá TF3ML í ARRL keppninni frá TF3W. Ljósmynd: TF3JON.

Summer on Air Activities

- q *Icelandic Field Day (first weekend in August)*
- q *VHF Field day (first weekend in July)*
- q *International Lighthouse Weekend (now)*





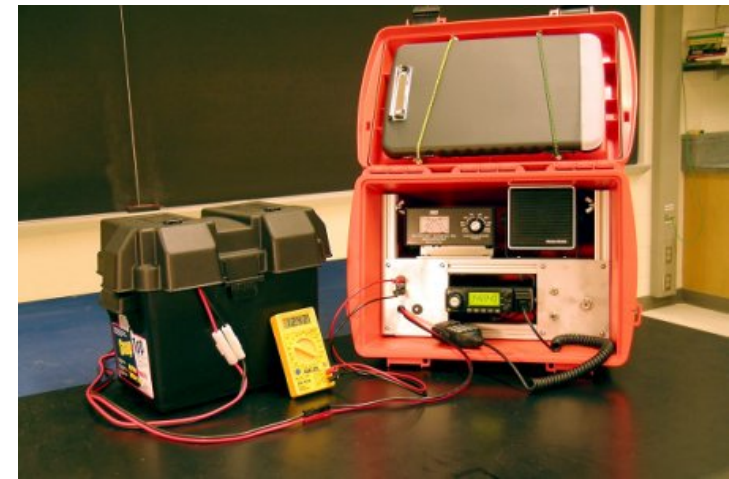
New Members

- n *ÍRA manages the radio amateur courses and conducts the examinations on behalf of the Icelandic Post and Telecoms Administration.*
- n *The PTA is more and more trusting ÍRA to conduct the entire examination and validation process*
- n *All teaching is volunteered from amongst ÍRA members*
- n *The courses are organized over 15 weeks, 3 hours twice a week, typically with a lecture on Tuesdays and solving problems on Thursdays*
- n *There is a separate exam for the radio theory and the regulations parts*
- n *Study materials include various handouts, old exams and additional material from the ÍRA study materials website*
- n *ÍRA have also videotaped the entire series of lectures, and made this available on our website as well*
- n *New amateurs are encouraged to apply for a call sign, and are offered a one-year free ÍRA membership, although without voting rights*
- n *There is increased use of the “/Qx” option to allow apprentices to get on the air; this only needs to be reported to the PTA but not applied for*



Emergency Communications

- n *Icelanders are fortunate enough to have a large corps of volunteer rescue associations, organized nationwide by ICE-SAR (www.icesar.com)*
- n *ICE-SAR owns and operates an extensive VHF repeater infrastructure, and are currently moving into a TETRA-based nationwide communications system to be run in parallel with the VHF system*
- n *Consequently, the role of Icelandic radio amateurs is not as great as it would be otherwise*
- n *There is nonetheless interest among Icelandic amateurs to somehow make their mark*
- n *IRA established an emergency Mgr*
- n *Some Search and Rescue members have studied for amateur exam and obtained a license.*





Some Recent Dissent

- n *Some of the younger generation of radio amateurs, who have never heard of amateur radio self policing think the older generation is too conservative and rule based by encouraging restraint in demands on the PTA*
- n *Main 2 subjects on their open agenda:
1) Remote controlled operation and
2) Apprentice licensing*
- n *May be a pretext top of an iceberg*
 - n *A group of dissenters has regular meetings*
 - n *Some are talking about a 2nd society New IRA*
 - n *Hearsay has it that some of them don't want any rules, all should be free and they talk of a battle between:
Freedom and Progress against Conservatism and Backwardness*
 - n *Hearsay has it, that they applied for membership of IARU*
 - n *Can anyone confirm...?*



Does History Repeat Itself?

- n *Remember Ole? when Per Waitz came from Oslo up to Trondheim to talk to the young rebels at Akademisk Radioklubb LA1K (where LA2RR and TF3KB were members)...*
- n *Fortunately some of this may not be long lived*
- n *Can we learn from it?*

We have to listen for and appeal to the young generation

Are we too complacent?



Well, anyway, IRA's Latest Honorary Members Awarded 2013 to - guess who



TF3DX

TF3KB

See you in Bulgaria



Greetings From
ÍRA – Íslenskir radióamatörar
IRA - Icelandic Radio Amateurs

Thank you NRAU
