

PSB Newsletter # 1 March 2003

An update for operators who support improved reporting for the PSK31 modes.

Greetings and thank you for your interest and support of the new PSB reporting format. This newsletter is the first to keep you up to date with the PSB project implementation.

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1. Summary of your feedback

Feedback from mailing list subscribers was very positive with much encouragement to continue the implementation. Some operators have started using PSB and there was a suggestion to also use the PSB format for MFSK. Our webmaster has received a stack of additional links to add to the PSB site - thank you. Most comments received outside the mailing list have also been very positive. The only downside has been where a few operators had difficulty with the site colours. A number of changes have been made to overcome this with the most recent being to the text colour on the left hand menu navigation area.

2. Results of the PSK31 Yahoo group poll are in.

Two questions were asked:

1. Would you actively support PSB reporting on the bands?

CHOICES AND RESULTS

Yes	14 votes	77.78%
No	1 votes	5.56%
Would consider it	3 votes	16.67%

2. Do you think www.PSB-info.net is optimised to define, support and promote a more meaningful reporting system for the PSK31 mode?

CHOICES AND RESULTS

Yes	14 votes	100%
No	0 votes	0%
Will email Graeme	0 votes	0%

A very positive result despite the relatively small number who chose to make their feelings known. I

understand that low numbers are typical for this type of polling.

3. Early experiences using PSB reporting

Regular PSB reporting started for VK3BGH during early March after returning from several weeks holiday. Of the 30 PSK31 QSO's made during the first week - 50% of operators were positive towards PSB, discussing the concept favourably and saying they planned to visit the website. The other 50% did not offer any comment with one or two ending the QSO abruptly. All the "no comment" folk were from countries where English is not the native tongue. Only one station had a signal quality issue with a B5 bandwidth at approx 300hz. His report was revised to B9 after turning off the speech processor and he was appreciative of the help. I was greatly heartened by my first PSB contact when the ZL operator also returned me a PSB report remarking that he knew all about the project because he had been following the PSK31 Yahoo group discussion.

At this early stage, I have found the following reporting phrase to be the most effective for a typical 579 report:

"Your signal, reported in the PSB format (Print, Strength, Bandwidth) is 579 579. See www.PSB-info.net for further info."

and for a typical 575 report:

"Your signal, reported in the PSB format (Print, Strength, Bandwidth) is 575 575. See www.PSB-info.net for further info. Your signal appears 200hz 200hz wide OM".

Do you have any similar experiences that you would like to share?

4. Website translation

Making the PSB reporting format effective worldwide will require adding website translations for our non-English speaking colleagues. We already have volunteers for Japanese and Spanish translations.

Are you able to help us with another major language or know somebody who can?

5. Further PSB promotion

National societies and major magazines can provide broad coverage to the PSB cause.

Do you have any contacts for these organisations? (we can help provide text for PSB articles)

- Other PSK31 or digi mode interest groups.

e.g. [anatolian-contests] UT5RP PSK31 DX Notes (regular email service)

- Links to our site from Popular Ham websites. Dave G3VFP has given us a prominent billing on his "Software & Circuits" page at www.g3vfp.org/download.html
- Add a personal promo such as:
 - including the PSB website URL with your 73's - SK QSO sign-off

- adding the URL to your details on QRZ.COM etc
 - adding "Promoting" PSB reporting for PSK31" to your EQSL's
 - adding the URL to your Ham related email sign-off
- A PSB contest

Can you help with any of the above suggestions?

6. Subscribing to this newsletter

For those who have not already subscribed, you can do so by registering on the 'Mailing List' page at www.PSB-info.net/mailling-list.html

7. Contact us

You can respond to this newsletter by replying to Graeme, VK3BGH at harmanco@bigpond.com

73's from the PSB Team