

# Summits on the Air

## Netherlands (PA)

### Association Reference Manual



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Authorised	Date: 01-Sep-2008 obo SOTA Management Team
Association Manager	Hans Mulder, PA0HRM
<b>Summits-on-the-Air</b>	an original concept by G3WGV and developed with G3CWI

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**1 Change Control**

Date	Version	Details
08-Aug-08	0.0	Draft issue of this document
14-Aug-08	1.0	First issue

## 2 Association Reference Data

Association	The Netherlands (PA)
Commencement date	01 September 2008
Regions	Netherlands (PA-xxx)
Association parameters <sup>1</sup>	
Summit operation criteria	Operation must be within 25m vertically of the summit
Band 1, score 1 point	<300m ASL
Band 2, score 2 points	>=300m ASL, <500m ASL
Band 3, score 4 points	Not allocated
Band 4, score 6 points	Not allocated
Band 5, score 8 points	Not allocated
Band 6, score 10 points	Not allocated
Seasonal bonus	No
Bonus rationale	Winter period with highest probability of sub-zero temperatures and deep snow
Min. height for bonus	Not applicable
Bonus period dates	Not applicable
Association sponsored awards	None
Association Manager	Hans Mulder, PA0HRM, pa0hrm@amsat.org

### 2.1 Programme derivation

SOTA Netherlands is an extension of similar programmes already active in other countries. In a manner similar to the Marilyn programme of Great Britain, it considers the *relative* height of summits compared to their surroundings and defines a minimum of 100 m climb from the surrounding cols in order to qualify.

With so few qualifying summits in the Netherlands, the summit database is likely to be complete. However, there is always the possibility of error, so activators are asked to submit details of any proposed additional summits to the association manager pa0hrm@amsat.org, together with any supporting documentation. If the summit meets the SOTA criteria it will be added to the list. Summits cannot be counted for points until a reference number has been allocated by the association manager. The same address should be used for any other proposed amendments.

### 2.2 General information

The Netherlands is a generally low-lying country with its highest terrain in the southeastern and central part of the country. Compared to its neighbours to the south and east, its hills are smaller and less challenging but they are ideally suited to relaxing expeditions on foot or by bicycle.

### 2.3 Rights of way and access issues

Some summits may not have public access. In this case, it is essential that the landowner's permission be obtained before attempting activation.

<sup>1</sup> See General Rules for parameter definitions

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### **2.4 Maps and navigation**

The definitive maps for hill walking in the Netherlands are published by the Topografische Dienst Nederland. Maps are widely available in specialized shops throughout the Netherlands.

Generally, navigation on the Dutch summits is not difficult, at least if you stick to the paths and the weather remains fine. A GPS is a handy facility to determine the exact coordinates of the summit.

### **2.5 Safety considerations**

It is worth remembering that all hills can be inhospitable places in inclement weather at any time of year. Despite Dutch summits never being far from road access, you should always be prepared for a possible deterioration in the weather and dress accordingly.

Mobile phone coverage is generally good throughout the Netherlands, but there may be certain areas without coverage. Nevertheless, if you have a mobile phone, it is worth taking it with you.

### **2.6 Disclaimer**

Hiking, hill-walking and rock-climbing are potentially dangerous activities. The SOTA Management Team and their associates assume no responsibility for accidents. Each participant does so at his or her own risk, and must decide, on the basis of their own ability, whether an objective is achievable. The listing of a summit in the reference does not mean that it is easy to reach, and it is always worth seeking local advice for all but the simplest of expeditions.

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### 3 Summit Reference Data

#### 3.1 Region Reference – The Netherlands

<b>Association</b>	<b>The Netherlands (PA)</b>
Region	The Netherlands (PA-xxx)
Region manager	Refer to Association Manager, Hans Mulder pa0hrm@amsat.org

##### 3.1.1 Regional notes

The Netherlands is, by nature, not a mountain country. Its coastal plain consists mainly of sand dunes and polders. These are areas of land, mainly below the sea level, that have been reclaimed from the sea. The land is protected by dikes or complicated constructions (Delta Works) to keep the sea out. The lowest point of the Netherlands is 6,76 meters below sealevel and situated in Nieuwerkerk aan den IJssel (51 59 13 N 04 38 09 E). Further inland, fields are drained with canals and excessive water is pumped out, traditionally by windmills. Such a landscape does not sound very hopeful for SOTA summits, but some prominent hills are found in the southern and central part of the country.

In the far south of the Netherlands, the province of South Limburg is a region of extensive forests and rolling hills, stretching from the German and Belgian border to the shores of the river Meuse. Like the Ardennes, it may be considered as an offshoot of the Eifel mountain range in Germany. The region is typified by valleys carved by rivers like the river Geul and prominently the river Meuse. Its principal city, the ancient Roman town of Maastricht, is in the Meuse valley. The scenic beauty of the region and its wide variety of outdoor activities, including cycling, walking and canoeing, makes it an important tourist destination all year round. Three hills of rocky nature are identified in this area. Vaalserberg, where the borders of three countries merge, is the highest point of the Netherlands at 322,2 meters ASL. However, as this summit is overshadowed by the much higher hills of the Ardennes (Preusswald ON/ON-007), it does not comply with the P100 rule and is not qualified for the SOTA-programme. Vrouwenheide, just south of the city of Heerlen, at 216 meters ASL is easily accessible by foot or bike. On top of this hill is an ancient typically Dutch windmill. Observant at 170 meters ASL is the highest point of the Sint Pietersberg, south of Maastricht. The summit is only accessible after a decent walk over the slopes of the Sint Pietersberg, starting in the outskirts of Maastricht.

In the central part sloping sandhills have been formed by shifting land ice during the last ice age. Two hills, Torenberg at 107 meters ASL (near Apeldoorn in the royal forestry) and Galgenberg at 102 meters ASL (near Arnhem and the airfield of Terlet) achieve the required P100 status. The summits are accessible by foot or bike on well maintained hiking routes. Walkingmaps are available in the touristoffices of Arnhem and Apeldoorn or bookshops.

##### 3.1.2 Table of summits

SOTA	Alt(m)	Alt(ft)	Summit Name	Lat	Long	Locator	Valid from	Valid until	Pts
PA-002	216	708	<a href="#">Vrouwenheide</a>	50 50 45 N	05 57 09 E	JO20XU	01/09/2008		1
PA-003	170	557	<a href="#">Observant (Sint Pietersberg)</a>	50 48 50 N	05 41 21 E	JO20UT	01/09/2008		1
PA-004	107	351	<a href="#">Torenberg (Apeldoorn)</a>	52 14 05 N	05 51 28 E	JO22WF	01/09/2008		1
PA-005	102	334	<a href="#">Galgenberg (Terlet)</a>	52 03 50 N	05 55 56 E	JO22XB	01/09/2008		1