# Bylaws of Upper Pinellas Amateur Radio Club (UPARC), INC

Version 1.0 July 4, 2020

## Article 1 Offices

#### **Section 1. Principal Office**

The principal office of the corporation is located in Pinellas County, State of Florida.

#### **Section 2. Change of Address**

The designation of the county or state of the corporation's principal office may be changed by amendment of these bylaws. The board of directors may change the principal office from one location to another within the named county by noting the changed address and effective date below, and such changes of address shall not be deemed, nor require, an amendment of these bylaws:

New Address:	
Dated:	, 20
New Address:	
Dated:	, 20
New Address:	
Dated:	, 20

#### **Section 3. Other Offices**

The corporation may also have offices at such other places, within or without its state of incorporation, where it is qualified to do business, as its business and activities may require, and as the board of directors may, from time to time, designate.

#### Section 4. Registered Agent

The corporation shall engage the services of a registered agent to comply with applicable Florida statutes. This provision may be modified by the directors if the corporation begins to maintain a physical office open during non-holiday business hours as defined by Florida statutes.

## Article 2 Nonprofit Purposes

#### Section 1. IRC Section 501(c)(3) Purposes

This corporation is organized exclusively for one or more of the purposes as specified in Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, including, for such purposes, the making of distributions to organizations that qualify as exempt organizations under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

#### Section 2. Specific Objectives and Purposes

The specific objectives and purposes of this corporation shall be: Charitable activities, including scientific education (e.g. amateur radio) for the membership, public, youth organizations, and various "First Responders" (e.g. Fire stations). The corporation will foster discussions and education in basic radio operation and advances in radio technology. Further, the corporation will strive to provide both trained personnel and equipment to provide emergency communications (including data) in and after major events (e.g. hurricanes).

# Article 3 Directors

#### Section 1. Number

The corporation shall have five (5) directors and collectively they shall be known as the board of directors. Four of the directors will automatically serve as officers as noted in Article 4, Section 1. The fifth director will be a "member at large" and that director's responsibilities will include external fund raising and representing the club members in matters before the board.

#### **Section 2. Qualifications**

Directors shall be of the age of majority in this state. Other qualifications for directors of this corporation shall be as follows: The directors must have paid their membership dues

of the Upper Pinellas Amateur Radio Club as of January 1 each year. So long as their dues have not been paid in any given calendar year they do not have board member privileges/duties regardless of whether they were elected at the annual membership meeting in November. All Directors must hold a valid Amateur Radio License.

#### **Section 3. Powers**

Subject to the provisions of the laws of this state and any limitations in the articles of incorporation and these bylaws relating to action required or permitted to be taken or approved by the members, if any, of this corporation, the activities and affairs of this corporation shall be conducted and all corporate powers shall be exercised by or under the direction of the board of directors.

#### **Section 4. Duties**

It shall be the duty of the directors to:

- a. Perform any and all duties imposed on them collectively or individually by law, by the articles of incorporation, or by these bylaws;
- b. Appoint and remove, employ and discharge, and, except as otherwise provided in these bylaws, prescribe the duties of all officers, agents, and employees of the corporation;
- c. Supervise all officers, agents, and employees of the corporation to assure that their duties are performed properly;
- d. Meet at such times and places as required by these bylaws;
- e. Register their addresses with the secretary of the corporation, and notices of meetings mailed or telegraphed to them at such addresses shall be valid notices thereof.
- f. Four of the directors will serve as the officers of the corporation as noted in Article 4.

#### Section 5. Term of Office

Each director shall hold office for a period of one (1) year beginning on January 1<sup>st</sup>. Each director may hold the same office for two (2) consecutive terms and no longer. After which time a director may hold a different office and after serving in a different office for a single term is free to hold a previously held office. There are no limits on the total number of terms a director may serve on the board. No director may hold more than one (1) director position.

#### **Section 6. Compensation**

Directors shall serve without compensation.

#### Section 7. Reimbursement

Directors shall be allowed reasonable advancement or reimbursement of expenses incurred in the performance of their duties. Any payments to directors shall be approved in advance in accordance with this corporation's conflict of interest policy, as set forth in Article 9 of these bylaws.

#### **Section 8. Place of Board Meetings**

The meeting place and time will be determined by the President (or as determined by a majority vote of the board) and the directors will be notified no later than one (1) week prior to the meeting.

#### **Section 9. Regular Board Meetings**

Regular meetings of directors shall be held each quarter (i.e. January, April, July, and October). The membership will be notified no later than one (1) week prior to the meeting. Members may attend board meetings to observe but may not speak or vote.

#### **Section 10. Special Board Meetings**

Special meetings of the board of directors may be called by the chairperson of the board, the president, the vice president, the secretary, by any two directors, or, if different, by the persons specifically authorized under the laws of this state to call special meetings of the board. Such meetings shall be held at the principal office of the corporation or, if different, at the place designated by the person or persons calling the special meeting. Members may attend special board meetings to observe but may not speak or vote.

#### **Section 11. Notice of Board Meetings**

Unless otherwise provided by the articles of incorporation, these bylaws, or provisions of law, the following provisions shall govern the giving of notice for meetings of the board of directors:

- **a. Regular Board Meetings.** No notice need be given of any regular meeting of the board of directors except as noted in Article 3, Section 9.
- **b. Special Board Meetings.** At least one (1) week prior notice shall be given by the secretary of the corporation to each director of each special meeting of the board. Such notice may be oral or written, may be given personally, by first class mail, by telephone or by facsimile machine, or by email or SMS text, and shall state the

place, date, and time of the meeting and the matters proposed to be acted upon at the meeting. In the case of facsimile notification, the director to be contacted shall acknowledge personal receipt of the facsimile notice by a return message or telephone call within twenty-four hours of the first facsimile transmission. Notice must also be provided to the members but this notice may be accomplished electronically via email, SMS text, electronic forums, and any other current electronic formats. An acknowledgement of receipt is not required from members.

**c.** Waiver of Notice. Whenever any notice of a meeting is required to be given to any director of this corporation under provisions of the articles of incorporation, these bylaws, or the law of this state, a waiver of notice in writing signed by the director, whether before or after the time of the meeting, shall be equivalent to the giving of such notice.

#### Section 12. Quorum for Board Meetings

A quorum shall consist of three (3) of the members of the board of directors.

Except as otherwise provided under the articles of incorporation, these bylaws, or provisions of law, no business shall be considered by the board at any meeting at which the required quorum is not present, and the only motion which the chair shall entertain at such meeting is a motion to adjourn.

#### Section 13. Majority Action as Board Action

Every act or decision done or made by a majority of the directors present at a meeting duly held at which a quorum is present is the act of the board of directors, unless the articles of incorporation, these bylaws, or provisions of law require a greater percentage or different voting rules for approval of a matter by the board.

#### **Section 14. Conduct of Board Meetings**

Meetings of the board of directors shall be presided over by the president of the corporation, or in his or her absence, by the vice president of the corporation, or in the absence of each of these persons, by a chairperson chosen by a majority of the directors present at the meeting. The secretary of the corporation shall act as secretary of all meetings of the board, provided that, in his or her absence, the presiding officer shall appoint another person to act as secretary of the meeting.

Meetings shall be governed by Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised (RRONR) (most current edition), insofar as such rules are not inconsistent with or in conflict with the articles of incorporation, these bylaws, or with provisions of law.

#### Section 15. Vacancies

Vacancies on the board of directors shall exist (1) on the death, resignation, or removal of any director, and (2) whenever the number of authorized directors is increased.

Any director may resign effective upon giving written notice to the chairperson of the board, the president, the secretary, or the board of directors, unless the notice specifies a later time for the effectiveness of such resignation. No director may resign if the corporation would then be left without a duly elected director or directors in charge of its affairs, except upon notice to the Office of the Attorney General or other appropriate agency of this state.

Directors may be removed from office for cause, upon written petition of six (6) or more members presented to the President or Vice President. After investigation, the petition will be presented to the membership at the next regular meeting of the club and voted on by the membership. Removal of a director/officer requires a three-quarters majority of a quorum as described in Article 13.

Unless otherwise prohibited by the articles of incorporation, these bylaws, or provisions of law, vacancies on the board may be filled by approval of the board of directors. If the number of directors then in office is less than a quorum, a vacancy on the board may be filled by approval of a majority of the directors then in office or by a sole remaining director. A person elected to fill a vacancy on the board shall hold office until the next election of the board of directors or until his or her death, resignation, or removal from office.

#### **Section 16. Non-liability of Directors**

The directors shall not be personally liable for the debts, liabilities, or other obligations of the corporation.

#### Section 17. Indemnification by Corporation of Directors and Officers

The directors and officers of the corporation shall be indemnified by the corporation to the fullest extent permissible under the laws of this state.

#### Section 18. Insurance for Corporate Agents

Except as may be otherwise provided under provisions of law, the board of directors may adopt a resolution authorizing the purchase and maintenance of insurance on behalf of any agent of the corporation (including a director, officer, employee, or other agent of the corporation) against liabilities asserted against or incurred by the agent in such capacity or arising out of the agent's status as such, whether or not the corporation would have the power to indemnify the agent against such liability under the articles of incorporation, these bylaws, or provisions of law.

#### Section 19. Elections of directors

Three (3) months prior to the annual membership meeting in November, the President will form a nominating committee of at least three members. The nominating committee will present a slate of qualified members to serve as President/director, Vice President/director, Secretary/director, Treasurer/director, and member-at-large/director the month prior to the general meeting. If an election is contested, separate votes will be held beginning with the President/director, followed by the Vice President/director, Secretary/director, Treasurer/director, then the member-at-large director.

# Article 4 Officers

#### Section 1. Designation of Officers

The officers of the corporation shall be a president, a vice president, a secretary, and a treasurer. Officers will serve simultaneously as directors of the corporation. The corporation may also have additional, non-voting members such as a chairperson of the board, one or more vice presidents, assistant secretaries, assistant treasurers, and other such officers with such titles as may be determined from time to time by the board of directors.

#### **Section 2. Qualifications**

Any person who is a member in good standing of the Upper Pinellas Amateur Radio Club, Inc. and a director may serve as officer of this corporation. All Officers must hold a valid Amateur Radio License.

#### Section 3. Election and Term of Office

Officers shall be elected at the same time as directors and each officer shall hold office until he or she resigns or is removed or is otherwise disqualified to serve, or until his or her successor shall be elected and qualified, whichever occurs first. Officers shall be subject to term limits in Article 3 Section 5.

#### Section 4. Removal and Resignation

Any officer may resign at any time by giving written notice to the board of directors or to the president or secretary of the corporation. Any such resignation shall take effect at the date of receipt of such notice or at any later date specified therein, and, unless otherwise specified therein, the acceptance of such resignation shall not be necessary to make it effective. The above provisions of this section shall be superseded by any conflicting

terms of a contract which has been approved or ratified by the board of directors relating to the employment of any officer of the corporation.

#### Section 5. Vacancies

Any vacancy caused by the death, resignation, removal, disqualification, or otherwise, of any officer shall be filled by the board of directors. In the event of a vacancy in any office other than that of president, such vacancy may be filled temporarily by appointment by the president until such time as the board shall fill the vacancy. Vacancies occurring in offices of officers appointed at the discretion of the board may or may not be filled as the board shall determine.

#### Section 6. Duties of President

The president shall be the chief executive officer of the corporation and shall, subject to the control of the board of directors, supervise and control the affairs of the corporation and the activities of the officers. He or she shall perform all duties incident to his or her office and such other duties as may be required by law, by the articles of incorporation, or by these bylaws, or which may be prescribed from time to time by the board of directors. Unless another person is specifically appointed as chairperson of the board of directors, the president shall preside at all meetings of the board of directors and, if this corporation has members, at all meetings of the members. Except as otherwise expressly provided by law, by the articles of incorporation, or by these bylaws, he or she shall, in the name of the corporation, execute such deeds, mortgages, bonds, contracts, checks, or other instruments which may from time to time be authorized by the board of directors. The president is also an ad-hoc member of all standing or ad-hoc committees.

#### Section 7. Duties of Vice President

In the absence of the president, or in the event of his or her inability or refusal to act, the vice president shall perform all the duties of the president, and when so acting shall have all the powers of, and be subject to all the restrictions on, the president for the remainder of the term. The vice president shall have other powers and perform such other duties as may be prescribed by law, by the articles of incorporation, or by these bylaws, or as may be prescribed by the board of directors.

#### **Section 8. Duties of Secretary**

The secretary shall:

Certify and keep at the principal office of the corporation the original, or a copy, of these bylaws as amended or otherwise altered to date.

Keep at the principal office of the corporation or at such other place as the board may determine, a book of minutes of all meetings of the directors, and, if applicable, meetings

of committees of directors and of members, recording therein the time and place of holding, whether regular or special, how called, how notice thereof was given, the names of those present or represented at the meeting, and the proceedings thereof.

Ensure that the minutes of meetings of the corporation, any written consents approving action taken without a meeting, and any supporting documents pertaining to meetings, minutes, and consents shall be contemporaneously recorded in the corporate records of this corporation. "Contemporaneously" in this context means that the minutes, consents, and supporting documents shall be recorded in the records of this corporation by the later of (1) the next meeting of the board, committee, membership, or other body for which the minutes, consents, or supporting documents are being recorded, or (2) sixty (60) days after the date of the meeting or written consent.

To see that all notices are duly given in accordance with the provisions of these bylaws or as required by law.

Be custodian of the records and of the seal of the corporation and affix the seal, as authorized by law or the provisions of these bylaws, to duly executed documents of the corporation.

Keep at the principal office of the corporation a membership book containing the name and address of each and any members, and, in the case where any membership has been terminated, he or she shall record such fact in the membership book together with the date on which such membership ceased.

Exhibit at all reasonable times to any director of the corporation, or to his or her agent or attorney, on request therefor, the bylaws, the membership book, and the minutes of the proceedings of the directors of the corporation.

In general, perform all duties incident to the office of secretary and such other duties as may be required by law, by the articles of incorporation, or by these bylaws, or which may be assigned to him or her from time to time by the board of directors.

#### **Section 9. Duties of Treasurer**

The treasurer shall:

Have charge and custody of, and be responsible for, all funds and securities of the corporation, and deposit all such funds in the name of the corporation in such banks, trust companies, or other depositories as shall be selected by the board of directors.

Receive, and give receipt for, monies due and payable to the corporation from any source whatsoever.

Disburse, or cause to be disbursed, the funds of the corporation as may be directed by the board of directors, taking proper vouchers for such disbursements.

Keep and maintain adequate and correct accounts of the corporation's properties and business transactions, including accounts of its assets, liabilities, receipts, disbursements, gains, and losses.

Exhibit at all reasonable times the books of account and financial records to any director of the corporation, or to his or her agent or attorney, on request therefor.

Render to the president and directors, whenever requested, an account of any or all of his or her transactions as treasurer and of the financial condition of the corporation.

Prepare, or cause to be prepared, and certify, or cause to be certified, the financial statements to be included in any required reports.

In general, perform all duties incident to the office of treasurer and such other duties as may be required by law, by the articles of incorporation of the corporation, or by these bylaws, or which may be assigned to him or her from time to time by the board of directors.

*Provide a current copy of all financial statements* to any member of the public requesting it under current IRS 501(C)3 laws or regulations.

#### Section 10. Compensation and Reimbursement

The officers shall receive no compensation for their duties. Article 3, Section 7 exceptions shall apply to reimbursement.

## Article 5 Committees

#### **Section 1. Executive Committee**

The board of directors shall not form an executive committee.

#### **Section 2. Other Committees**

The corporation shall have such other committees as may from time to time be designated by resolution of the board of directors. These committees may consist of persons who are not also members of the board and shall act in an advisory capacity to the board.

#### **Section 3. Meetings and Action of Committees**

Meetings and action of committees shall be governed by, noticed, held, and taken in accordance with the provisions of these bylaws concerning meetings of the board of directors, with such changes in the context of such bylaw provisions as are necessary to substitute the committee and its members for the board of directors and its members, except that the time for regular and special meetings of committees may be fixed by resolution of the board of directors or by the committee. The board of directors may also adopt rules and regulations pertaining to the conduct of meetings of committees to the

extent that such rules and regulations are not inconsistent with the provisions of these bylaws.

# Article 6 Execution of Instruments, Deposits, and Funds

#### **Section 1. Execution of Instruments**

The board of directors, except as otherwise provided in these bylaws, may by resolution authorize any officer or agent of the corporation to enter into any contract or execute and deliver any instrument in the name of and on behalf of the corporation, and such authority may be general or confined to specific instances. Unless so authorized, no officer, agent, or employee shall have any power or authority to bind the corporation by any contract or engagement or to pledge its credit or to render it liable monetarily for any purpose or in any amount.

#### Section 2. Checks and Notes

Except as otherwise specifically determined by resolution of the board of directors, or as otherwise required by law, checks, drafts, promissory notes, orders for the payment of money, and other evidence of indebtedness of the corporation shall be signed by the treasurer and countersigned by the president of the corporation.

#### **Section 3. Deposits**

All funds of the corporation shall be deposited from time to time to the credit of the corporation in such banks, trust companies, or other depositories as the board of directors may select.

#### **Section 4. Gifts**

The board of directors may accept on behalf of the corporation any contribution, gift, bequest, or devise for the nonprofit purposes of this corporation.

## Article 7 Corporate Records, Reports, and Seal

#### **Section 1. Maintenance of Corporate Records**

a. The secretary shall maintain and preserve minutes of all meetings of directors, committees of the board, and, if this corporation has members, of all meetings of

- members, indicating the time and place of holding such meetings, whether regular or special, how called, the notice given, and the names of those present and the proceedings thereof;
- b. The treasurer shall maintain and preserve adequate and correct books and records of account, including accounts of its properties and business transactions and accounts of its assets, liabilities, receipts, disbursements, gains, and losses;
- c. The secretary shall maintain a record of its members, if any, indicating their names and addresses and, if applicable, the class of membership held by each member and the termination date of any membership;
- d. The secretary shall maintain s copy of the corporation's articles of incorporation and bylaws as amended to date.
- e. The secretary and treasurer shall present these documents for inspection by any member at a monthly or annual meeting with one (1) weeks' notice of request for inspection by any member in good standing (e.g. current dues).

#### Section 2. Corporate Seal

The board of directors may adopt, use, and at will alter, a corporate seal. Such seal shall be kept at the principal office of the corporation. Failure to affix the seal to corporate instruments, however, shall not affect the validity of any such instrument.

#### Section 3. Directors' Inspection Rights

Every director shall have the absolute right at any reasonable time to inspect and copy all books, records, and documents of every kind and to inspect the physical properties of the corporation, and shall have such other rights to inspect the books, records, and properties of this corporation as may be required under the articles of incorporation, other provisions of these bylaws, and provisions of law.

#### **Section 4. Members' Inspection Rights**

If this corporation has any members, then each and every member shall have the following inspection rights, for a purpose reasonably related to such person's interest as a member:

- a. To inspect and copy the record of all members' names, addresses, and voting rights, at reasonable times, upon written demand on the secretary of the corporation, which demand shall state the purpose for which the inspection rights are requested.
- b. To obtain from the secretary of the corporation, upon written demand on, and payment of a reasonable charge to, the secretary of the corporation, a list of the names, addresses, and voting rights of those members entitled to vote for the election of directors as of the most recent record date for which the list has been

compiled or as of the date specified by the member subsequent to the date of demand. The demand shall state the purpose for which the list is requested. The membership list shall be made available within a reasonable time after the demand is received by the secretary of the corporation or after the date specified therein as of which the list is to be compiled.

c. To inspect at any reasonable time the books, records, or minutes of proceedings of the members or of the board or committees of the board, upon written demand on the secretary of the corporation by the member as noted in Article 7 Section 1, for a purpose reasonably related to such person's interests as a member.

Members shall have such other rights to inspect the books, records, and properties of this corporation as may be required under the articles of incorporation, other provisions of these bylaws, and provisions of law.

#### Section 5. Right to Copy and Make Extracts

Any inspection under the provisions of this article may be made in person or by agent or attorney and the right to inspection shall include the right to copy and make extracts.

#### Section 6. Periodic Report

The board shall cause any annual or periodic report required under law to be prepared and delivered to an office of this state or to the members, if any, of this corporation, to be so prepared and delivered within the time limits set by law.

# Article 8 IRC 501(c)(3) Tax Exemption Provisions

#### **Section 1. Limitations on Activities**

No substantial part of the activities of this corporation shall be the carrying on of propaganda, or otherwise attempting to influence legislation (except as otherwise provided by Section 501(h) of the Internal Revenue Code), and this corporation shall not participate in, or intervene in (including the publishing or distribution of statements), any political campaign on behalf of, or in opposition to, any candidate for public office.

Notwithstanding any other provisions of these bylaws, this corporation shall not carry on any activities not permitted to be carried on (a) by a corporation exempt from federal income tax under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or (b) by a corporation, contributions to which are deductible under Section 170(c)(2) of the Internal Revenue Code.

#### Section 2. Prohibition Against Private Inurement

No part of the net earnings of this corporation shall inure to the benefit of, or be distributable to, its members, directors or trustees, officers, or other private persons, except that the corporation shall be authorized and empowered to pay reasonable compensation for services rendered and to make payments and distributions in furtherance of the purposes of this corporation.

#### Section 3. Distribution of Assets

Upon the dissolution of this corporation, its assets remaining after payment, or provision for payment, of all debts and liabilities of this corporation, shall be distributed for one or more exempt purposes within the meaning of Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code or shall be distributed to the federal government, or to a state or local government, for a public purpose. Such distribution shall be made in accordance with all applicable provisions of the laws of this state.

#### **Section 4. Private Foundation Requirements and Restrictions**

In any taxable year in which this corporation is a private foundation as described in Section 509(a) of the Internal Revenue Code, the corporation (1) shall distribute its income for said period at such time and manner as not to subject it to tax under Section 4942 of the Internal Revenue Code; (2) shall not engage in any act of self-dealing as defined in Section 4941(d) of the Internal Revenue Code; (3) shall not retain any excess business holdings as defined in Section 4943(c) of the Internal Revenue Code; (4) shall not make any investments in such manner as to subject the corporation to tax under Section 4944 of the Internal Revenue Code; and (5) shall not make any taxable expenditures as defined in Section 4945(d) of the Internal Revenue Code.

# Article 9 Conflict of Interest and Compensation Approval Policies

#### Section 1. Purpose of Conflict of Interest Policy

The purpose of this conflict of interest policy is to protect this tax-exempt corporation's interest when it is contemplating entering into a transaction or arrangement that might benefit the private interest of an officer or director of the corporation or any "disqualified person" as defined in Section 4958(f)(1) of the Internal Revenue Code and as amplified by Section 53.4958-3 of the IRS Regulations and which might result in a possible "excess benefit transaction" as defined in Section 4958(c)(1)(A) of the Internal Revenue Code and as amplified by Section 53.4958 of the IRS Regulations. This policy is intended to

supplement but not replace any applicable state and federal laws governing conflict of interest applicable to nonprofit and charitable organizations.

#### **Section 2. Definitions**

- **a. Interested Person.** Any director, principal officer, member of a committee with governing board delegated powers, or any other person who is a "disqualified person" as defined in Section 4958(f)(1) of the Internal Revenue Code and as amplified by Section 53.4958-3 of the IRS Regulations, who has a direct or indirect financial interest, as defined below, is an interested person.
- **b. Financial Interest.** A person has a financial interest if the person has, directly or indirectly, through business, investment, or family:
  - 1. An ownership or investment interest in any entity with which the corporation has a transaction or arrangement;
  - 2. A compensation arrangement with the corporation or with any entity or individual with which the corporation has a transaction or arrangement; or
  - 3. A potential ownership or investment interest in, or compensation arrangement with, any entity or individual with which the corporation is negotiating a transaction or arrangement.

Compensation includes direct and indirect remuneration as well as gifts or favors that are not insubstantial.

A financial interest is not necessarily a conflict of interest. Under Section 3, paragraph B, a person who has a financial interest may have a conflict of interest only if the appropriate governing board or committee decides that a conflict of interest exists.

#### **Section 3. Conflict of Interest Avoidance Procedures**

- **a. Duty to Disclose.** In connection with any actual or possible conflict of interest, an interested person must disclose the existence of the financial interest and be given the opportunity to disclose all material facts to the directors and members of committees with governing board delegated powers considering the proposed transaction or arrangement.
- **b. Determining Whether a Conflict of Interest Exists.** After disclosure of the financial interest and all material facts, and after any discussion with the interested person, he/she shall leave the governing board or committee meeting while the determination of a conflict of interest is discussed and voted upon. The remaining board or committee members shall decide if a conflict of interest exists.
- **c. Procedures for Addressing the Conflict of Interest.** An interested person may make a presentation at the governing board or committee meeting, but after the

presentation, he/she shall leave the meeting during the discussion of, and the vote on, the transaction or arrangement involving the possible conflict of interest.

The chairperson of the governing board or committee shall, if appropriate, appoint a disinterested person or committee to investigate alternatives to the proposed transaction or arrangement.

After exercising due diligence, the governing board or committee shall determine whether the corporation can obtain with reasonable efforts a more advantageous transaction or arrangement from a person or entity that would not give rise to a conflict of interest.

If a more advantageous transaction or arrangement is not reasonably possible under circumstances not producing a conflict of interest, the governing board or committee shall determine by a majority vote of the disinterested directors whether the transaction or arrangement is in the corporation's best interest, for its own benefit, and whether it is fair and reasonable. In conformity with the above determination, it shall make its decision as to whether to enter into the transaction or arrangement.

**d.** Violations of the Conflicts of Interest Policy. If the governing board or committee has reasonable cause to believe a member has failed to disclose actual or possible conflicts of interest, it shall inform the member of the basis for such belief and afford the member an opportunity to explain the alleged failure to disclose.

If, after hearing the member's response and after making further investigation as warranted by the circumstances, the governing board or committee determines the member has failed to disclose an actual or possible conflict of interest, it shall take appropriate disciplinary and corrective action.

#### Section 4. Records of Board and Board Committee Proceedings

The minutes of meetings of the governing board and all committees with board delegated powers shall contain:

- a. The names of the persons who disclosed or otherwise were found to have a financial interest in connection with an actual or possible conflict of interest, the nature of the financial interest, any action taken to determine whether a conflict of interest was present, and the governing boards or committee's decision as to whether a conflict of interest in fact existed.
- b. The names of the persons who were present for discussions and votes relating to the transaction or arrangement, the content of the discussion, including any alternatives to the proposed transaction or arrangement, and a record of any votes taken in connection with the proceedings.

#### Section 5. Annual Statements

Each director, principal officer, and member of a committee with governing board delegated powers shall annually sign a statement which affirms such person:

- a. has received a copy of the conflicts of interest policy;
- b. has read and understands the policy;
- c. has agreed to comply with the policy; and
- d. understands the corporation is charitable and in order to maintain its federal tax exemption it must engage primarily in activities which accomplish one or more of its tax-exempt purposes.

#### Section 6. Periodic Reviews

To ensure the corporation operates in a manner consistent with charitable purposes and does not engage in activities that could jeopardize its tax-exempt status, periodic reviews shall be conducted. The periodic reviews shall, at a minimum, include the following subjects:

a. Whether partnerships, joint ventures, and arrangements with management organizations conform to the corporation's written policies, are properly recorded, reflect reasonable investment or payments for goods and services, further charitable purposes, and do not result in inurement, impermissible private benefit, or in an excess benefit transaction.

#### **Section 7. Use of Outside Experts**

When conducting the periodic reviews as provided for in Section 7, the corporation may, but need not, use outside advisors. If outside experts are used, their use shall not relieve the governing board of its responsibility for ensuring periodic reviews are conducted.

## Article 10 Amendment of Bylaws

#### Section 1. Amendment

Subject to the power of the members, if any, of this corporation to adopt, amend, or repeal the bylaws of this corporation and except as may otherwise be specified under provisions of law, these bylaws, or any of them, may be altered, amended, or repealed and new bylaws adopted by approval of a two/thirds vote of the members. Notice of proposed by law changes must be published one (1) month prior to the vote at a member's meeting and must include the proposed changes. Publication must include all common electronic distribution means to all current members.

#### Section 2. Dissolution

If the bylaws are repealed and not amended or replaced then the corporation will dissolve. The current board members and directors will ensure the delivery of all applicable notices, documents, forms and payments to the State and Internal Revenue Service. They will also distribute the corporation's assets as required by law.

Furthermore, corporate dissolution may be accomplished directly by a 2/3 majority vote of the members and the officers' and directors' dissolution duties remain the same.

# Article 11 Construction and Terms

If there is any conflict between the provisions of these bylaws and the articles of incorporation of this corporation, the provisions of the articles of incorporation shall govern.

Should any of the provisions or portions of these bylaws be held unenforceable or invalid for any reason, the remaining provisions and portions of these bylaws shall be unaffected by such holding.

All references in these bylaws to the articles of incorporation shall be to the articles of incorporation, articles of organization, certificate of incorporation, organizational charter, corporate charter, or other founding document of this corporation filed with an office of this state and used to establish the legal existence of this corporation.

All references in these bylaws to a section or sections of the Internal Revenue Code shall be to such sections of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 as amended from time to time, or to corresponding provisions of any future federal tax code.

## Article 12 Members

#### Section 1. Determination and Rights of Members

The corporation shall have only one class of members. No member shall hold more than one membership in the corporation. Except as expressly provided in or authorized by the articles of incorporation, the bylaws of this corporation, or provisions of law, all memberships shall have the same rights, privileges, restrictions, and conditions.

#### **Section 2. Qualifications of Members**

The qualifications for membership in this corporation are as follows: Members may be any person with an interest in amateur radio. An Amateur Radio License is not required. Membership may not be denied because of race, creed, color, religion, gender, sexual orientation, political affiliation, marital status, or any other reason that would be biased, prejudicial, or in violation of state or federal law.

#### **Section 3. Admission of Members**

Applicants shall be admitted to membership upon completion of a membership application and majority vote of the board of directors. This vote of acceptance may be accomplished via email or other commonly used electronic means available and used by all board members.

#### **Section 4. Fees and Dues**

- (a) The following fee shall be charged for making application for membership in the corporation: none, at the corporation's inception. The members may vote, by majority, to institute an application fee.
- (b) The annual dues payable to the corporation by members shall be specified by the board (to meet anticipated club activity budgetary requirements) and payable no later than January 1.
- (c) The corporation, by majority vote of those present at any regular meeting, may levy upon the general membership such assessments as shall be deemed necessary for the business of the organization. Non-payment of such assessments shall be cause for expulsion from the club within the discretion of the membership.

#### Section 5. Number of Members

There is no limit on the number of members the corporation may admit.

#### Section 6. Membership Roster

The corporation shall keep a membership book containing the name and address of each member. Termination of the membership of any member shall be recorded in the book, together with the date of termination of such membership. Such roster shall be kept by the Treasurer and be available to any member on request.

#### Section 7. Non-liability of Members

A member of this corporation is not, as such, personally liable for the debts, liabilities, or obligations of the corporation.

#### Section 8. Non-transferability of Memberships

No member may transfer a membership or any right arising therefrom. All rights of membership cease upon the member's death.

#### Section 9. Termination of Membership

The membership of a member shall terminate upon the occurrence of any of the following events:

- 1. Upon his or her notice of such termination delivered to the president or secretary of the corporation personally or by mail, such membership to terminate upon the date of delivery of the notice or date of deposit in the mail.
- 2. If this corporation has provided for the payment of dues by members, upon a failure to renew his or her membership by paying dues on or before their due date, such termination to be effective thirty (30) days after a written notification of delinquency is given personally, mailed, or emailed to such member by the Treasurer of the corporation.
- 3. After providing the member with reasonable written notice and an opportunity to be heard either orally or in writing, upon a determination by the board of directors that the member has engaged in conduct materially and seriously prejudicial to the interests or purposes of the corporation.

All rights of a member in the corporation shall cease on termination of membership as herein provided.

## Article 13 Meetings of Members

#### **Section 1. Place of Membership Meetings**

Meetings of members shall be held at such other place or places as may be designated from time to time by resolution of the board of directors.

#### **Section 2. Regular Membership Meetings**

Regular meetings of the members shall be held monthly on a date and time as determined by a 2/3 vote of the membership, The board may adjust the meetings from time to time to accommodate holidays.

An annual regular meeting of members shall be at the regular meeting in November, for the purpose of electing directors and transacting other business as may come before the meeting. The candidates receiving the highest number of votes up to the number of directors to be elected shall be elected. Each voting member shall cast one vote, with voting being governed by RRONR. The annual meeting of members for the purpose of electing directors shall be deemed a regular meeting.

If the day fixed for a regular meeting falls on a legal holiday, such meeting shall be held at the same hour and place on the next Saturday typical meeting day of the week (e.g. Saturday to Saturday) or at a time and place determined by the board. The board may, with at least one (1) week notice to the members, change the date of the meeting to accommodate attendance due to nearby major holidays (e.g. Memorial Day, Independence Day, etc.).

#### **Section 3. Special Meetings of Membership**

Special meetings of the membership shall be called by the board of directors, the chairperson of the board, or the president of the corporation, or, if different, by the persons specifically authorized under the laws of this state to call special meetings of the members.

Notice: Unless otherwise provided by the articles of incorporation, these bylaws, or provisions of law, notice stating the place, day, and hour of the meeting and, in the case of a special meeting, the purpose or purposes for which the meeting is called, shall be delivered not less than seven (7) nor more than thirty (30) days before the date of the meeting, either personally or by mail or by email, or at the direction of the president, or the secretary, or the persons calling the meeting, to each member entitled to vote at such meeting. If mailed, such notice shall be deemed to be delivered when deposited in the United States mail addressed to the member at his or her address as it appears on the records of the corporation, with postage prepaid. Personal notification includes notification by telephone or by facsimile machine, provided however, in the case of facsimile notification, the member to be contacted shall acknowledge personal receipt of the facsimile notice by a return message or telephone call within twenty-four hours of the first facsimile transmission.

The notice of any meeting of members at which directors are to be elected shall also state the names of all those who are nominees or candidates for election to the board at the time notice is given.

Whenever any notice of a meeting is required to be given to any member of this corporation under provisions of the articles of incorporation, these bylaws, or the law of this state, a waiver of notice in writing signed by the member, whether before or after the time of the meeting, shall be equivalent to the giving of such notice.

#### **Section 5. Quorum for Membership Meetings**

A quorum shall consist of one third of the voting members of the corporation.

Except as otherwise provided under the articles of incorporation, these bylaws, or provisions of law, no business shall be considered by the members at any meeting at

which the required quorum is not present, and the only motion which the chair shall entertain at such meeting is a motion to adjourn.

#### Section 6. Majority Action as Membership Action

Every act or decision done or made by a majority of voting members present in person or by proxy at a duly held meeting at which a quorum is present is the act of the members, unless the articles of incorporation, these bylaws, or provisions of law require a greater number.

#### **Section 7. Voting Rights**

Each member is entitled to one vote on each matter submitted to a vote by the members. Voting at duly held meetings shall be by voice vote. Election of directors, however, shall be by written ballot.

These bylaws authorize voting via proxy. The absent member may make his/her wishes known to the secretary in writing (physical or electronic) and that vote will count with equal standing as any other member's vote.

#### **Section 8. Action by Written Ballot**

Except as otherwise provided under the articles of incorporation, these bylaws, or provisions of law, any action which may be taken at any regular or special meeting of members may be taken without a meeting if the corporation distributes a written ballot to each member entitled to vote on the matter. The ballot shall:

- 1. set forth the proposed action;
- 2. provide an opportunity to specify approval or disapproval of each proposal;
- 3. indicate the number of responses needed to meet the quorum requirement and, except for ballots soliciting votes for the election of directors, state the percentage of approvals necessary to pass the measure submitted;
- 4. shall specify the date by which the ballot must be received by the corporation in order to be counted. The date set shall afford members a reasonable time within which to return the ballots to the corporation.
- 5. Written ballots must have the member's legal name legibly printed or typed and be signed.

Ballots shall be mailed or delivered in the manner required for giving notice of membership meetings as specified in these bylaws. Ballots may be emailed or otherwise electronically delivered. After the member completes the ballot he must return it to the Secretary (or other designated officer) either by mail or electronically.

Approval of action by written ballot shall be valid only when the number of votes cast by ballot within the time period specified equals or exceeds the quorum required to be present at a meeting authorizing the action, and the number of approvals equals or exceeds the number of votes that would be required to approve the action at a meeting at which the total number of votes cast was the same as the number of votes cast by ballot.

Directors may be elected by written ballot. Such ballots for the election of directors shall list the persons nominated at the time the ballots are mailed or delivered.

#### **Section 9. Conduct of Meetings**

Meetings of members shall be presided over by the chairperson of the board, or, if there is no chairperson, or in his or her absence, by the president of the corporation or, in his or her absence, by the vice president of the corporation or, in the absence of all of these persons, by a chairperson chosen by a majority of the voting members present at the meeting. The secretary of the corporation shall act as secretary of all meetings of members, provided that, in his or her absence, the presiding officer shall appoint another person to act as secretary of the meeting.

#### **Section 10. Director Attendance at Meetings**

Directors that miss three (3) consecutive meetings will automatically be removed unless there are extenuating circumstances that are deemed reasonable by the remainder of the officers.

Meetings shall be governed by Robert's Rules of Order, as such rules may be revised from time to time, insofar as such rules are not inconsistent with or in conflict with the articles of incorporation, these bylaws, or with provisions of law.

# Article 14 Equipment Loans and Donations

Any equipment offered for club use by a member will be accepted only with the following stipulations:

#### **Section 1. Loans**

The equipment is owned by the member. The club assumes no liability for damage arising out of use of the equipment unless through an act of negligence on the part of a duly authorized member. The club will exercise due care to maintain the equipment in working order according to good engineer practice (such as ensuring lightning protection, etc.).

The member providing equipment to use must accept the terms as follows:

If the member desires the return of said equipment he or she must give a ninety-day notice. The club has the right of first refusal to purchase loaned equipment at the average of three quotes of fair-market value. Sites such as QTH.COM, eBay and QRZ.com may be used to establish the current market value of the item. The intent is to avoid the club being subject to the "take my ball and go home" whim of a club member. For example, if a club member offers the use of a repeater, they cannot remove the repeater without allowing the club to purchase the equipment.

The club is under no obligation to purchase the equipment.

The club is not liable for any decrease in market value that might have occurred while in club service.

Once loaned, the equipment is subject of use as determined by the board of directors and/or membership and not the equipment owner. The equipment owner is free to express an opinion of use as any other member and to express any concerns about how the equipment is used.

#### **Section 2. Donations**

Members are encouraged to consider carefully the offer of equipment to use by the club, as there are important stipulations.

In the event, a member or other person, chooses to donate equipment to the club, then the equipment is assumed free and clear and the club becomes the sole custodian of the equipment and its associated maintenance in perpetuity. The member relinquishes all rights to the equipment. As per Article VIII, Section 1 of the constitution, upon the dissolution of the club, the asset would be donated to a not-for-profit group as agreed by the members. The equipment does not revert back to the donating party.

# Article 15 Club Call Sign

#### Section 1. Trustee

The club may elect to apply for a club call sign as provided by FCC rules Part 97. The President shall assign trusteeship of the club call sign. The trustee shall:

- 1. Be a member of the club in good standing
- 2. Meet FCC requirements
- 3. Not had his or her amateur radio license revoked or sanctioned at any time

#### ADOPTION OF BYLAWS

We, the undersigned, are all of the initial directors or incorporators of this corporation, and we consent to, and hereby do, adopt the foregoing bylaws, consisting of 24 preceding pages, as the bylaws of this corporation.

Dated: August 31, 2020

Plan l. Sheitman

Alan I. Streitman, President

Jason A. Esterline, Vice President

Stephen M. Foy, Secretary

Jeffrey J. deGrasse, Treasurer

Glenn P. Panazzolo, Member at Large