

By-Laws

Beaver Creek Amateur Radio Association

1. Constitution and By-Laws

It shall be the duty of the Association Secretary to keep the Constitution and By-Laws of the Association and have the same with him/her at every meeting. He/she shall note all authorized amendments, changes and additions on the constitution and shall permit it to be consulted by members upon request.

2. Membership

HAM membership is open to all licensed Radio Amateurs and includes all Association privileges, as well as rights to hold an Association office and vote in Association business.

GMRS membership is open to any individual holding a General Mobile Radio Service (GMRS) license in his/her name. GMRS membership includes all Association privileges and the right to vote in Association business, but does NOT include the right to hold office.

Associate membership is open to those actively studying, or enrolled in a class leading to an Amateur Radio license and all others interested in radio communications and short wave listening (SWL). Associate membership includes all Association privileges, except the right to vote, or hold office.

A GMRS and Associate member shall become a HAM member upon successfully passing any amateur radio exam, resulting in the issuance of an amateur radio license.

A HAM membership shall be reduced to an associate membership if the member fails to renew his/her amateur radio license within 90 days after the expiration date, or to a GMRS membership if the individual holds a valid and unexpired GMRS license in his/her name.

A GMRS membership shall be reduced to an associate membership if the member fails to renew his/her GMRS license within 90 days after the expiration date.

Association privileges include participation in all Association activities. Holding office and voting is separate from the Association privileges and restricted to General and GMRS members, as specified above.

Applications for membership may be submitted at any time to the Association Secretary. If submitted to officers, or members other than the Secretary, the applications shall be immediately forwarded to the Secretary for processing.

Members may resign at any time in writing, submitted to the secretary.

Inactive members are not authorized to hold Association office, or vote.

Membership shall be terminated for blatant and/or repeated violation of FCC rules and regulations, member is convicted of a felony, or sent to prison, the FCC revokes members license, or denies renewal of members license.

Members may be terminated for any offensive behavior, including racist, sexist or inflammatory remarks, all of which shall not be permitted. Anyone behaving in an offensive way, or breaking the Association Equal Opportunities Policy (Article II of the Association Constitution) may be asked not to attend further meetings, or to resign from the group if an apology is not given, or the behavior is repeated. The individual concerned shall have the right to be heard by the Management Committee (formed by the Association President for this purpose), before a final decision is made.

3. Meetings

Regular meetings may be held every three months at designated times and places, or more often if necessary and as membership grows. Association business shall be discussed at regular meetings; to consist of Minuets of previous meeting, Financial report, Committee reports, Old business, New business, etc. Programs of interest may also be presented.

Special meetings may be called by the President for special circumstances, or upon the written request of any five Association members. Notices shall be sent to members concerning special meetings and the business to be transacted. Only such business as designated shall be transacted. Such notices shall be sent so that they arrive not less than 24 hours before the meeting.

Committee meetings may be called by the Association President, or Committee Chair person as often as necessary. A quorum shall consist of two thirds (2/3) of the committee members.

All questions that arise at any meeting will be discussed openly and the meeting will seek to find general agreement that everyone present can agree to.

If a consensus cannot be reached, a vote will be taken and a decision will be made by a simple majority of voting members present. If the number of votes cast on each side is equal, the chair of the meeting shall have an additional casting vote.

4. Dues, Fees and Assessments

In accordance with the provisions of the Constitution for the purpose of providing funds for expenses, the Association membership may vote and approve the addition, removal, increase or decrease of annual dues and assessments.

The following four, or five sentences [*between the brackets and in italics*] shall be added to the By-laws if/when dues, fees or assessments are approved by the Association membership.

[Annual dues of \$xx.00 per member for single membership and \$xx.00 for family membership is hereby assessed for HAM and GMRS memberships.

{The following sentence may be included if the Association agrees Associate dues are less: *Annual dues of \$xx.00 per member for single membership and \$xx.00 for family membership is hereby assessed for Associate membership*}

Membership dues are payable upon joining the Association and renewal is in December of each year. Dues for all new members are pro-rated to December of that year at \$xx.00 per month. Any member whose dues are not paid by 1 February of the following year, will be considered inactive and removed from the active membership roster. Inactive members shall not hold an Association office, serve on committees, or the Board of Directors and have no voting privileges.

Termination of membership by resignation, expulsion, or dissolution of the Association; shall not constitute a refund of dues paid.]

5. Elections

Elections, nominations and voting should be given careful consideration by all voting members.

Officer elections will be held during the annual meeting.

Officers will assume their elected office 1 January of the following year, or immediately if the annual meeting is held in January, or later.

Nomination Committee

The President shall appoint a nomination committee four (4) months prior to elections. This committee shall consist of three (3) members. The committee is charged with finding qualified candidates to run for office and shall present a ballot to the president at the last regular meeting of the year, at which time the President will entertain a motion for nominations and to accept the ballot. The final ballot will be published and made available to all Association members. The president shall dissolve the nomination committee immediately following the elections.

Voting

Election shall be by secret ballot if there are two or more candidates for any elective office. If there is only one candidate for an office, or each of the elective offices, the entire slate, or that office may be voted into office by a show of hands by the members present.

If the election is by secret ballot, immediately after voting, the ballots shall be counted openly by the nomination committee in front of the membership. Any candidate may request a recount of the paper ballots. The paper ballots shall be destroyed seven days following the election.

In the case of a tied vote, the President, or chair of the meeting shall have an additional casting vote. In the event the vote is for the President, or Chair of the meeting, the Secretary shall cast an additional vote. If the Secretary is involved, any other Association officer shall be directed to cast the additional vote. If all officers are involved, one of the committee members shall be directed to cast an additional vote. If all of the officers and committee members are involved, one of the associate members shall be directed to cast the additional vote. If no associate members are present, one of the members present shall be directed to cast the additional vote.

Members unable to attend the meeting, may vote by proxy. The proxy shall be in writing and revocable at the discretion of the member executing it.

Term limits

The length of the officer term shall be one year, with no term limits.

The Association, by majority vote of those authorized to vote and present at the annual meeting, may vote to change the officer term lengths and limits.

6. Committee's

Permanent and temporary committee's may be formed by the President as needed and for as long as needed, such as; program, publicity and others.

Permanent Committee's

Interference committee

This committee shall consist of a minimum of three (3) members and a maximum of five (5) members appointed by the Association President. The committee shall direct investigation, invite proper inquires, establish facts and testimony and report its results to the Association.

Technical Committee

This committee shall consist of a minimum of three (3) members and a maximum of five (5) members appointed by the Association President. The committee shall assist members with their technical issues and report it's activity to the Association.

Temporary Committees

Constitution and By-laws Committee

This committee shall consist of three (3) members, appointed by the Association President as needed. The committee duties consist of reviewing the Constitution and/or Bylaws and presenting suggested updates to the Association President. After their assigned duties are completed, the committee shall be dissolved.

Nomination Committee

As specified above under elections.

Management Committee

This committee shall consist of three (3) members, appointed by the Association President as needed. The committee shall conduct an investigation and determine if a member shall be expelled from the Association for violation of the Constitution Equal Opportunities Policy, or for other reasons. After their assigned duties are completed, the committee shall be dissolved.

7. Amateur Radio Emergency service – ARES ®

ARES® is a program of the American Radio Relay League – our Association will abide by the Rules and Regulations of the ARRL's Field Organization as they may be amended from time to time and by ARRL policies, rules, and guidelines contained in ARRL publications.”

8. Association Call sign

The Association call sign shall be used on any/all Association owned amateur radio repeaters and at all Association radio activities, eg Field day, contests, etc.

9. Special Event stations

The Association may set up and operate Special Event stations. The Association call sign may be used, unless an FCC assigned special event call sign is issued for the event.

10. Association Repeater

At the discretion of the membership, after coordinating with the proper coordination authority, the Association may set up and operate repeaters on amateur and GMRS frequencies.

11. Training and Volunteer Examination

The Association may vote to conduct amateur radio training classes and license exams in accordance with FCC rules and regulations.

In order to conduct Amateur Radio license examinations, examiners shall be an accredited Volunteer Examiner (VE) with the VE organization the Association is affiliated.

12. ADOPTION AND APPROVAL of Association By-laws

These By-laws were approved and adopted at the Inaugural General Meeting of the Beaver Creek Amateur Radio Association (BCARA).

Date Adopted: 29 January 2022

Date Approved: 29 January 2022

Seana Baber K5QLF, Association Secretary



Signed