

CONSTITUTION AND bylaws

Washington Digital Radio Enthusiasts

Spokane, Washington

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PREAMBLE

We, the undersigned, wishing to secure for ourselves the pleasures and benefits of the association of persons interested Amateur Radio, do hereby constitute ourselves the Washington Digital Radio Enthusiasts, hereafter referred to in this document as "WDRE," and do enact this constitution as our governing law. WDRE is and shall always be: held as public service, not-for-profit organization dedicated to service to the community in which it functions i.e., as a volunteer group without compensation to its members or officers for any and all services provided.

ARTICLE I

PURPOSE. The WDRE is organized exclusively for charitable, educational, and scientific purposes, 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, or corresponding section of any future tax code.

Furthermore, our purpose is to promote and enjoy digital radio communications with other radio amateurs world-wide, and to help local amateur radio stations within our coverage area to access world-wide digital radio communications. In case of an emergency, either within our coverage region, or elsewhere in the world where we can be of service, our facilities and resources shall be available on a priority basis, to help with emergency communications whenever reasonably possible. In addition, it shall be a valid purpose of this organization to promote itself as a benevolent organization to benefit our member's amateur radio activities and improve our organization's good reputation and public relations within our community.

No part of the net earnings of the WDRE shall inure to the benefit of, or be distributable to its members, trustees, officers, or other private persons, except that the WDRE shall be authorized and empowered to pay reasonable compensation for services rendered and to make payments and distributions in furtherance of the purposes set forth in the purpose clause hereof. No substantial part of the activities of the WDRE shall be the carrying on of propaganda, or otherwise attempting to influence legislation, and the WDRE shall not participate in, or intervene in (including the publishing or distribution of statements) any political campaign on behalf of any candidate for public office. Notwithstanding any other provision of this document, the WDRE shall not carry on any other activities not permitted to be carried on (a) by an organization exempt from federal income tax under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or corresponding section of any future federal tax code, or (b) by an organization, contributions to which are deductible under section 170(c)(2) of the Internal Revenue Code, or corresponding section of any future federal tax code."

ARTICLE II

MEMBERSHIP

SECTION I - Any person, without regard to race, creed, gender, age, or physical impairment, interested in Amateur Radio shall be eligible for membership in the WDRE. Membership shall be by application and election upon such terms as the WDRE, by its bylaws, shall provide.

SECTION II - The WDRE membership shall consist of full members, associate members, and provisional members.

SECTION III - Full members must hold a valid Amateur Radio operator's license and shall enjoy voting privileges in all WDRE general business. Lifetime members shall enjoy all privileges afforded to Full members.

SECTION IV - Associate members do not hold valid Amateur Radio operator's licenses and shall not enjoy voting privileges.

SECTION V - Provisional memberships, are members for a period not to exceed six months, may be granted to newly licensed amateur radio operators in order to introduce them to the WDRE membership and proceedings. Provisional Members shall enjoy the same privileges as Associate Members.

ARTICLE III

ELECTED OFFICES

SECTION I - The officers shall be: President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer. These officers along with the WDRE Callsign Trustee shall constitute the Executive Committee.

SECTION II - Officers shall be elected for a term of two years by ballot of a simple majority of those members present at the first regular meeting in the month of December when the year is an even number, and shall take office at the first meeting in January of an odd numbered year.

SECTION III - Vacancies occurring between elections shall be filled by special ballot or vote at the first meeting at which a resignation or withdrawal is announced.

SECTION IV - Officers may be removed for cause upon a motion of two-thirds majority vote of the members present at a regular or called meeting, provided all members have been notified in advance by electronic mail of the intent to do so.

ARTICLE IV

DUTIES OF OFFICERS

GENERAL - No salaries or other compensation shall be paid to any officer of the WDRE. No expenses except normal, recurring operating expenses (e.g., electric, insurance, property lease, etc.) may be obligated by any officer or member of the WDRE without prior approval of the membership. The Executive Committee may obligate funds not to exceed 200 dollars for extraordinary or emergency purposes.

SECTION I - The President shall preside at all meetings of the WDRE and Executive Committee and shall conduct the same according to the rules adopted; he/she shall enforce observance of this Constitution

and Bylaws, decide all questions of order, sign all official documents adopted by the WDRE, and perform the customary duties of the office of the President. The President shall appoint those offices necessary to accomplish the goals of the WDRE as set forth in this Constitution and Bylaws.

SECTION II - The Vice President shall act in all absences of the President and shall arrange for, and secure all programs and prepare agendas for regular meetings of the WDRE.

SECTION III - The Secretary shall keep a record of the proceedings of all meetings and make them available for inspection by the WDRE membership, keep a roll of the membership, submit applications for membership, carry on all correspondence, read communications at each meeting, and notify each member of every meeting of the WDRE, except when excused by action of the Bylaws.

SECTION IV - The Treasurer shall pay regular bills and special bills when properly authorized by the WDRE or its officers. At each meeting, he/she shall submit an itemized statement of receipts and disbursements. He/she shall, at the expiration of his/her term, turn over to his/her successor everything in his/her possession belonging to the WDRE.

SECTION V – The Callsign Trustee shall be a person designated as he or she who's FCC issued amateur radio license is used for acquisition of the club callsign. The Callsign Trustee shall make sure use of the club callsign is not in violation of Part 97 of the FCC Rules. The Callsign Trustee shall be appointed by the President and serves indefinitely until he or she resigns, or a new Callsign Trustee is appointed by the President. The Callsign Trustee may also be one of the elected officers.

ARTICLE V

MEETINGS

SECTION I - Regular meetings shall be held monthly at a time and place decided by a vote of two-thirds majority of the members present at a regular or called meeting, provided all members have been notified in advance by electronic mail of the intention to do so.

SECTION II - Special meetings and meetings of the Executive Committee shall be called at the discretion of the President or his/her designated representative.

SECTION III - All proceedings during meetings shall be kept as informal as possible, but where conflicts arise, shall be governed by "Robert's Rules of Order, Revised."

ARTICLE VI

DUES

SECTION I - The WDRE, by two-thirds majority vote of members present at a regular or called meeting, provided all members have been notified by electronic mail of the intent, may levy upon the general membership such dues or assessments deemed necessary for the organization within its objectives set forth in the Preamble and ARTICLE I. Non-payment of such dues or assessments may be cause for expulsion from the WDRE within the discretion of the membership.

SECTION II - Senior citizens (age 65 and older), persons under 18 years of age, and handicapped individuals who, by reason of their infirmity, have reduced income shall be assessed membership dues at a rate 50 percent of the full member annual rate in effect.

SECTION III - The Executive Committee may nominate a person to Lifetime Membership for outstanding service to the WDRE or the community, no matter where the nominee may reside. The final decision shall be made by a two-thirds majority vote of the WDRE membership. Lifetime members shall not be required to pay annual dues.

SECTION IV - A schedule of dues shall be published on the official WDRE Internet web site, WA7DRE.ORG, each December. Annual dues shall be payable in January, but may be pro-rated.

ARTICLE VII

MEMBER ASSISTANCE

SECTION I - The WDRE shall enact appropriate rules to minimize interference in operations between stations of its members; it shall formulate adequate plans for disposition of cases of interference to other radio services (where reported) as caused by any amateur station operation in the area of WDRE's responsibility. The WDRE, through designated Interference, Public Relations, and Activities committees, will provide technical assistance and advice to members concerning equipment design and operation, and assist in frequency observance, pure emissions, and uniform operating practices of WDRE member stations. The WDRE shall also maintain a program to foster and guide public relations in those channels favorable to Amateur Radio work. Operating rules and assistance shall be available for all members to inspect from the official WDRE Internet web site, WA7DRE.ORG.

ARTICLE VIII

REMOVAL OF MEMBERS

SECTION I - Any member whose Federal Communications Commission-issued Amateur Radio license is suspended or revoked with cause or who is assessed a fine or other penalty by the FCC shall be automatically removed from membership in the WDRE.

SECTION II - Any member who operates his/her station in violation of Part 97 of the FCC Rules and Regulations, and who does not cease and desist from the aforementioned violations, may be removed from membership in the WDRE by way of unanimous decision from the executive committee.

SECTION III - Any member who causes adverse publicity to Amateur Radio or the WDRE may be removed from membership in the WDRE by way of unanimous decision from the executive committee.

SECTION IV - Any member whose annual dues are in arrears for more than 60 days shall be removed from the membership rolls, but may be reinstated upon payment of said dues.

SECTION V - Any member desiring to bring charges against a fellow member shall appear before the Executive Committee and present the facts. The Committee shall investigate the aforementioned "charges" and rule on the case. The decision of the Committee shall be final. All records of arbitration shall be sealed, except for the resolution or decision of the Committee. If charges are brought against a member of the executive committee, that executive committee member shall be excluded from voting in the final decision.

ARTICLE IX

AMENDMENT TO CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS

SECTION I - This Constitution and Bylaws may be amended by a two-thirds majority vote of WDRE members present at a regular or called meeting, provided all members have been notified by electronic mail of the intent to amend this Constitution and Bylaws at said meeting.

ARTICLE X

WDRE PROPERTY

Dues and Assessments collected from members shall become WDRE property. Monetary contributions, over and above membership dues shall also be considered WDRE property. Any item purchased with WDRE funds becomes the sole property of the WDRE. Any items donated to the WDRE become sole property of the WDRE. Property of the WDRE may be used or given away in support of the stated purpose of the WDRE when authorized by the Executive Committee.

ARTICLE XI

DISSOLUTION

SECTION I - Upon dissolution of the WDRE, assets shall be distributed for one or more exempt purposes within the meaning of section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or corresponding section of any future tax code, or shall be distributed to the federal government, or to a state or local government, for a public purpose. Any such assets not disposed of shall be disposed of by the Court of Common Pleas of the county in which the principal office of the WDRE is then located, exclusively for such purposes or to such organization or organizations, as said Court shall determine, which are organized and operated exclusively for such purposes.