

TO BE VOTED ON BY GENERAL MEMBERSHIP OCT 2022

BYLAWS OF
THE MISSISSIPPI COAST AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION, INC.

ARTICLE I: Secretary

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

ARTICLE II: Membership

All members will be responsible to keep their contact information up to date with the club Secretary.

Membership classes shall be as follows:

Charter Members: are those members on the roll as of Dec 31, 1972.

Life Members: Life memberships granted in the past shall be honored. Those members shall have the rights of a full member so long as they remain licensed amateur radio operators. There shall be no new life memberships.

Full Members: shall hold a valid Amateur radio license and are entitled to all club privileges including the right to vote and hold a club office

Family members: are members of the immediate family of a full member and living in the same household. If that/those person(s) holds a valid Amateur Radio License, they shall have the rights of a Full member including the right to vote however no two members of the same family shall serve on the board at the same time.

If not licensed, they shall have the rights of an Associate member.

Associate members: Those persons interested in amateur radio communications and who do not hold a valid amateur radio license issued by the FCC (Federal Communications Commission).

Associate Members may serve on committees but will not have the right to vote nor hold an elected office.

Good Standing:

In order to maintain Good Standing, dues must be current.

Suspension/Expulsion:

The Board may expel or suspend a member by a vote of three members of the board.

Suspension/expulsion may occur for:

- 1) Failure to discharge debts to the Club, including dues.
- 2) Conduct detrimental to the welfare, interest, character, or order of the Club.
- 3) Members dropped from the roll because of non-payment of dues may request to be reinstated. Reinstatement shall be subject to the approval of majority of the board.
- 4) Members who have been expelled or suspended or who voluntarily withdraw from the club have no recourse on club assets or property; real or otherwise.

ARTICLE III: APPLICATIONS

Written application for membership shall include such information as deemed necessary by the Executive Board.

ARTICLE IV: ACCEPTANCE OF APPLICATION

Applications for membership shall be presented to the Executive Board for approval. All new applications for membership must be approved by the executive board.

Once approved by the board it will be presented to the membership at a regularly scheduled general membership meeting and lie on the table until the next regularly scheduled general membership meeting.

Approval of an application requires a simple majority vote of Full Members in Good Standing present at the next or subsequent properly scheduled meeting providing a quorum be present.

If a request is made to the presiding officer in public or in private by any full member, approval shall be by secret ballot.

If there is no objection by any club member, the secretary may request acceptance of all new member candidates receiving board approval by acclamation or a showing of hands.

In order to maintain membership in Good Standing, a member shall be current with their dues. Dues shall be paid by the January meeting or earlier. Dues are considered delinquent March 1st and that member will be dropped from the roll at that time.

It shall be the duty of each member to notify both the President and the Secretary of any change of address or other contact information

ARTICLE V: The Executive Board

Shall consist of the President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Activities Director, and Immediate Past President.

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

The Executive Board shall serve as the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE VI: Elections

Any members seeking candidacy for the Executive Board shall be Full Members of the club in Good Standing for at least one (1) year. The one-year limitation may be waived by a vote of the board.

Candidates for the Office of President and Vice-President shall be holders of valid Technician Class licenses or higher.

Nominating Committee

The President shall appoint a Nominating Committee no later than the September general membership meeting. The committee shall be charged with identifying qualified candidates for office.

The committee will present its nominations to the club at the November general membership meeting.

Nominations may be made from the floor by any full member in Good Standing.

The president shall dissolve the Nominating Committee after the annual elections.

Voting for officers

Voting will be done by paper ballots at the November general membership meeting providing a quorum be present.

Immediately after voting the ballots will be tallied in the presence of the membership by two (2) randomly selected Full Members in Good Standing.

The results of the tally will be delivered to the President.

Should there be a tie between candidates, new ballots will be issued to the membership and a second vote will be held.

Should the second vote result in another tie, a runoff election shall be held at the December meeting/Christmas party.

Any candidate, immediately following the report of the ballot to the president, may request a recount of the ballots. Should such a recount be requested, the president shall immediately appoint two (2) different Full Members in Good Standing to recount the ballots as before.

In the case of an unopposed slate the President may entertain a motion for the Secretary to cast a single ballot for all.

Elected officers except the treasurer shall take office at the general meeting following January 1st of each year and shall serve a term of one year. The treasurer will take office in February at or before the general membership meeting and shall serve a term of one year.

ARTICLE VII: DUTIES OF OFFICERS

The President

Shall preside over the Executive Board, club meetings, be the Chief Executive and Official Spokesperson for the club.

Shall decide all questions of order, precedence, meeting procedures, and enforce due observance of the CONSTITUTION and BYLAWS.

Shall sign all official documents and may countersign disbursements. The President may approve/disapprove expenditures up to \$200.00 and must personally sign disbursements for those expenditures or may direct in writing the treasurer to disburse those amounts under his authority. The President may instead refer such expenditures to the membership at his/her discretion.

Expenditures over \$200.00 shall be approved by a majority vote of the Full Members in Good Standing present at a general membership or properly called special meeting.

Shall appoint and dismiss committees and/or committee chairpersons.

Shall appoint standing committee chairpersons, and/or standing committee members no later than February of each year.

Shall appoint an Audit Committee, in November of each year, The committee shall consist of three (3) non-office holding Full Members in Good Standing.

Shall, at or before the January meeting, approve an operating budget. Said budget shall be presented to the membership for adoption at the January general membership meeting.

Shall publish a list of Full Members in Good Standing. Individual Members may opt-out of the publication of that list by written request.

Shall appoint standing committee chairpersons, and/or committee members no later than February of each year.

Shall publish and furnish a copy of the CONSTITUTION and BYLAWS to all new members of the club. Electronic distribution of these bylaws is acceptable; however, a printed copy shall be provided when so requested by members not able to receive electronic versions.

Shall, at the expiration of the term of office, turn over all club possessions to the successor.

The Vice-President

Shall perform all the duties of the President in his/her absence. Shall, at the expiration of the term of office, turn over all club possessions to the successor.

The Secretary

Shall record minutes of the Executive Board and club meetings.

Shall prepare correspondence as directed.

Shall maintain current club records, including copies of correspondence, membership applications, membership rolls, publicity, news releases, etc., with the exclusion of financial records.

Shall update annually with the State of Mississippi the list of club officers and Registered Agent along with any annual filings required by the State.

Shall, at the expiration of the term of office, turn over all club possessions to the successor and provide a copy to the club historian.

The Treasurer

Shall be the recipient of all club monies.

Shall record the source of club monies, and deposit

same in the club's account(s).

Shall file all required Federal and State tax documents on behalf of the club by the required deadlines.

Shall ensure that all disbursements are in the form of a check issued and signed by the Treasurer, as authorized, and directed by the President, Executive Board, or membership in accordance with the Constitution and Bylaws.

Shall tender monthly financial reports of receipts and expenditures to the Executive Board and to the membership during scheduled meetings.

Shall tender an annual financial report to the membership at the last general meeting of the calendar year.

Shall, in February of each year, make available to the Audit Committee all club financial records and shall assist with the audit.

Shall, at the expiration of the term of office, turn over all club possessions to his/her successor

The incoming Treasurer is responsible for the prior calendar year audit.

Activities Director

Shall be responsible for procurement and presentation of programs at club meetings.

Shall propose and coordinate activities in which the club should be involved including emergency training and preparedness.

Shall be responsible for planning club annual dinner.

Shall, at the expiration of the term of office, turn over all club possessions to the successor.

Immediate Past President

Shall serve as a non-voting member of the Executive Board, in order to provide continuity, and shall serve until succeeded by a new Past President.

ARTICLE VIII: MEETINGS

General membership meetings shall be held on the third (3rd) Monday of each calendar month, subject to change by the Executive Board, as to the date and place provided the general membership is given proper notice.

Such permanent changes of the meeting place and time shall be ratified by a majority vote of the membership.

Quorum

A quorum of the membership shall consist of fifteen (15) Full

Members in Good Standing.

A quorum of the executive board shall be three (3) members and must include either the President or Vice-President.

Meetings may be in person or virtual if in person meeting are not practical. (In person meetings may be deemed impractical by the board because of disasters, epidemics, or other unforeseen circumstances.)

Special Meetings

Special meetings may be called by the President, or in the absence of the President, by the Vice President.

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.

This notice may be delivered by any (or combination) of the following methods: email, text message, documented phone call or U.S. mail.

Meetings shall be conducted according to Robert's Rules of Order.

ARTICLE IX: DUES

Annual dues of \$20.00 per Full Member is hereby established in accordance with the provisions of Article VI of the Constitution.

The amount of the dues may be changed by a majority vote of the Full Members at a general membership meeting, provided a quorum be present.

Dues shall be paid by January of each year. The amount of the dues shall be as follows:

Full Membership: 100% of current dues.

Family Membership: Members of the same family living in the same household. After one (1) member with a valid amateur radio license has paid Full Membership, additional family members will be each charged 50% of current dues. The additional family members holding a valid FCC Amateur License shall have the rights of a full member except that no two members of the same family shall serve on the board at the same time.

Associate Membership: 50% of current dues.

ARTICLE X: COMMITTEES

Section A. The following standing Committees are established:

Public Relations

Refreshments

The above committees may consist of one (1) or more members, as deemed necessary by the Committee Chairperson or the Executive Board.

ARTICLE XI: Other appointments

Custodian of club property: This person shall maintain a record of all club property and its location.

CLUB HISTORIAN: The Club Historian shall maintain records and all other items of historical value to the club.

LICENSE TRUSTEE: In accordance with FCC rules and regulations, the president will annually select or reaffirm one Club member, who is licensed by the FCC at the appropriate level to be the official Club License Trustee. That person shall be the official representative of the Club to the FCC, and the official holder of the Club FCC License.

Custodian of repeater(s): shall be responsible for ensuring that club owned repeaters are properly maintained and accounted for.

Custodian of Club owned equipment: The Custodian of Club owned equipment shall develop a list of all club owned equipment, its condition and location.

Splatter (Newsletter) Editor/Publisher: shall prepare and publish the “Splatter” newsletter on a regular basis.

OTHER: Other appointments may be made by the president as necessary. At the expiration of such appointments, all club possessions shall be turned over to the successor.

Nominating Committee: A Nominating Committee shall be appointed at least one (1) month prior to the November general meeting. The Nominating Committee will consist of at least 3 club members in Good Standing. Full members who are not presently serving as board members or officers of the club, or of any other area amateur radio club shall be selected whenever possible.

At the November meeting, the Nominating Committee shall present their nominations. At that time nominations may be made from the floor by any full member. Any members seeking

candidacy for the Executive Board shall be a full member in Good Standing.

Candidates for the Office of President or Vice-President shall also be holders of valid Technician Class licenses or higher.

The Nominating Committee shall present the list of Candidates during the scheduled November meeting.

Elections shall be by secret ballot. Election requires a majority of the Full Membership present at the November general meeting.

Elected officers shall take office January 1st of each year and shall serve a term of one year.

Elected officers except the treasurer shall take office January 1st of each year and shall serve a term of one year. The treasurer shall take office in February and serve a term of one year.

No more than one person of the same family shall serve on the board at the same time.

ARTICLE XII: Guiding Principles

The club shall encourage its members to promote fellowship and increase knowledge and preparedness among the fraternity by supporting or participating in nets, contests, and other operating activities.

ARTICLE XIII: Training/Teaching

The club may periodically sponsor and conduct classes or seminars relating to Amateur Radio, emergency preparedness or other topics of general interest.

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Mississippi Coast Amateur Radio Association, Inc.

CONSTITUTION

Preamble:

The name of the organization shall be THE MISSISSIPPI COAST AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION, INC., and is further referred to herein as “the club.”

We hereby enact this revision of the 1972 constitution as our governing law. It shall be our purpose to further the exchange of information and cooperation between members, to promote radio knowledge, fraternalism and individual operating efficiency, and to so conduct club programs and activities as to advance the general interest and welfare of Amateur Radio in the community.

We wish to encourage and promote emergency preparedness, and to make the full resources of the club available to concerned organizations in case of national or local emergency.

We shall require strict compliance with the rules and regulations governing Amateur Radio as set forth by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC).

This 2022 revision to the Constitution shall be considered ratified if accepted by a majority of the full members in good standing present at the time of submittal for ratification provided a quorum of fifteen members be present.

ARTICLE I

BYLAWS

Bylaws as needed, may be developed and proposed by the Executive Board or the membership for ratification by the membership. Said ratification shall require a vote of the majority of the members present in a meeting, provided there is a quorum present, and if the proposed BYLAW has been introduced at the previous general membership meeting.

ARTICLE II

Membership

Section 1. Eligibility for membership, elected or appointed Executive Board positions, or Committees may not be limited on the basis of race, sex, color, age, religion, national origin, marital status, sexual orientation, physical or mental handicap, ancestry or medical condition, except as explicitly exempted in federal law.

Section 2. Membership shall be by application and election upon such terms as the club shall provide in its By-Laws.

Section 3. Quorum: A quorum shall be as established in the BYLAWS.

ARTICLE III

Officers

The officers of this club shall be:

President

Vice-President

Secretary

Treasurer

Activities Director

The Immediate Past President shall serve as a non-voting member of the Executive Board, in order to provide continuity.

Section 1. The elected officers shall serve as the Board of Directors of the club. The board of directors may also be referred to as "The Board, or the Executive Board."

Section 2. Eligibility to hold office:

Full members in good standing for at least one year are eligible to be considered for office. The one year of membership requirement may be waived by a majority vote of full members in good standing present at the November general membership meeting.

Elections

Section 1. The President shall appoint a nominating committee no later than the September general membership meeting. This committee will be charged with finding qualified candidates to run for office.

Section 2. The officers of this club shall be elected for a term of one year. This balloting shall be at the November meeting, provided there is a

quorum present. If a quorum is not present, the balloting will be at the December or next general membership or properly called meeting.

In the case of an unopposed slate the President may entertain a motion for the Secretary to cast a single ballot for all.

Section 3. An individual may not hold more than one office during the same term.

Section 4. Vacancies

The President may appoint to office any qualified full member in good standing to complete the unexpired term of any elected office left permanently vacant.

In the event that this unexpired term is for the Presidency, the Vice-President shall assume that office and may appoint a new Vice-President.

In lieu of appointing a member to complete an unexpired term of office, the President may, at his/her option, call a special election for the next general membership meeting.

Section 5. Resignation

Any officer may resign his/her position in writing at which time all records and assets of the club will be turned over to the President or Vice President.

Section 6. Removal of Officers

Removal of an officer requires a vote of three fourths (3/4) of the full members in good standing present at a general membership or properly called meeting provided a quorum be present.

Article IV

Duties of Officers

Section 1. President

The President shall preside over the Executive Board. He/she shall be the Chief Executive Officer and Official Spokesperson for the club.

The President shall preside at all meetings and conduct them according to the rules adopted. He/she shall enforce due observance of this Constitution and By-Laws; decide all questions of order; sign all official documents adopted by the club and perform all other duties pertaining to the office of President.

Shall sign all official documents and may countersign disbursements.

Shall be empowered to create committees, appoint chairpersons and members.

Shall, at the expiration of the term of office, turn over all club possessions to the successor.

Section 2. Vice President

The Vice-President shall assume all the duties of the President in his/her absence.

Section 3. Secretary

The Secretary shall keep a record of the proceedings of all meetings, keep a roll of members, submit membership applications, carry on correspondence, read communications at each meeting.

At the expiration of his/her term he/she shall turn over all items belonging to the club to his/her successor.

The secretary is responsible for the annual club filings with the Mississippi Secretary of State within the statutory time limit. In the absence of the secretary, any other elected club officer may file those documents.

Section 4. Treasurer

The Treasurer shall receive and receipt for all monies paid to the club; keep an accurate account of all monies received and expended; pay no bills without proper authorization by the club or its officers. At the end of his/her term he/she shall turn over everything in his/her possession belonging to the club to his/her successor.

The treasurer is responsible for filing all State and Federal tax documents and/or reports within the statutory time limit. In the absence of the treasurer, any other elected club officer may file those documents.

Section 5. Activities Manager

The activities manager shall organize club activities, plan and recommend contests and training.

He/she may appoint such assistants as needed.

Article V

Meetings

Section 1. Meetings shall be held and conducted as outlined in the BYLAWS. Robert's Rules of Order shall govern proceedings.

Article VI

Dues

Section 1. Dues shall be collected as established in the Bylaws.

Section 2. There shall be no assessments.

Article VII

Club FCC License Trustee

Section 1. The President shall assign trusteeship of the club call sign as set forth in the bylaws.

Section 2. The trustee shall:

Be a member of the club in good standing

Meet all FCC (Federal Communications Commission) requirements. Not had his/her Radio Amateur license revoked or sanctioned at any time.

Article VIII

Dissolution of The Club

Section 1. Termination of Operations

In the event that the Board of Director votes that the Club should be dissolved the motion for dissolution must receive at least two thirds vote of the full membership present, provided there be a quorum present

Section 2. Disposition of Assets

The Board of Directors shall handle the disbursement of all assets of the club.

Section 3. No member or group of members shall receive benefit from the assets.

Section 4. All equipment will be donated to another non-profit organization, preferably another amateur radio club or if not practical, sold and net proceeds donated to a non-profit organization.

Section 5. All remaining cash will be donated to a non-profit organization, preferably another amateur radio club.

Article IX

Amendments

Section 1. This constitution or By-Laws may be amended by a vote of two-thirds of the full members present provided a quorum be present.

Section 2. Proposals for amendments shall be submitted in writing at a general membership meeting and shall be voted on at the next following general membership meeting, provided the membership has been notified of the intent to amend the constitution and/or By-Laws at said meeting.

This notice may be delivered by any method or combination of methods as follows: email, text message, documented phone call or U.S. mail.