## BYLAWS



# Mercer County Amateur Radio Club 

Harrodsburg, Kentucky

## BYLAWS

PREAMBLE: Be it known that it shall be our purpose to facilitate the exchange of information and general cooperation between members; promote radio knowledge, individual operating efficiency, and so to conduct programs and activities as to enhance the general education, interest and welfare of amateur radio in the community.

## ARTICLE I.

NAME
The organization as established and governed by these articles shall be called "Mercer County Amateur Radio Club."

## ARTICLE II. DURATION

The Mercer County Amateur Radio Club shall have perpetual duration.

## ARTICLE III. <br> PURPOSES

The purposes for which the Mercer County Amateur Radio Club (hereinafter, when the word "Club" is mentioned, it should be taken to mean the Mercer County Amateur Radio Club), is formed shall include but not be limited to:

1. Providing education in the field of amateur radio.
2. Planning for emergency and disaster communications, and providing and coordinating such communications in time of need with other agencies, either local, state or national, such as the American Red Cross, Disaster and Emergency Management, U.S. Weather Service, and others as appropriate.
3. Providing technical assistance to Club members and other interested individuals.
4. Providing leadership in the field of amateur radio.

To facilitate these objectives, the Club may have members, officers, one or more radio stations, meetings, a newsletter, courses of instruction, and various fund-raising functions and other activities that may be necessary.

## ARTICLE IV. <br> ORGANIZATION

There shall be a Board of Directors of the Club. This board shall consist of the following named officers: The officers shall consist of President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, and two (2) Directors-at-Large. Whenever He is mentioned, it is understood to also mean She, as applicable. An officer may be male or female. His is to be equated to Her also.

## ARTICLE V. OFFICERS RESPONSIBILITIES AND DUTIES

## A. The Duties and Responsibilities of the President are:

1. Preside at each meeting of the Club. Have a working knowledge of these Bylaws and parliamentary procedure.
2. Represent or select representatives of the Club to accept speaking engagements as necessary and/or represent the Club at meetings of interest to the Club.
3. Coordinate the activities of the Club and evaluate the results.
4. The President shall hold a valid Amateur Radio License and be a member in good standing of the Club during the term(s) of office.

## B. The Duties and Responsibilities of the Vice-President are:

1. Assist the President.
2. Preside at meetings in the absence of the President, or when the business at hand requires the President to yield the position of presiding officer.
3. Arrange for the meeting room and equipment necessary to conduct the meeting and its associated program. He shall also aid the Secretary with new applicants being considered for membership.
4. Be responsible for other duties assigned by the President and the Board of Directors.
5. The Vice-President shall hold a valid Amateur Radio License and be a member in good standing of the Club during the term(s) of office.

## C. The Duties and Responsibilities of the Secretary are:

1. Have available the order of business for each meeting.
2. Keep an accurate and complete record of all meetings. The minutes of each meeting shall be corrected and approved by the Club membership. The minutes shall be kept on file for reference.
3. Answer all official correspondence of and for the Club, copies of which shall be kept on file.
4. Keep records of attendance at meetings.
5. Assist in counting ballots or votes at meetings.
6. Issue membership cards in cooperation with the Treasurer.
7. Keep an accurate and amended copy of these Bylaws available at all meetings for Club members.
8. Once each year, the Secretary shall distribute an updated copy of these Bylaws to all members. This shall occur no later than April 15 of the year, if updated or amended.
9. The Secretary need not hold a valid Amateur Radio License, but must be a member in good standing of the Club during the term(s) of office.

## D. The Duties and Responsibilities of the Treasurer are:

1. Assist in the preparation of a budget for the Club. This shall be ready for the first general meeting of the fiscal year.
2. Collect dues and assessments from the membership and maintain appropriate records.
3. Forward dues to the American Radio Relay League (ARRL) or other organizations for membership in those organizations as necessary and as directed by the Club and Club members.
4. Keep an accurate record of all financial transactions of the Club. This should include an inventory of resources, receipts for all monies received and disbursements and deposits. This is to include a permanent listing, in duplicate, of all Club-owned equipment, and equipment loaned to the Club.
5. Study and recommend projects for fund raising.
6. Prepare financial statements and reports for each meeting. These may be in written form if extensive.
7. The Treasurer need not hold a valid Amateur Radio License, but must be a member in good standing of the Club during the term(s) of office.

## E. The Duties and Responsibilities of the two Directors-at-Large are:

1. Act as ombudsmen to represent the grievances of the membership to the Board of Directors and Officers.
2. Act as spokesmen for Club members unable to attend the meeting, and air their comments. They may not vote in proxy for other Club members.
3. They shall aid the Treasurer in maintaining an inventory of equipment owned by the Club.
4. Be responsible for other duties as assigned by the President of Board of Directors.
5. The Directors-at-Large need not hold a valid Amateur Radio License, but must be members in good standing of the Club during their respective term(s) of office.

## F. The Duties and Responsibilities of the Trustee are:

1. Be responsible for on-the-air operations, maintenance and procurement of equipment, and instruction in the operation of Club equipment.
2. These are to be carried out in accordance with Part 97 of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended.
3. The trustee shall hold a valid Amateur Radio License and must be a member in good standing of the Club during the term(s) of office.

## ARTICLE VI. <br> TERM OF OFFICE

The term of office for all officers shall be one year, and each officer may be reelected for a successive term. The President may not serve more than two consecutive terms of office.

All officers, except the Secretary and Treasurer, must hold a valid Amateur Radio license. All officers must be members in good standing of the Club during their respective terms of office.

An officer of the Club or member of the Board of Directors may be removed by a 75 percent majority of at least 50 percent of the membership either by mail or at a meeting. This meeting may occur only after the membership has received at least thirty (30) days notification, in writing, prior to such a meeting. Tellers for such a procedure shall be appointed by the Board of Directors, with the Club's approval. Only one officer shall be appointed to this Committee of Tellers.

Should a special situation occur in which the Club adopts a motion, and a member believes that the Club is being wronged by such a motion, he may request a ballot by mail to all members on this motion. The member requesting the mail ballot is to incur the cost of the mailing of a petition with a self-addressed, stamped envelope to the Club's official address. Included with the envelope is to be a letter explaining why the original motion carried, and why it is to be rescinded. Ballots are to be returned within a reasonable time limit. Ballots not returned by the established date or cast for the motion, or otherwise abstaining, are to be considered in favor of the original motion. Should the original motion be defeated, the Club will reimburse the member for the cost of the mailing. The mailing will be carried out with the cooperation of the Club's Secretary.

## ARTICLE VII. MEMBERSHIP

Membership in the Club is open to anyone who expresses interest in Amateur Radio communications, technical information and experimentation, computer technology, and emergency communications.
There shall be the following types of memberships:

- "Regular," which shall have full voting privileges, with an allowance for additional family members at reduced rates;
- "Associate," which shall have no voting privileges and be at a reduced membership rate, and shall be open to those persons living farther than 50 miles from Harrodsburg;
- "Honorary Life," which shall have full voting privileges and may be bestowed upon persons as voted by a majority of the membership present at a regular meeting of the Club to recognize that person's outstanding contribution and/or efforts to amateur radio, and such member shall not pay annual dues;
- "Honorary" shall have no voting privileges and shall be bestowed upon a guest or visitor as approved by a majority vote of the membership present at a regular meeting, and shall not be responsible for annual dues.
Candidates for regular and associate membership shall apply to the Board of Directors. The Board shall submit each application to the membership at large for approval. This application shall be submitted for approval at the first regular monthly meeting following the candidate's submission of application for membership. Membership shall be granted by simple majority vote of approval by the members present at the meeting.

Only regular and honorary life members in good standing may participate in decision-making procedures of the Club. Neither associate nor honorary members nor nonmembers have the right to vote on any matter relative to the Club.

Membership may be withdrawn for failure to abide by the Bylaws of the Club as amended. Further, a membership may be withdrawn for actions leading to the loss of a valid Amateur Radio license as specified by the FCC Rules, or any amendment thereof in effect on the date of the occurrence, or by actions in violation of FCC Rules by nonlicensed members. Any person whose membership has been withdrawn may appeal such action.

Each member of the Club, other than honorary members, shall be supplied a copy of the Bylaws upon becoming a member. Members shall receive a revised copy by April 15 each succeeding year, if updated or amended.

## ARTICLE VIII. <br> MEETINGS

Regular meetings of the Club shall be held on a date to be determined by the membership at each meeting, at such a place and time the President and Board of Directors shall order. Regular meeting dates may be changed by the President when holidays conflict, inclement weather or other necessary reasons dictate. Rescheduled meeting notices shall be mailed or otherwise communicated to the membership at least seven days in advance of such a meeting.

Special meetings may be called by the President upon the written request of five or more members of the Club. A notice of such a special meeting shall be mailed or otherwise communicated to all members of record of the Club ten (10) days prior to such a meeting. The notice will contain the date, time and location of the special meeting, as well as its purpose. Only such business as is designated in the notice shall be transacted at the special meeting.

Twenty-five percent of the membership of record shall constitute a quorum for all meetings, regular or special. General business brought before the Club for a vote shall be decided by a simple majority of those members present, when a quorum exists.

The Board of Directors and Officers shall meet at a time and place convenient to the membership of the Board for purposes of planning the agenda of the monthly meeting and any long-range planning as needed. The date, time and place of the Board meeting shall be published in the monthly newsletter or otherwise communicated, so that Club members may attend, observe and participate in these meetings.

## ARTICLE IX.

## DUES

The Club may assess or levy dues upon its members. These dues are to be used for the operating expenses of the Club. The amount assessed shall be recommended by the Officers and Board, and voted upon at either a regular or special meeting of the Club.

The Treasurer shall notify the membership by mail or other means of renewal of membership dues one month prior to renewal. The dues year shall run from January 1 to December 31. Nonpayment of dues or assessments may be cause for withdrawal of membership in the Club, at the discretion of the membership.

## ARTICLE X.

## ELECTIONS

The regular election process shall be as follows:

1. Candidates for office may be nominated from the floor at the November meeting. The November meeting is to be publicized as a nominations meeting. Candidates may be nominated for absent members by the Directors-at-Large, if they have a written request to do so.
2. The list of candidates shall be mailed or otherwise communicated at least 14 days prior to the December meeting date. The membership shall cast voice ballots during the December meeting.
Vacancies occurring between elections shall be filled by a special ballot, of the quorum present, at the next regular meeting after the meeting at which the vacancy is declared.

In the event the President resigns during his term of office, the Vice-President shall succeed to the Presidency. A new Vice-President shall be elected in accordance with the previously defined method for vacancies.

## ARTICLE XI. DISSOLUTION

In the event that it is determined by a majority vote by official ballot of the membership that the Club can no longer function, the equipment, properties and monies of the Club will be disbursed in the manner as described below.

1. All liabilities and obligations of the Club shall be paid and discharged or adequate provisions shall be made therefor;
2. Assets held by the Club upon condition requiring return, transfer, or conveyance which condition occurred by reason of the dissolution, shall be returned, transferred or conveyed in accordance with such requirements;
3. Assets received and held by this Club subject to limitations permitting their use only for educational or amateur radio purposes, but not held upon a condition requiring a return, transfer or conveyance by reason of the dissolution, shall be transferred or conveyed as follows:
a. All physical appurtenances and equipment, excluding radio transmitting and associated equipment, shall revert to the ownership of the Mercer County Fire Protection District;
b. All radio transmitting and associated equipment will be sold at public auction to the highest bidder per item. Purchasers of said equipment must show proof of holding a valid Amateur Radio license to purchase said equipment. Monies from these sales shall be disbursed, after payment of all bills and levies against the corporation, by a donation to the Mercer County Fire Protection District with the understanding that said funds are to be used to create and/or maintain an amateur radio station in the MCFPD Emergency Operations Center.
However, if the named recipient is not then in existence or no longer a qualified distributee, or unwilling or unable to accept the distribution, then the assets of this corporation shall be distributed to a fund, foundation or corporation organized and operated exclusively for the purposes specified in section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (or corresponding section of any future Federal tax code).

## ARTICLE XII.

## PARLIAMENTARY PROCEDURE

In the absence of guidelines specifically stated in these Bylaws, Robert's Rules of Parliamentary procedure shall apply. These (Robert's) Rules shall apply for procedure during meetings.

## ARTICLE XIII. <br> BYLAWS CHANGES

These Bylaws may be amended by a majority of the membership responding by mail or in attendance at the meeting when the vote is to be taken. Proposals for amendments or changes shall be submitted in writing at a regular meeting, and published in the newsletter or otherwise communicated immediately following that meeting, and prior to the next regular meeting, or by mail ballot at the meeting following. The ballots are to be returned to the Club prior to the following (third meeting after the proposal is brought to the floor) regular meeting. This method may be authorized by the Board of Directors.

