

ORANGE COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB INC. BYLAWS

Revision E: **November 2008**

Revision D: **November 2003**

Revision C: **November 2000**

Revision B: **2/1999** – **corrected May 2002**

Rewritten: October 1993; adopted: April 15, 1994

ARTICLE 1 **OBJECTIVES**

The objectives of the club, to be known as the Orange County Amateur Radio Club are:

- A. To promote interest in and the advancement of amateur radio, and electronics in general.
- B. To promote a good relationship between radio amateurs and the public through public service activities.
- C. To help interested persons to obtain a license and new licensees to upgrade.
- D. To participate in activities involving or for amateur radio.

ARTICLE II **MEMBERSHIP**

- A. Members shall be of good moral character who have an interest in amateur radio and/or electronics, **and** have an interest in the aims of the club. Such persons may, upon application and prepayment of dues, become members of the club, provided any other requirements of the Bylaws are met.
- B. Yearly dues for members are due and payable on January 1 of each year. Non payment of dues by March 31 constitutes forfeiture of club membership. The amount of dues shall be:

The base rate amount of yearly dues shall be determined by the board of directors for the coming year, no later than the November board meeting preceding the beginning of the coming year. If no action is taken by the board, then the base rate will not change in the coming year.

- 1. Dues for members 20 years of age or older, are 100% of base rate.
- 2. Dues for members 19 years or younger, are 50% of base rate.
- 3. For additional members in the same household as a member who has paid full dues, **half of the full dues for his/her age group.**
- 4. For new members joining during the year, dues shall be prorated on a quarterly basis **for** the remainder of the calendar year.

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- C. Each member after admission shall receive a dues receipt signed by the treasurer.
- D. Each member is responsible for notifying the Membership Chairman of a change of address.
- E. The Board of Directors may expel or suspend a member by unanimous vote at a Board meeting under the following conditions:
 - 1. Failure to discharge his debts to the club other than dues.
 - 2. Conduct detrimental to the welfare, interest, character, or order of the club.
 - 3. Conviction of a violation of the FCC rules when such results in the suspension or cancellation of the amateur license.
 - 4. Conviction of a felony under the laws of the State of California or of the United States of America.
- F. The Board of Directors may reinstate any expelled or suspended member by a unanimous vote at a Board meeting.
- G. 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.
- H. Honorary membership may be given to any person under the following conditions. Honorary members shall not be able to vote, or hold office,
 - 1. Nomination for honorary membership may be made by any club member during the good of the club portion of any Board or regular club meeting.
 - 2. Honorary membership shall require a two-thirds affirmative vote of the Board and shall be for a period not to exceed 24 months and shall expire on December 31.
 - 3. Honorary membership may be renewed for an additional period by voting as stated above during the last 3 months of the membership.
 - 4. The Membership Chairman shall maintain a list of all honorary members.

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ARTICLE III MEETINGS

- A. Regular meetings of the club shall be held monthly at designated times and places. All meetings shall be open to all interested members. Special meetings may be called by the Board when necessary.

Notices of regular and special meetings shall be mailed to each member within a reasonable time prior to each meeting. Notices of special meetings shall contain a list of important items on the agenda. Robert's Rules of Order (revised) shall govern club meetings when it does not conflict with these Bylaws.

The order of business at the regular club meetings shall be as follows unless circumstances dictate otherwise.

1. Call to Order - The president shall call the meeting to order.
2. Lecture or Entertainment - The vice president shall introduce the speaker or entertainment for the meeting.
3. Roll Call of Officers - The secretary shall call roll by title and record the officer attendance in the minutes.
4. Reading of the Minutes - The secretary shall not be required to read the minutes of the previous meeting if they were published in the club bulletin. The president shall ask for a motion and a vote to approve the minutes as published. Any corrections or additions may be made by a member and be approved by the members present.
5. Treasurer's Report - The treasurer shall report the financial condition of the club up to date.
6. Introduction of Members - The membership chairman shall introduce any new members present.
7. Introduction of Visitors- The president shall introduce any visitors present at the meeting. A visitor log shall be passed around at the beginning of the meeting. The visitor log shall be retained **in the permanent records** of the membership chairman.
8. Committee Reports - The president shall ask for any reports from **the** committee chairmen.
9. Communications - The secretary shall read any communications of general interest to the club members.
10. Old Business- The president shall bring up items of old business for further or final action.

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11. New Business - The president shall ask for any items of new business for the club.
12. Good of the Club - The president shall ask if there are any items of interest to the club.

ARTICLE IV DIRECTORS

- A. Subject to the limitations of the Articles of Incorporation, the Bylaws, and the California **General** Corporation Laws, all corporate powers shall be exercised by and under the authority of, and the business and affairs of the corporation shall be controlled by a Board of Directors. Without prejudice to said general powers, and subject to the stated limitations, the Directors shall have the following powers:
 1. To select or remove all other officers or agents of the corporation. To prescribe the powers and duties for them as are consistent with the corporation and to require from them faithful service.
 2. To conduct, manage, and control the affairs of the corporation, and to make rules and regulations as they deem best. To borrow money for the purposes of the corporation.
 3. To change the principal office of the corporation, to designate a place for holding meetings. and to make and use a corporate seal. The corporate seal shall be circular in form and have inscribed on its face the words "ORANGE COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB. INC.", and be kept by the treasurer.
- B. The number of Directors of the Corporation shall be ten (10) until changed by an amendment to the Articles of Incorporation and a change to the Bylaws. To reduce the number of Directors to less than ten shall require the written consent or affirmative vote of at least 80%. of the members.
- C. It shall be the duty of the Directors to insure that a complete record of all proceedings of all meetings be kept. and to present a full statement at the regular meetings showing the assets and liabilities of the club and the general condition of its affairs.
- D. It shall be the duty of each director to receive a copy, read, and understand this document.

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ARTICLE V ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

- A. **The officers of the club shall be President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Activities Chairman,** Public Relations Officer, Technical Committee Chairman, and Membership Chairman. The other two directors, designated as Members at Large, shall be the immediate past President and immediate past Vice President, except as described below. All Directors shall be holders of 5 year or longer licenses and shall be at least 21 years of age. ~~No officer shall hold the same office for 2 consecutive terms.~~ **The officers elected to serve may hold office for two consecutive terms, if so elected annually by the membership.** A term consists of 6 months or more in office.
- B. The officers shall be nominated and elected one office at a time from the floor at the regular November meeting. Election shall be by secret ballot **if there are two or more candidates for any elective office.** If and only if there is one candidate for each of the elective offices, the entire slate may be voted into office by a show of hands by the members present. The new officers shall be introduced and assume their offices at the first scheduled meeting in January of the next year.
- C. If the past President or past vice President should be elected to another office for the next year, another member shall be nominated to replace him on the board.
- D. Vacancies occurring on the Board during the year shall be filled at the next regular meeting by nomination and election from the floor. The new officer shall immediately assume office for the balance of the term.

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ARTICLE VI DUTIES OF OFFICERS

- A. PRESIDENT- It shall be the duty of the president to:
1. Preside over all regular, Board, and special meetings of the club.
 2. Direct the affairs of the club subject to the advice of the Board and the requirements of the Bylaws.
 3. Appoint a Finance Committee of 2 or more members to audit the club account books. Appoint all other committees not provided for herein or elsewhere.
 4. Sign as required, all contracts or written instruments on behalf of the club.
 5. Represent the club for social or business contacts when required.
 6. With approval of the Board, have sent flowers or other appropriate gifts to ill or hospitalized members, or to the family of a deceased member.
 7. Perform incidental duties not herein specified.
- B. VICE PRESIDENT- It shall be the duty of the vice president to:
1. Act in the absence of the president at all club functions and perform all duties of the president herein described.
 2. Arrange for the speaker or entertainment for each of the regular club meetings.
 3. Perform other duties required by the president or the Board.
- C. SECRETARY- It shall be the duty of the secretary to:
1. Keep a written record of all proceedings of all regular, Board, and special meetings. To provide a copy of each record to the editor of the club bulletin for publication.
 2. Receive and send all club correspondence. Read all correspondence of general interest to the members at a regular or Board meeting.
 3. Perform other duties required by the president or the Board.

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D. TREASURER- It shall be the duty of the treasurer to:

1. Keep a written record of all **monies** received or expended by the club. Initiate checks for normal monthly expenses and have them properly signed. Checks for \$250 or less or for normal expenses [Note: "normal expenses" are expenses that tend recur from year to year] may bear one authorized signature. Checks for expenses over \$250, that are not for normal expenses, shall have either the approval of the board or the approval of the club membership at a general meeting.
2. Maintain the club's bank accounts at banks approved by the Board. A signature card shall be kept by the bank showing the signatures of the president, vice president, and treasurer.
3. Issue dues receipts as required.
4. Maintain an accurate list of all physical assets of the club and their present location
5. Affix the club seal to any documents requiring it.
6. Perform other duties required by the president or the Board.

E. ACTIVITIES MANAGER- It shall be the duty of the activities manager to:

1. Organize club activities with assistants of his choice, such as picnics, camping trips, etc. for the enjoyment of the members.
2. Obtain prizes for and run the raffle at each of the regular club meetings. Select prizes of general value to radio amateurs and when possible solicit prize donations from retailers or manufacturers. Strive to maintain a net positive cash flow from the raffle activities.
3. Provide refreshments, with assistants of his choice, at each of the regular club meetings.
4. Help with the organization of the annual Field Day.
5. Perform other duties required by the president or the Board.

F. PUBLIC RELATIONS OFFICER- It shall be the duty of the public relations officer to:

1. Prior to each regular club meeting provide, with the assistants of his choice, adequate seating for the members.
2. Welcome members and visitors to the meeting and answer any questions they may have about the club.

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3. Contact and get published in local newspapers as needed announcements of club activities such as Field Day.
 4. Perform other duties required by the president or the Board.
- G. TECHNICAL COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN- It shall be the duty of the technical committee chairman to form a committee of himself and at least 2 other licensed club members to:
1. Assist members with technical problems relating to equipment setup and operation.
 2. Assist members to obtain and/or upgrade their licenses. When sufficient interest exists, hold classes for code practice and theory.
 3. Assist members with **Television Interference (TVI)** problems. Each TVI complaint shall be resolved as soon as possible. A log shall be kept for all TVI complaint activities.
 4. Perform other duties required by the president or the Board.
- H. MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN- It shall be the duty of the membership chairman to:
1. Maintain to date, an accurate roll of all paid members, and all honorary members.
 2. After the March regular meeting, prepare a list of paid members including name, call, address, and telephone number, and submit this list to the editor of the club bulletin for inclusion in the April edition.
 3. Each month, take the master for the club bulletin, make copies, and mail one to each paid member, and to other persons and organizations on the mailing list. An extra copy shall be mailed to the club historian for his records.
 4. Maintain a file of one copy of each club bulletin mailed during his term of office.
 5. Bring extra copies of the club bulletin to the regular club meetings for handing out to visitors.
 6. Perform other duties required by the president or the Board.

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ARTICLE VII COMMITTEES

- A. FINANCE COMMITTEE- The president shall appoint a finance committee consisting of two or more members at the December Board meeting whose duty shall be to audit the club account books and report their findings to the club at the January meeting.
- B. FIELD DAY COMMITTEE- The president may appoint a field day committee to organize and run the annual field day.
- C. NOMINATION COMMITTEE- The president may appoint a nomination committee to propose a slate of candidates for club offices for the next year.
- D. SPECIAL COMMITTEES- The president may appoint special committees for a specific purpose or for the good of the club.

ARTICLE VIII LONG TERM APPOINTMENTS

Long term appointments shall be made by the president when necessary. These appointments shall be for an indefinite period preferably for several years, and should only be given to members who are able to perform the specific requirements of the job.

- A. CLUB HISTORIAN- The club historian shall maintain records and all other items of historical value to the club.
- B. LICENSE TRUSTEE- The club license trustee shall hold a General or higher amateur license. He shall be responsible for the club call, W6ZE, in memory of Earl Griffin, a long time club member who died in 1956. He shall file renewal forms with the FCC when required.
- C. OTHER- Other appointments may be made as necessary, such as club net control operators.

ARTICLE IX AMENDMENTS

These bylaws may be amended at a regular club meeting by a two-thirds affirmative vote of the members present provided that the proposed amendment has been presented as a motion and read to the club at two consecutive regular club meetings.

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AMENDMENTS

AMENDMENT A

Voted for at the July and August 1996 general meetings to raise the dues to \$15 per member and \$18 per family, effective in 1997.

AMENDMENT B

Passed 1/15/99 and 2/19/99

1. Dues are raised to \$20/year, for members 20 years of age or older.
2. Dues for members 19 years or younger, will become 50% of base rate.
3. Dues for additional members, at same address, will become 50% of base rate, for a maximum of 150% of base rate, per address.

AMENDMENT C

Passed 11/2000

1. **Beginning with the officers elected to serve during the year 2001, that any elected officer, except for the treasurer, may hold office for two consecutive years if so elected annually by the membership. The treasurer may not serve two consecutive terms.**

Amendment D

Passed 11/2003

1. Dual Check Signature Elimination
2. Removal of Amount of Dues from Bylaws
3. OCARC Membership Card Elimination
4. Article I – D Clarification

AMENDMENT E

Passed 11/2008

1. **ARTICLE V, section A, shall be modified to remove the restriction that prevents the Treasurer from serving for two consecutive years. This amendment supersedes and replaces the current Amendment C that was approved in Nov 2000.**

"The officers elected to serve may hold office for two consecutive years, if so elected annually by the membership."