



MQB Amateur Radio Club

CONSTITUTION & BYLAWS

Approved May 24, 2020

PREAMBLE:

To all who may come forward or hear, let it be known that a group of individuals who wish to secure ourselves the pleasures and benefits of the association of persons commonly interested in Amateur Radio, desire to constitute ourselves as the MQB Amateur Radio Club and enact this Constitution and Bylaws as our governing law.

ARTICLE I

NAME, PURPOSE & MEMBERSHIP

1.1 NAME:

The name of this organization shall be the MQB Amateur Radio Club, hereinafter referred to as the "Club".

1.2 PURPOSE:

The Club is hereby established as a non-profit organization with the purpose to further the exchange of information and cooperation between members, provide fraternalism, to promote radio knowledge, improve operating efficiency, operate amateur radio stations and systems, conduct club activities, and to advance the general interest, science, education and welfare of amateur radio.

It shall be the policy of the Club to support the American Radio Relay League as expressed by affiliation with and participation of activities thereof.

1.3 MEMBERSHIP:

All persons interested in amateur radio shall be eligible for membership. Membership shall be categorized into three (3) categories.

1.3.1 Charter Members: Charter Members shall be those licensed amateur radio operators that have come together to associate and organize this Club, are listed on the initial American Radio Relay League Club Roster as found in Appendix A. Charter Members shall automatically be voting members.

1.3.2 Voting Members: Voting members, other than Charter Members, must meet one or more of the following qualifications in sub-sections A through C and be approved in accordance sub-section D below. A minimum of 51% of Voting members must belong to the ARRL.

- A. Act as the Trustee for one or more repeaters on the Club network.
- B. Be a member in good standing of the American Radio Relay League (ARRL).
- C. Provide technical expertise to the Club.
- D. Be approved by a majority vote of the voting membership.

1.3.3 Associate Membership: An Associate Member is any person interested in amateur radio. Associate Members may be heard in the discussion of any Club business, may serve on Club committees, but not hold an elective office or vote on Club matters.

1.3.4 New Membership Application: A candidate for new associate membership shall be presented to the Club by any member of the Club in good standing, who shall provide background of the candidate and outline any pertinent qualifications. Absent any timely objection, the Secretary shall notify the candidate of an offer of membership and relate any necessary dues payment or assessment, if required.

1.3.5 Membership Termination: Membership in the Club shall terminate upon any one of the following circumstances:

- A. Death
- B. Termination of Amateur Radio authorization.
- C. Lack of Participation in Club Activities or Business.
- D. Conduct unbecoming a member.

Members subject to sub-sections B through D above shall have their membership terminated by a majority vote of all Voting members. Members shall be given notice of the pending vote to terminate and afforded the opportunity to present a statement and defend their membership prior any vote.

ARTICLE II **MEETINGS**

2.1 MEETINGS:

Meetings shall be called and held as needed, but no less than one (1) time each year. Recognizing that members reside in multiple states, meetings can be held electronically via audio/video conference or even via the MQB system.

2.1.1 Authority: Meetings may be called by any of the elected officers.

2.1.2 Notice: Notice for all meetings shall be provided as early as possible, but not less than forty-eight (48) hours prior to the meeting. The forty-eight (48) hour minimum may be waived for an “emergency”.

2.1.3 Quorum: A quorum for any meeting where a vote is to be taken shall be one more than half of all voting members.

2.1.4 Votes: Any matter presented for a vote by a voting member shall be seconded another voting member. The motion shall pass with the affirmative vote of 51% or more of voting members present. Any motion that fails to obtain 51% or more affirmative votes shall fail.

2.1.5 Procedures: Any procedural question regarding the conduct of the meeting shall be resolved in accordance with Robert's Rules of Order.

ARTICLE III **OFFICERS**

3.1 OFFICERS:

The officers of the Club shall be: a President, a Vice-President, a Secretary, and a Treasurer.

3.2 DUTIES OF OFFICERS:

3.2.1 President: The president shall preside at all meetings of the Club, and may appoint committees as the need may arise.

3.2.2 Vice-President: The Vice-President shall preside at any meeting in the absence of the President, shall assume the duties of the President if the President becomes incapacitated, refuses to act, or dies, and shall perform other duties as assigned by the President.

3.2.3 Secretary: The Secretary shall keep all records for the Club, keep minutes of all meetings, receive applications for membership, maintain the official roster of membership, process all correspondence for the club including meeting notices, and other duties as assigned by the President.

3.2.4 Treasurer: The Treasurer shall receive and account for all monies of the Club, pay bills as approved by the Club, and provided regular reporting on the financial activity of the Club.

3.3 ELECTION OF OFFICERS

3.3.1 Nominations: Any Voting member may be nominated to serve as an Officer of the Club.

3.3.2 Elections: Elections for all officers shall be held annually during the month of May. Voting may be done live in person, live via video/audio conference, or by email ballot. The candidate receiving the majority of votes cast shall be declared elected. In the event of a tie, the nomination and election process for that office shall be repeated.

3.3.3 Length of Term: Officers shall serve one-year terms, but shall continue to serve until replaced in accordance with section 3.3.2, or is removed in accordance with section 3.3.4, resigns their office, becomes incapacitated and unable to fulfill their duties or dies.

3.3.4 Removal from Office: Officers may be removed from office by a two-thirds vote of all Voting Members.

3.3.5 Vacancies: Vacancies occurring between elections shall be filled by appointment by the remaining elected officers.

ARTICLE IV DUES & ASSESSMENTS

4.1 DUES:

Dues may be assessed by majority vote of the Club, and may levy upon the Voting and Associate Members such dues as shall be deemed necessary for the business of the Club.

4.2 ASSESSMENTS:

Assessments may be levied by majority vote of the Club to meet expenses related to the Club's activities, system or other obligations.

4.3 NON-PAYMENT:

Non-payment of dues and assessments shall be cause for expulsion or suspension from the Club. Said expulsion or suspension shall require a majority vote of the Voting Members.

4.4 SPECIALIZED ACTIVITY:

Specialized activity requiring considerable funding and that is not of particular interest to the Club as a whole, may be carried on by Club members as a Club Group under Club Sanction, provided no Club treasury funds are required.

ARTICLE V AMATEUR OPERATIONS

5.1 CLUB REPEATERS AND SYSTEMS

The Club shall facilitate amateur radio communications through a system of linked P25 digital amateur radio repeaters. These repeaters may be owned and maintained by Club members, or others.

5.2 AMATEUR ASSISTANCE

The Club will provide technical advice and assistance to any licensed amateur radio operator concerning equipment design and operation to assist in frequency observance, clean signals, uniform practice, and absence of spurious radiations. The Club shall maintain a program to foster public relations.

5.3 INSURANCE

The Club may obtain appropriate insurance coverage to protect the Club's operations, activities, equipment and locations.

5.4 EMERGENCY SERVICES

The Club recognizes the need for effective communications during times of emergency, crisis or disaster. Club resources may be utilized to support emergency communications and relief operations.

ARTICLE VI
AMENDMENTS

This Constitution and Bylaws may be amended by a three-fourths vote of all Voting Members of the Club. Any member of the Club may submit an amendment. Proposals for amendments shall be submitted in writing to all Voting Members, electronically or by mail, a minimum of fourteen (14) days prior to any vote.

ARTICLE VII
APPROVAL

This Constitution and Bylaws shall be in full force and effect upon approval at the organizational meeting of the MQB Radio Club held on the 24th day of May 2020, and upon the effective date of any amendment approved thereto.

Approved by unanimous vote of the Charter Members of the MQB Amateur Radio Club at the organizational meeting held on the 24th day of May 2020.

APPENDIX A

“MQB Amateur Radio Club” **CHARTER MEMBERS**

President: Anthony Casciato KT9AC
Vice-President: Douglas Dobler N9JSF
Secretary: Paul Maplethorpe N9MJP
Treasurer: Kenneth Farver KB9I

Charter Voting Members:

KA9VMV	Robert Cahill	Illinois
KT9AC	Anthony Casciato*	Wisconsin
KH6FV	Carter Davis*	Hawaii
N9JSF	Douglas Dobler	Illinois
N9OIG	Kevin Drissel	Wisconsin
KB9I	Kenneth Farver*	Illinois
KG7VLF	Jason Fields*	Arizona
N9VJW	William Jackson*	Arizona
AH6CP	Robin Liu*	Hawaii
KC9PDU	Erik Maplethorpe*	Illinois
N9MJP	Paul Maplethorpe*	Illinois
KD9PK	Douglas Mather*	Tennessee
KB9SIF	James Mayer*	Wisconsin
N9NIX	Robert McGrath*	Illinois
N9SIG	Gerald Nellessen*	Illinois
WD9BBE	Robert Pasquale	Illinois
KA9MCX	Mary Weltzer*	Illinois
W9TMW	Thomas Weltzer*	Illinois
WB9YWX	Robert Wonderling*	Illinois

*ARRL Member