

WABASH VALLEY AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION, INC.

Bylaws

ARTICLE I - OFFICERS' DUTIES

Section 1 - The President

The President shall have the following duties:

- a. Preside at all meetings of the Association and its Executive Board.
- b. Establish committees from time to time as the need for them arises.
- c. Perform all other duties pertaining to the office.

Section 2 - The Vice-President

The Vice-President shall have the following duties:

- a. Assume the duties of the President during his absence.
- b. Be responsible for making program arrangements.
- c. Arrange for the induction of all new members.
- d. Provide for the welcoming of all visitors.
- e. Perform all other duties pertaining to the office.

Section 3 - The Secretary

The Secretary shall have the following duties:

- a. Take and maintain minutes of all meetings and make them available for publication on the website and in *The Bandspread*.
- b. Ensure that the members are notified of any special meetings.
- c. Give notification of dues payable through *The Bandspread* and on the website.
- d. Maintain an active membership list.
- e. File all reports necessary to keep the Association in good standing with the ARRL.
- f. Notify the ARRL of the newly elected officers immediately after the election at the December meeting.
- g. Perform all other duties pertaining to the office.

Section 4 - The Treasurer

The Treasurer shall have the following duties:

- a. Receive all monies and deposit the same in a bank approved by the Executive Board.
- b. Maintain detailed records of all monies received and disbursed.
- c. Present a report of receipts and disbursements at each meeting and make the report available for publication on the website.
- d. Ensure that all checks are Issued with the signature of an officer of the Association.
- e. Prepare and submit all reports required by the IRS and the State of Indiana.
- f. Submit to an annual audit by a committee appointed by the Executive Board and consisting of the President, Treasurer, and two members not on the Executive Board.
- g. Perform all other duties pertaining to the office.

Section 5 - The Trustee

The Trustee shall have the following duties:

- a. Serve as trustee of the W9UUU and K9IKQ club station licenses.
- b. Maintain records of the Association's equipment including its location on the Association website. Individual members shall be responsible for equipment in their possession which belongs to the Association.
- c. Serve as resident agent of the Corporation and maintain its papers in good standing and order.
- d. Be responsible for maintaining lists of members who have access to club assets, either by key or electronic code.

ARTICLE II – BACKGROUND CHECKS

Optionally, any member may request a criminal background check. To remain in effect, the background check must be repeated every three (3) years.

The initial background check for new members will be paid for by the Association. The cost of subsequent background checks shall be the responsibility of the member.

Members who have not completed the criminal background check may participate in all Association activities except those where the Executive Board has determined that a background check is required.

ARTICLE III – MEMBERSHIP TERMINATION

The Executive Board may expel or suspend a member by a two-thirds vote at a Board meeting due to any of the following conditions:

- a. Failure to discharge debts to the Association.
- b. Failure to abide by the Constitution or Bylaws of the Association.
- c. Conduct detrimental to the welfare, interest, character, or order of the Association.
- d. Conviction of a violation of the FCC rules resulting in the suspension or cancellation of their amateur radio license.
- e. Conviction of a felony under any state or federal law.

The member being considered for termination or suspension shall have an opportunity to address the Executive Board before any vote is taken. The member may appeal the decision of the Executive Board to the membership. A two-thirds vote of the General members present at the meeting is required to overturn the decision.

The Executive Board may reinstate any expelled or suspended member by a two-thirds vote at a Board meeting. Members who have been expelled or suspended or who voluntarily withdraw from the Association have no claim on Association assets or property, real or otherwise.

ARTICLE IV - ASSOCIATION DUES

Section 1 – Annual Dues

Dues for General and Associate members of the Association shall be thirty-five U.S. dollars (\$35) per year. Each additional individual who holds an amateur radio license, who is in the immediate family of a General member, and who resides in the same household as the General member, shall pay dues of eight dollars (\$8) per year. Dues are payable by February 1 of each year.

Section 2 – Life Memberships

General members shall have the option to purchase a one-time, non-refundable, Life Membership which shall be available at a cost equal to twenty years of the current year's General member dues rate.

The Executive Board may vote to grant Life Membership to a Member or non-Member who provides a special money or like-kind donation for the purchase of equipment or other assets or donates physical assets to the Club in an amount equal in total to, or in excess of, the then current Life Member fee. If the donation is less than the current Life Membership fee, it may be used as a partial payment towards a Life Membership upon approval by the Executive Board.

The Treasurer shall deposit all life membership payments into an interest-bearing bank account. These funds shall be accounted for separately and shall not be used, depleted or borrowed against for any purpose other than an annual transfer into the General Fund of an amount equal to one-twentieth (1/20) of the amount paid for the Life Membership. The requirement of the Treasurer to sequester Life Member dues and disperse pro-rata annually to the General Fund shall not apply to donations of money for the purchase of assets or assets received in lieu of all or a portion of the life membership fee. Monies designated for the purchase of assets shall be retained in an interest-bearing account until the purchase of the asset specified by the Life Member is ready to be completed.

Section 3 – Complimentary Memberships

The Executive Board may grant complimentary membership to any individual in recognition of extraordinary contributions to the Association. Complimentary memberships shall be reviewed annually.

If the individual is a licensed amateur radio operator, the complimentary membership shall be a General membership with all the rights and privileges thereof.

If the individual is not licensed, the complimentary membership shall be an Associate membership.

Complimentary members are exempt from paying dues.

ARTICLE V - VOTING

In an election, voting for officers will be by written ballot or, if participating remotely, by text message or by show of hands. If nominations are closed with only one nominee for each office, the nominees may be declared elected by acclamation.

ARTICLE VI - NOMINATIONS FOR OFFICERS

Section 1 - Nominating Committee

A nominating committee shall be appointed by the President in September to select a slate of candidates who have agreed to serve as officers if elected. The committee's report will be due in November and shall be published in accordance with Article VII, Section 2 of these Bylaws.

Section 2 - Nominations from the Floor

Nominations may also be made from the floor by any General member present at the election during the December General meeting.

Section 3 – Eligibility of Officers

To be eligible for nomination as an officer, the nominee must have been a General member for two (2) of the past three (3) years or have attended, as a General member, a minimum of three (3) of the last (4) monthly Association meetings prior to the election. Attending an Association approved activity, such as Field Day, Winter Field Day or the Indiana QSO Party can be substituted for a meeting requirement.

ARTICLE VII - THE BANDSPREAD AND WEBSITE

Section 1 - Official Publication

The Bandspread, along with the Association website, shall constitute the official publications of the Association, and shall be made available to all members.

Section 2 - Official Notices

Any official notice to the membership required by the Constitution or its Bylaws shall be posted to the Association website, along with a notification by e-mail to the current membership of the posting at least five (5) days prior to any action by the membership on said notice. In the case of a notification of a special meeting of the Association, the notification must be made at least three (3) days prior to the meeting.

ARTICLE VIII - THE BRENTLINGER AWARD

Section 1 – Award Purpose

Through the annual Brentlinger Award, the Association shall honor outstanding amateurs in the Wabash Valley. Members of the WVARA as well as non-members may nominate candidates. The service for which candidates are nominated may be for the preceding calendar year or it may be for cumulative years of service.

Section 2 – Award Nominations

Nominations for the award shall be submitted in writing, in a sealed envelope or via e-mail, to the President not later than the February regular meeting. Recipients of the award shall be chosen by a secret committee appointed by the president. The committee shall be composed of three (3) members, representing at least two (2) different classes of amateur license. The recipient or recipients shall be announced at the annual Brentlinger Award Dinner. The committee may choose, at its discretion, not to present an award in any given year.

ARTICLE IX - ASSOCIATION SURPLUS EQUIPMENT DISPOSAL

Section 1 - Surplus Equipment Disposal

Any Association-owned item of equipment declared to have no further value to the Association, as determined by a majority vote of the Executive Board at a regular or called meeting, will be disposed of by the following procedure:

- a. The item will be advertised for sale in accordance with Article VII, Section 2 of these Bylaws, and sealed bids from Association members will be solicited. A deadline for these bids will be published. Each bid must state the member's name, item name, and amount of the bid. The Executive Board may specify a reserve.
- b. The bids will be opened at the Executive Board meeting and the item will be sold to the highest bidder for the amount of his bid.
- c. If no acceptable bid is received, the board may vote to accept the highest bid received or refer the item for auction.
- d. If referred for auction, the item will be sold at the next regular meeting at which an auction takes place, the item having been advertised in accordance with Article VII, Section 2, of these Bylaws prior to the auction. The Executive Board may specify a reserve. Both members and non-members may bid. An item referred for auction with a reserve specified, that does not receive the a bid equal to or greater than the reserve, may be sold by other means at a price not less than the minimum stated for the auction. If the item cannot be sold for the minimum price, the executive board may vote to accept the highest previous bid for the item.
- e. An item referred to auction that does not receive an acceptable bid may be disposed of in a manner voted on by the Executive Board.

Section 2 - Guarantee

All items disposed of will be sold on an "as is" basis.

ARTICLE X - AMENDING THE BYLAWS

The Bylaws of the Association may be amended by a two-thirds vote of the General members present at any regular or special meeting of the Association provided that the proposed amendment has been previously announced to the membership in accordance with Article VII, Section 2 of these Bylaws.

ARTICLE XI - SUSPENDING THE BYLAWS

These Bylaws may be suspended in case of emergency by a unanimous vote of all General members present at any regular or special meeting of the Association, provided that the meeting had been previously advertised in accordance with Article VII, Section 2 of these Bylaws.