

# **WABASH VALLEY AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION, INC.**

## **Constitution**

### ARTICLE I - NAME AND PURPOSE

The name of this organization shall be the Wabash Valley Amateur Radio Association, Inc., referred to hereafter as the Association. Its purpose shall be to promote friendly social contact among amateurs everywhere, extend knowledge of the radio art, advance the general interest and welfare of amateur radio in the community, and encourage service to the public.

### ARTICLE II - MEMBERSHIP

Full membership in the Association shall be open to any holder of a valid amateur radio license. Associate membership shall be open to any person expressing an interest in amateur radio.

### ARTICLE III - OFFICERS

Officers of the Association shall consist of the President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, and Trustee. Officers must be full and current members of the club and shall be elected for one (1) year at the December general meeting. They shall assume their offices at the December board meeting.

### ARTICLE IV- EXECUTIVE BOARD

The officers of the Association, together with the two immediate past presidents, shall constitute the Executive Board.

## ARTICLE V - MEETINGS

### Section I - Regular Meetings

The Regular Meeting of the Association shall be held on the first Friday of each month except July and August, unless changed by the Executive Board.

### Section II - Special Meetings

- a. The President shall have the right to call a special meeting of the Association.
- b. No binding action on any club business shall take place at a special meeting of the Association unless the meeting was announced to the membership by letter, telephone, radio, word of mouth, etc., at least three(3) days before its execution.

### Section III - Quorum

Seventeen or more of the full members appearing on the Secretary's active membership list shall, by their presence at a regular or a special meeting of the Association, constitute a quorum.

### Section IV – Presence

A member shall be considered to be present at any regular or special meeting of the Association or at any meeting of the Executive Board if they are physically present at the meeting location or if they are participating remotely. Remote presence shall include any method which allows all participants to simultaneously hear each other, which ensures the integrity of the voting process, and which has been approved by the Executive Board.

## ARTICLE VI - AMENDING THE CONSTITUTION

This constitution may be amended by a two-thirds vote of those holding full membership present at any regular meeting. The proposed amendment shall be advertised by publication in accordance with Article VII, Section II.

## ARTICLE VII - THE BANDSPREAD AND WEBSITE

### Section I - 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 II - Official Notice

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.

## ARTICLE VIII - GENERAL CLUB POLICIES

### Section I - Order of Business

Robert's Rules of Order shall be used when questions of parliamentary procedure arise.

### Section II - Operating Standards

The Association shall not attempt to govern the actions of its members in the operation of their amateur stations. Nevertheless, the Association stands against all scofflaw elements, and encourages the highest standards of operation on the part of its members.

## ARTICLE IX - THE BRENTLINGER AWARD

### Section I

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 II

Nominations for the award shall be submitted in writing, in a sealed envelope, to the President by January 15. 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 different classes of amateur license. The winner or winners shall be announced at the Brentlinger Award Dinner, held annually in March. The committee may choose, at its discretion, not to present an award in any given year.

## ARTICLE X - FINANCIAL INTEGRITY

### Section I - Sinking Fund

In order to maintain the financial integrity of the Association, a minimum of three hundred (300) dollars shall be maintained in a sinking fund. Additions to said fund shall be made on the recommendation of the Executive Board and with the approval of the members present and voting at a regular meeting.

### Section II - Withdrawals

Withdrawal from the fund shall be made only after approval by a two-thirds majority of members present and voting, following notice of said withdrawal to all members in accordance with Article VII, Section II.

### Section III - Annual Budget

An annual budget shall be prepared by the Executive Board for publication in accordance with Article VII, Section II, for approval at the February meeting.

## ARTICLE XI - A.R.R.L. AFFILIATION

It shall be the policy of this club to support the American Radio Relay League (A.R.R.L.). This policy shall be expressed by affiliation therewith and participation in the activities thereof.

## ARTICLE XII - BYLAW RULES

### Section I - Bylaw Amendments

The Bylaws of the Association may be amended at any regular meeting by a two-thirds vote, the proposed amendment having been previously announced to the membership in accordance with Article VII, Section II.

### Section II - Bylaw Suspension

These Bylaws may be suspended in case of emergency by unanimous vote of all those present at a meeting which had been previously advertised in accordance with this Constitution and its Bylaws.

## ARTICLE XIII - DISSOLUTION

In the event of the dissolution of the Association, any remaining assets shall become the property of the American Radio Relay League, Newington, Connecticut.

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- *This version of the Constitution and Bylaws of the Wabash Valley Amateur Radio Association, Inc., was ratified by the membership on 1 November, 1996 and represents all changes, deletion, and additions up to this time, including an amendment to Article III - Dues, presented and ratified by the membership on May 3, 1996. Respectfully submitted, the Constitution Reorganization Committee. Members: Kevin Berlen, WB9QBR, Jeff Tucker, WB9KIX, Ted Brentlinger, WB9QFE, Marv Carmony, W9KT, and Gary Wheeler, WB9SWG, chair.*
  - *Revised per May 7, 2005 meeting membership vote to amend A-IX, S-II*
  - *Revised per May 5, 2017 meeting membership vote to amend A-VI; A-VII Title; A-VII, S-I; A-VII, S-II; A-X, S-II; A-X, S-III; A-XII, S-I*
  - *Revised per October 2, 2020 meeting membership vote to amend A-V by adding a new section IV – Presence.*