

JOHNSTON AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY, INC.

CONSTITUTION & BY-LAWS

PREAMBLE

JOHNSTON AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY ("JARS") is a non-profit corporation chartered by the State of North Carolina and affiliated with the Amateur Radio Relay League Incorporated ("ARRL"). It shall be our primary purpose to further the Amateur Radio Service ("ARS") through programs, activities, and education, in order to promote the radio knowledge, fellowship, and individual operating efficiency of our members in Johnston and surrounding counties. Further, it shall be our purpose to support the welfare of our community through public service including radio communications for emergency situations and public events, and through providing information, training, and assistance to individuals or organizations with an interest in the ARS.

ARTICLE ONE – Membership:

Section 1 **See Amendments Four and Five, page 15 & 16, for change made February 25, 2021 and May 20, 2021**

1: Any person holding a Federal Communications Commission (FCC) Amateur Radio Service ("ARS") license may become a member of JARS without regard to race, creed, religion, sex or national origin. To maintain ARRL affiliation, a minimum of 51% of JARS Members must also be members of ARRL.

2: Membership is subject to submission of a completed application and payment of the dues established by the membership to the Membership Director. The application form shall include the name, address, telephone number, and email address, if available. Applications shall be presented by the membership director with his/her recommendation to the JARS membership for a vote at that next meeting, a majority of the members present being required for acceptance. If the voting is unfavorable, the application and dues shall be returned. A rejected applicant may reapply ninety (90) days following the rejection and this application must be presented at a club meeting along with the recommendations of the Membership Director.

3. Family Membership is available to immediate family members of any JARS member living in the same household, with payment of the Family Membership fee as established by the membership. When the primary member is a Full Member then the Family Member will be assigned Full membership as determined above, with the same voting privileges even though a family member may not be a licensed Amateur radio operator.

4. The annual membership fee is \$30.00. Total annual dues for all members in an immediate family shall be \$35.00 per year. Any member whose dues have not been paid by the December 31st shall be dropped from the membership, and shall lose all privileges attached to membership. There shall be a grace period of six months for payment and reinstatement; otherwise the former member would have to re-apply as a new member.

5. Honorary Membership may be bestowed for extraordinary service to Amateur Radio, upon recommendation by the Board of Directors and a majority vote of members present at a Membership Meeting. Honorary members pay no dues and have all the privileges of Full Membership. Nominations for Honorary Membership should be sent with supporting documentation to the Board of Directors for investigation.

6. A licensed radio amateur can become a lifetime member with a one time monetary payment of three hundred and fifty (\$350.00) dollars. This payment can be made at any time, but no refund will be made for any dues that have been paid in the past. After the funds for the one time payment are credited to the JARS account, that lifetime member will not be required to pay any further regular club dues. There can be no refunds for lifetime membership. Lifetime memberships are not an asset; they cannot be given, sold, traded, or assigned to another person.

7. Fee Schedules may be changed by a simple majority vote at a club business meeting

ARTICLE TWO – Officers:

1: The Officers/Directors of JARS shall consist of:

- President
- Vice-President
- Secretary
- Treasurer
- Membership Director
- Net Manager
- Media and Newsletter Director / Public Information Officer
- Parliamentarian
- Two at large Directors
- JARS-CERT Captain/Coordinator

2: Only Members having attained the age of 18 years or more and have been a JARS member for at least one full year shall be eligible to hold an elected office. In the event that there are not enough candidates willing to serve then the one year membership requirement may be waived if the majority of the members present at time of election vote to do so. All offices will be elected for a term of 1 year. The offices of President and Vice President will be limited to a maximum of 5 consecutive terms in the same office. There will be no other limit as to the number of times a member may be re-elected to the same office. The Media and Newsletter Director/Public Information Officer may hold another elected office simultaneously.

ARTICLE THREE – Duties of officers:

1: The **President** shall be the chief executive officer of JARS, preside at all meetings according to the rules adopted, call meetings of the Board of Directors, represent JARS on public occasions, enforce the by-laws, and perform all customary duties pertaining to the office. The president shall appoint committees, as he/she deems necessary. Such committees may include but are not limited to JARSFEST, Field Day and similar committees. In the event of an emergency situation, government control or other unforeseen circumstances, the President, after consulting with at least two other members of the Board of Directors, shall have the authority to make important decisions on behalf of the JARS Organization without approval of the general club membership.

2: The Vice-President shall assume the duties of the President in the president's absence. In addition, he/she shall be responsible for coordination of programs for regular club meetings and other club activities.

3: The Secretary shall keep a permanent record of the proceedings at all meetings of JARS and all sessions of the Board of Directors. The Secretary shall keep a roll of the members present, conduct and report on all JARS correspondence, and submit reports to the ARRL when necessary. The Secretary will maintain on hand, a list of all current Standing Rules adopted at JARS meetings. In the event of the absence of the President and Vice President it shall be her/his duty to open and preside over the meeting and shall appoint a member to record the minutes of the meetings. Reading, correction, and approval of the minutes shall be at the end of the regular stated business meeting, and not carried over to the next month for approval, if practical, and not an undue hardship on the secretary. The first order of business at the regular stated meeting shall be reading of the minutes from last month, or any other called meetings in between, for information/refresher only and not for any corrections. This procedure may be modified upon the unified agreement of the President, Secretary, and approved by the membership. The Secretary shall keep minutes of previous meetings readily available in case there is a question about something that happened at a previous meeting. An inexpensive laptop computer shall be provided for the secretary at club expense, if necessary.

4: The Treasurer shall have charge of the funds of JARS. The Treasurer shall make written monthly and annual reports of JARS activities and shall maintain an inventory listing of all equipment owned by JARS. He/she shall be bonded at the expense of the organization when total assets of JARS are in excess of five thousand dollars (\$5,000.00). In the event of the absence of the President, Vice President and Secretary it shall be his/her duty to open and preside over the meeting and shall appoint a member to record the minutes of the meetings. The Treasurer shall be immune from suit by JARS or individual members thereof, for loss of JARS funds in the Treasurer's custody where such loss is not the proximate result of the Treasurer's willful and wrongful act, or the Treasurer's culpable negligence.

5: The Membership Director will accept and verify completeness of all membership applications and collect the appropriate dues per the dues schedule as determined by the membership. The Membership Director will also receive and record all annual dues. All dues will be accurately recorded and turned over to the Treasurer. The Membership Director shall maintain an accurate roster of the

current membership to be available at all meetings to determine issues of membership including voting rights and the right to hold office. The roster will be made available to all members.

6. The **Net Manager** shall be responsible for the selection and assignment of Net control operators for the JARS 147.270 repeater. It shall be the duty of the Net Manager to ensure the JARS Net is held every night at 0830 pm and that a Net Control Operator is in charge to coordinate the check-in and conduct the business of the nightly net. The Net Manager shall be responsible for all JARS activity conducted on the Net. He/she shall be responsible for keeping records concerning the statistics of check-ins and Net activities for the Net on a monthly basis and reporting results to the membership at the regular meetings. The record keeping and statistics may be waived by a majority vote of the membership. It is strongly encouraged that persons wishing to be Net Control Operators hold club memberships, pay dues to support the club, and have stations with sufficient radios and antennas (Directional Antennas, if necessary) to reliably and consistently quiet the repeater or are competent to use EchoLink.

7. The **Parliamentarian** shall resolve disputes during meetings on matters of proper procedure.

8. **Media and Newsletter Director / Public Information Officer:** Shall publish the monthly club newsletter “The Organ”, and shall be responsible for sending official news releases to local media, conducting TV interviews, and interaction with the media. He/She shall maintain a good working relationship with the Webmaster of the JARS web site and Administrator of the JARS Facebook page, and all other social media utilized by JARS.

9. **Two Members at Large.** The purpose of these extra officers, not holding other elected offices, is to add oversight and diversity of views to the discussion during meetings. Further, they would be able to access the post office box and run errands.

10. The **JARS-CERT Captain/Coordinator** shall be equally represented with all other officers at JARS Board of Director meetings. He/She will serve as official Liaison between JARS-CERT and NC Emergency Management, and other Public Safety Agencies. A candidate for this position should have experience in public safety/emergency management and be a current member of the JARS-CERT team.

ARTICLE FOUR - Board of Directors:

- 1:** The Board of Directors will consist of the elected officers in Article Two (1) and at least 2 elected Directors At Large (Members at Large) not holding any other elected office in the club.
- 2:** The Board of Directors shall construct an annual Club Budget and present it to the Club membership for approval at the first business meeting after taking office for the new term. If the proposed budget is not approved by the Club membership, the Board of Directors shall present a revised proposed budget at the following business meeting for Club membership approval. Included in the budget shall be \$200 each for the President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Media Director/PIO for miscellaneous expenses without prior approval. They shall furnish receipts to the Treasurer to be included in his/her monthly report.
- 3:** The duties of the Board of Directors shall be to propose all expenditures of the Club except normal operating expenses that the Treasurer is authorized to pay.
- 4:** Any action taken by the Board of Directors shall be subject to the approval of the voting members present at a regular or special called Membership Meeting.

ARTICLE FIVE – Elections:

- 1:** The elected positions shall consist of the President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Membership Director, Net Manager, Media & Newsletter Director/Public Information Officer, Parliamentarian, two Board Members At Large, and JARS-CERT Captain/Coordinator.
- 2:** A Nominating committee shall be appointed at the June meeting and will report the slate of nominees for the above elected positions at the July and August membership meetings. Nominations from the floor will also be accepted at each meeting provided the nominee agrees to the nomination.
- 3:** Election will be conducted prior to the close of the August meeting by secret ballot in the sequence listed in section 1 above with each election being preceded by the opportunity for additional nominations from the floor.
- 4:** The term of office shall be 1 year commencing with installation at the beginning of the September meeting.
- 5:** Election requires a 51% majority of the voting members present. In the event that no candidate receives a 51% majority of votes the candidate receiving the lowest vote will be dropped from the slate and another vote will be conducted.
- 6:** Should an elected office other than President be vacated for any reason the office will be filled by nomination at the next regular meeting and election at the following meeting. If the office of President becomes vacant the Vice-President shall ascend to the office of President automatically without need for nomination, vote or approval by the membership.

7: Any officer or board member may be removed for cause by a 2/3 majority vote of the Full Members present at a regular or special Membership Meeting whenever, in the judgment of the members, the best interests of JARS will be served thereby. Any officer or board member so removed has the right to appeal and reverse such removal by a 2/3 majority vote of Full Members present at the next regular meeting at which a quorum exists.

ARTICLE SIX – Meetings:

1: Membership meetings shall be held on a regular monthly basis at a time and place determined by the membership. It is encouraged that the meeting be held in Johnston County in a location that is handicapped accessible, centrally located to the maximum number of members, that has cooking facilities if practicable, close to a major interstate, and at a time and place to avoid traffic congestion. The President may move the time and place of the meeting or may cancel the meeting for good cause due to inclement weather, restaurant closing, government control, or any other unforeseen circumstance.

2: Special Membership meetings shall be called by the President upon the written request of any five-club members. The request will include nature of business to be considered at the special meeting. The Secretary will send notification of the special meeting to all members currently on the roster. The notice will specifically state that this will be a Special Meeting and will include the date, time location, and the agenda of business to be considered. Such notices shall be sent so that they arrive not less than 48 hours before the scheduled meeting time. Only such business as designated on the agenda shall be considered to be in order at the meeting.

3: Board of Directors meetings shall be held on a regular monthly basis at a time and place determined by the board of directors and announced to the membership. Members may attend as a guest at any board meeting but should make prior arrangements if they have business to present to the board. These kind of meetings are sometimes called “Officers meetings” and are conducted so that the regular membership meetings can flow smoothly and efficiently in a timely manner.

4: The quorum required for conducting business any regular or special meeting shall be at least 30% of the Full Members of the club.

5: The quorum required for conducting business at a Board of Directors meeting shall be at least 51% of the members of the Board of Directors.

6: Roberts Rules of Order shall govern all proceedings, except where in conflict with the provisions of these articles. Nothing in this section shall foreclose the use of informal procedure during the meetings, however upon request of any

Full Member in good standing; the provisions of the prescribed parliamentary procedure may be invoked.

7: Upon request of any member at a business meeting, a vote must be conducted by secret paper ballot.

8: The presiding officer at any meeting may introduce and call for debate and a vote on any matter which is not substantively addressed within the constitution. Such matters shall be decided by simple majority of the members present. Resulting decisions shall be published in the following club newsletter and listed in the following club business meeting.

9: In the event of an emergency situation, government control or other unforeseen circumstances, when in-person meetings are not possible, meetings may be conducted on or thru amateur radio frequencies, telephone conference call, or over internet resources.

ARTICLE SEVEN – Removal of Members:

Any member may be removed for just cause upon an affirmative vote for removal by 2/3 of the FULL members voting at a regular meeting. The Secretary shall notify all FULL members of the club of the action to be considered at least 48 hours prior to the meeting at which the vote is to be taken.

ARTICLE EIGHT – Amendments:

1: Proposals for amendments to these Articles shall be submitted in writing at two consecutive regular meetings with the proposal to be discussed, included in the newsletter, and voted on at the second meeting.

2: At least 2 weeks prior to the second meeting, all members must be notified of the intent to amend the constitution and articles of the By-Laws.

3: If any changes are made to the proposal to amend it must be re-submitted as a new proposal and notification must again be sent to all members.

4: If the requirements above have been met, this Constitution & By-Laws may be amended by a two-thirds vote of the membership present at the second meeting.

ARTICLE NINE – Dissolution:

In the event of dissolution the residual assets of JARS will be bequeathed to a similar organization serving the Amateur Radio Service as determined by the membership.

JOHNSTON AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY, INC.

CONSTITUTION & BY-LAWS

Pages 1 through 9

July 16, 2020

Voted on and approved by the JARS general club membership, at a regular stated club meeting on July 16, 2020 in compliance with ARTICLE EIGHT of the JARS Constitution & Bylaws.

President: Scott Wilkinson

Vice-President: Billy Newton

Secretary: Velda Callam

Chairman of Constitution & Bylaws Committee: Ryan Leathers

JARS Constitution and Bylaws

AMENDMENT ONE: MEMBER'S CODE OF CONDUCT

Preamble:

The Member's Code of Conduct sets forth standards of behavior by which we hold one another and ourselves accountable. Our aim is to foster a thriving community of amateur radio enthusiasts in which all participants will be welcomed, feel safe, and enjoy opportunities to learn and serve our community. Notwithstanding these broad goals, the scope of this code of conduct is limited to, and focused on, the behavior of individual members.

(1) JARS members shall at all times conduct themselves in a manner that shall reflect favorably on the Johnston Amateur Radio Society. Conduct unbecoming shall include any conduct, at official JARS sponsored events or not, which tends to bring JARS or the member into disrepute, or which otherwise reflects unfavorably on the reputation or purpose of JARS.

(2) Members shall not knowingly commit any act or be guilty of any omission which constitutes a violation of any rules, regulations, directives, orders, or policies of JARS or the Federal Communications Commission.

(3) Members shall obey all Federal, State, and local laws and ordinances.

(4) Members shall be courteous to the public and to fellow JARS members, and shall maintain good temper, tact, and decorum at all times.

4.1 No member shall use foul or profane language either in person or via any communications medium.

4.2 No member shall threaten or cause harm to another person.

4.3 No member shall harass, slander, or ridicule another person.

(5) Members, and particularly officers, shall use discretion when dealing with matters of a personal or sensitive nature, limiting dissemination of such information to a need-to-know basis, and shall not foster or participate in rumor.

(6) Smoking and vaping are prohibited in all enclosed areas of JARS sponsored events.

(7) Consumption of alcoholic beverages may be permitted at designated JARS sponsored or participating events. To alleviate risks associated with impairment due to alcohol or other substances, members and visitors shall regulate themselves, and shall submit to removing themselves from the event, and shall not operate any motor vehicle if impaired. Same is to be enforced by the person in charge of the event.

(8) The President or person in charge at any JARS sponsored or participating event shall have the final authority in the enforcement of the above rules and any other situations concerning a member's or visitor's conduct at JARS sponsored events. Any member alleged to have violated the code of conduct may, within 3 days of the incident, appeal in writing to the President for review by a President's Review Panel of 3 members, to be convened within 10 days of the appeal.

JARS Constitution and Bylaws

AMENDMENT ONE: MEMBER'S CODE OF CONDUCT

Voted on and approved by the JARS general club membership, at a regular stated club meeting on **July 16, 2020** in compliance with ARTICLE EIGHT of the JARS Constitution & Bylaws.

President: Scott Wilkinson

Vice-President: Billy Newton

Secretary: Velda Callam

Chairman of Constitution & Bylaws Committee: Ryan Leathers

JARS Constitution and Bylaws
AMENDMENT TWO: FIREARMS

(1) No Open Carry. At NO time shall any firearm be openly displayed at any JARS sponsored event.

Exceptions:

(a) A uniformed law enforcement officer.

(b) With prior approval of the President or person in charge, and prior notification to the event participants, an unloaded firearm may be brought and displayed for an educational event: for example, a gun safety class taught by a qualified instructor.

(2) Lawful Concealed Carry is Permitted. Firearms may be carried by anyone, with the understanding that:

2.1 Persons with concealed firearms will keep them concealed. We recognize there may be occasions when a concealed firearm or its outline becomes partially visible, such as when jumping or bending over, but the owner shall make every reasonable effort to keep the firearm concealed.

2.2 All persons with a concealed firearm must have completed proper training and qualification for such firearm, and have in their possession a North Carolina Concealed Carry Permit, or other qualifying permit issued by a government agency, and carried within the laws of the State of North Carolina.

JARS Constitution and Bylaws
AMENDMENT TWO: FIREARMS

Voted on and approved by the JARS general club membership, at a regular stated club meeting on **July 16, 2020** in compliance with ARTICLE EIGHT of the JARS Constitution & Bylaws.

President: Scott Wilkinson

Vice-President: Billy Newton

Secretary: Velda Callam

Chairman of Constitution & Bylaws Committee: Ryan Leathers

JARS Constitution and Bylaws

AMENDMENT THREE: Community Emergency Response Team

In October of 2019 the Johnston Amateur Radio Society made a decision to sponsor and supervise a Community Emergency Response Team, aka: C.E.R.T., that will operate within the JARS Organization. At a regular club meeting on October 17, 2019 the JARS Club membership agreed and voted to provide financial support and other expenses needed to support the JARS-CERT.

The Johnston County Amateur Radio Society- Community Emergency Response Team (**JARS-CERT**) program, in cooperation with the North Carolina Office of Emergency Management, educates volunteers about disaster preparedness for the hazards that may impact their area and trains them in basic disaster response skills, such as fire safety, light search and rescue, team organization, and disaster medical operations and specializes in point to point radio communications. JARS-CERT members are available when called upon by local and state Public Safety and Emergency Management and any other similar organizations to assist when needed.

Although trained and available to assist in the many disciplines of public safety and disaster preparedness, the primary focus of the JARS-CERT will be on emergency communications.

The JARS-CERT shall have their own operating rules and regulations, managers and supervisors, and personal equipment used by it's members. The JARS President and the JARS Board of Directors shall be the final supervisory and overseeing authority for all JARS-CERT operations.

The JARS-CERT Captain/Coordinator of the group, will serve as official Liaison between JARS-CERT and NC Emergency Management, and other Public Safety Agencies.

The JARS-CERT Captain/Coordinator shall be an Elected Officer of JARS under ARTICLE TWO, AND ARTICLE FIVE of the JARS Constitution and Bylaws. He/She shall be equally represented with all other officers at JARS Board of Director meetings. A candidate for this position should have experience in public safety/emergency management and be a current member of the JARS-CERT team.

JARS Constitution and Bylaws

AMENDMENT THREE: Community Emergency Response Team

Voted on and approved by the JARS general club membership, at a regular stated club meeting on **July 16, 2020** in compliance with ARTICLE EIGHT of the JARS Constitution & Bylaws.

President: Scott Wilkinson

Vice-President: Billy Newton

Secretary: Velda Callam

Chairman of Constitution & Bylaws Committee: Ryan Leathers

JARS Constitution and Bylaws

AMENDMENT FOUR: ARTICLE ONE – Membership

Section 1

1. (a). Any person holding a Federal Communications Commission (FCC) Amateur Radio Service (“ARS”) license may become a **FULL** member of JARS without regard to race, creed, religion, sex, or national origin. **FAMILY** memberships are extended to all persons living in the same household as the licensee, (for an additional fee), whether they are licensed themselves or not.

1. (b). **ASSOCIATE** Membership is available to anyone non-licensed but wants to affiliate with the club, and participate in all club activities. **ASSOCIATE** members do not have voting privileges and may not hold elected offices, but they are welcome to participate in all club activities and serve on committees. The fee for **ASSOCIATE** membership shall be one half ½ the rate of a **FULL** membership. **ASSOCIATE** members are encouraged to get their Amateur Radio License within the first year of membership making them eligible to become a **FULL** member, or may continue as an **ASSOCIATE** member if they wish to do so.

JARS Constitution and Bylaws

AMENDMENT FOUR: ARTICLE ONE - Membership

Voted on and approved by the JARS general club membership, at a regular stated club meeting on

February 25, 2021 in compliance with ARTICLE EIGHT of the JARS Constitution & Bylaws.

President: Richard Futrell

Vice-President: Mark Gibson

Secretary: Velda Callam

Chairman of Constitution & Bylaws Committee: Scott Wilkinson

JARS Constitution and Bylaws

AMENDMENT FIVE: ARTICLE ONE – Membership

Section 1, # 2, (from Page 1)

2: Membership is subject to submission of a completed application and payment of the dues established by the membership to the Membership Director. The application form shall include the name, address, telephone number, and email address, if available. All applications shall be presented by the Membership Director with his/her recommendation to the JARS membership for a vote at that next meeting, a majority of the members present being required for acceptance. If the voting is unfavorable, the application and dues shall be returned. A rejected applicant may reapply ninety (90) days following the rejection and this application must be presented at a club meeting along with the recommendations of the Membership Director. Any applicant with a criminal history over 10 years old, who has NOT been previously convicted of a violent or sexual related felony crime, may apply for membership in JARS, however applications of persons with any criminal history may be held open for one month pending further investigation by the Membership Director and the Board of Directors. Any felony conviction within the past 10 years will automatically cause the application to be rejected.

JARS Constitution and Bylaws

AMENDMENT FIVE: ARTICLE ONE – Membership

Section 1, #2, (from Page 1)

Voted on and approved by the JARS general club membership, at a regular stated club meeting on **May 20, 2021** in compliance with ARTICLE EIGHT of the JARS Constitution & Bylaws.

President: Richard Futrell _____

Vice-President: Mark Gibson _____

Secretary: Velda Callam _____

Chairman of Constitution & Bylaws Committee: Scott Wilkinson _____

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