

# BLUE RIDGE AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY BY-LAWS

Approved – Created 4 September 2017

## SECTION (1)

### MEMBERSHIP:

**(A)** Applications for membership shall be submitted in writing on the Society Application Form; via the Society website; at any regularly scheduled meeting, or by mail to the Society's Post Office Box, Attention: Secretary. Each applicant shall take note that by signing the application form, they agree to be bound by the Constitution and By-laws of the BLUE RIDGE AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY, INC.

**(B)** The Society membership will promptly review and recommend admission or rejection of all new membership application(s).

A vote will be taken by the Membership present for approval or rejection. The results of the Membership's vote shall decide the question of admission. The applicant may withdraw their application at any time prior to the club vote.

**(C)** Applicants for new membership must have attended at least two Society General Meetings as a guest and be sponsored by two existing members who have been members in good standing of the Society for a minimum of two (2) years. All new Members will be subject to a one (1) calendar year probation period, during which time the Society membership may initiate dismissal procedures as outlined in 1J.

**(D)** The levels of membership in the Society are defined as follows:

Member Level	Definition	Voting / Social Privileges	Annual Fee
Full Member	Licensed Amateur Radio Operator over age 25 or over 18 and not a Student as defined below	Yes / Yes	\$25.00 (under 65) \$20.00 (over 65)
Repeater Patron	Any individual over age 18	No / Yes	\$25.00
Associate	Spouse of Full Member or child of Full Member under age 18 living with parents	No / Yes	\$15.00
Student	Licensed Amateur Radio Operator between the ages of 18 and 25, enrolled in an institution of higher learning	Yes / Yes	\$15.00

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New memberships accepted after July 1 will be allowed membership at one half the yearly membership dues. New memberships accepted after November 1 will pay yearly membership dues and be paid in full for the following year. Fees paid by Repeater Patron members will be directly deposited in the Society Repeater Fund.

**(E)** Membership renewals received after March 1 will be handled as a new membership application, unless otherwise approved by the Membership.

**(F)** A previous year member must pay the full membership fee when renewing.

**(G)** Club dues for new members are due upon their respective acceptance into the Society. Club privileges shall commence upon payment of dues.

**(H)** Associate membership: Any non-licensed person may apply to become an Associate Member of the BLUE RIDGE AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY, INC. at one half of the membership dues as established by the By-laws. The Associate Member has no voting privileges and will not be permitted to operate any radio equipment owned by the Society without a licensed control operator present, but the Associate Member will have all social privileges.

**(I)** Intentionally unused

**(J)** Upon an affirmative vote of the members present at a general meeting, proceedings to dismiss a current member may be commenced. The member shall be notified by the Society's President of the accusations against that member, at least 15 days prior to the next regularly scheduled meeting of the Society. The member in question shall be permitted to answer the accusations at this meeting. Should the Society Membership find against the member, the entire membership of the Society will be notified via newsletter distribution channels and decide the question of removal by a majority vote via US Postal mail within 45 days of said Society meeting. If the membership of the Society believes the charges to be insufficient, they shall vacate the motion to dismiss the member. If the member in question resigns, no further action will be taken and the member will be dropped from the Society's Roster.

**(K)** Members who have been removed or resign from membership; under the provisions of 1J, may not participate in any club functions, attend meetings, or use club equipment.

**(L)** Any member who has been removed from membership in the Society per By-laws SECTION 1J, and who reapplies for membership in the Society, may be reinstated as a member of the Society only by a majority vote of the full membership of the BLUE RIDGE AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY, INC. If that vote of the full membership of the BLUE RIDGE AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY, INC. is not a majority vote, subsequent

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reapplication by the removed member for membership in the Society will be automatically rejected.

## **SECTION (2)**

### **GROUND FOR OFFICER AND COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSON REPLACEMENT**

If an officer, or committee chairperson misses three consecutive scheduled meetings without prior documented communications to the Executive Committee, then their position will be subject to removal as follows: Within the first 6 months of taking their position, a replacement will be assigned via an election for the position. In the event no candidate is available through this procedure, then the position is to be filled by an Executive Committee appointment.

## **SECTION (3)**

### **SECRETARY:**

The Secretary shall maintain and bring to all regular and special meetings updated copies of all official Society documentation with all amendments, changes, and additions which shall be deemed authoritative and permit updated copies to be examined by the Membership upon request.

## **SECTION (4)**

### **TREASURER:**

**(A)** All monies belonging to the Society shall be deposited into and withdrawn from an account or accounts in financial institutions physically located in Greenville County. All accounts shall be owned by the Society. All funds shall be deposited within thirty (30) days of receipt.

**(B)** Receipts presented for reimbursement of expenditures made on the Society's behalf may be accepted and paid by the Treasurer without requiring further approval by the Society membership, provided all the following Conditions are met:

**(1)** The receipts submitted are dated within the past sixty (60) days, except as provided for in Subsection (E).

**(2)** No receipt, nor the total of all receipts submitted by any individual in a thirty (30) day period shall exceed one hundred (\$100.00) dollars.

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**(3)** In the judgment of the Treasurer or Society President, the expense is proper and in the best interest of the Society.

**(C)** Receipts presented for reimbursement which do not satisfy the conditions set out in Subsection (B: 1, 2, and 3) shall require individual approval by the Society membership before their respective payment.

**(D)** All expenditures paid under the provisions of this section shall become part of an itemized record which shall be periodically audited by the Executive Committee, or any such committee as they shall delegate.

**(E)** The Treasurer shall have the power to alter the time allowed for receipt submission on a case by case basis.

## **SECTION (5)**

### **MEETINGS:**

**(A)** Regular Meetings will be held once each month at a place, date, and time, as the President shall order.

**(B)** Special Meetings may be called by the President, or upon the President receiving a written request of any five (5) members of the Society, and for this purpose the President may sign such a request. Notification shall be made to all members, informing them of such meeting and the business to be transacted. Only such business as designated in the notification shall be transacted at such meetings.

## **SECTION (6)**

### **SOCIETY EQUIPMENT:**

**(A)** An inventory and accounting of all Society equipment and property shall be completed and filed with the Secretary annually on or before March 1, and within 30 days of the appointment of a new Society Equipment Custodian. The Society President shall have the power to alter these deadlines or order a new inventory to be completed, at any time.

**(B)** Members wishing to borrow Society equipment or property shall be required to check the equipment or property in and out following procedures provided by the Society Equipment Custodian, who shall be appointed by the Society President and confirmed by the Society membership.

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(C) Equipment excluded from loan shall be that associated with repeater systems of the Society.

(D) Any damage or loss of equipment or property will be the responsibility of the person to whom the loan was made. The extent of the liability will be assessed by the Society Equipment Custodian and Society President.

(E) The President or Society Equipment Custodian, at their discretion, may order the return of any borrowed Society equipment or property when such action is deemed necessary.

(F) Properly functioning equipment of the society shall not be permanently removed from service without the consent of the Membership.

(G) Any non-member licensed amateur Radio operators will, at the discretion of the Society President and the Equipment Custodian, be allowed to borrow Club equipment. Non-Club members will be required to show their valid, current Amateur Radio license, proper government issued identification, and provide a verified home telephone number and address. They must also agree to and follow the rules of SECTION 6, Society Equipment, of The By-Laws of The Blue Ridge Amateur Radio Society, Inc.

## **SECTION (7)**

### **COMMITTEES:**

(A) The President shall have the power to organize and/or supervise any and all committees in accordance with the provisions of the Society's Constitution. All Committees, except for the Executive Committee as specified in the Society Constitution, may meet as necessary or as specified in the Society Constitution and By-laws.

(B) No Committee may make decisions that are binding on the Society without the confirmation of the Membership at a General Society Meeting. No Committee may make any decisions regarding the expenditure of Society funds without following the procedures specified in the Society Constitution and By-laws.

(C) All Standing Committees are required to develop, and operate under, a Standard Operating Procedure (SOP). The Standing Committee SOP will be a document available to all Society Members upon request.

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## SECTION (8)

### REPEATER COMMITTEE:

(A) There shall be a standing committee of the Society tasked with the management, upkeep, and good stewardship of the Society's repeater systems. This committee is hereinafter referred to as the "Repeater Committee", or in this section as "the Committee".

(B) Members of the Repeater Committee shall be Amateurs who possess the requisite skill, knowledge, interest, and integrity to ensure the proper operation of Society equipment.

(C) The Repeater Committee shall meet as a whole at least quarterly. It shall be chaired by the current Trustee of the Society's primary call sign, or such other individual as the Trustee shall designate.

(D) Appointments to the Committee shall be upon a consensus agreement of current members of the committee. Committee members may be appointed by the Committee itself or by the Society membership, provided that the confirmation of the appointment is by a majority vote.

(E) Removal of Committee members shall be for cause, and accomplished by a  $\frac{3}{4}$  vote of the Committee, subject to a majority vote confirmation by the Society membership.

(F) The current Trustee of the Society's primary call sign shall be charged with the security of all Society repeater sites. The Trustee shall maintain keys, access cards, gate codes, and any and all methods of access to repeater sites. Access to these materials shall be granted to members of the Repeater Committee at the discretion of the Trustee.

(G) The current Trustee, or such person as designated, shall be responsible for maintaining updated contact information of repeater site owners, and for supplying contact information on any Committee member(s) authorized to access their respective sites.

(H) The Executive Committee may at any time demand access to repeater sites of the Society, provided that any such persons accessing repeater sites be accompanied by a member of the Committee to ensure the safety of persons and equipment.

(I) The Trustee may authorize others to access repeater sites with the consent of the Committee, in the same manner prescribed by Subsection (H) of this Section.

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**(J)** The Trustee shall be consulted, if at all possible in advance, of any entrance to repeater sites and upon additions, removals, or modifications to equipment contained therein.

**(K)** Such power is delegated to the Committee as is necessary to properly ensure the upkeep, repair, maintenance, and security of Society repeater systems. The Committee shall carry out its work in consultation with the Society Officers, and shall have non-emergency expenditures greater than \$250 approved by the Executive Committee, in advance, if at all possible.

## **SECTION (9)**

### **PROJECTS:**

Society members shall be allowed to purchase tickets and to win prizes at any fund raising project or event sponsored by the Society.

## **SECTION (10)**

### **INTOXICANTS:**

Abuse of intoxicants of any type, alcohol or illegal drugs, at any Society function may be deemed cause for prompt eviction from the function and removal from membership in the BLUE RIDGE AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY, INC.