

# BLUE RIDGE AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY CONSTITUTION

Approved – Created 4 September 2017

## ARTICLE 1

### NAME:

The name of this organization is: THE BLUE RIDGE AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY, INC.

## ARTICLE 2

### PURPOSE:

**Section 1** The purposes of this organization are as follows:

1. Promote the pleasures and benefits of associating with persons having common interests in amateur radio.
2. Promote interest in amateur radio communications and experimentation, including new and emerging technologies.
3. Foster and promote intercommunication by electronic means for personal benefit of its members without monetary gain.
4. Relay messages by radio without charge.
5. Participate in public service activities and public education.
6. Strongly support and encourage, as an organization, an active relationship with emergency and disaster relief organizations.
7. Support and promote the Amateur Radio Relay League; their activities, directorship, and interface with the FCC, regarding the promotion and protection of Amateur Radio.
8. Actively support, maintain, and operate the local W4NYK repeater system.

**Section 2** No part of the assets or income of the corporation shall be the property of any member or members, but such assets and income shall be used exclusively for the purposes listed above.

## ARTICLE 3

### MEMBERSHIP:

**Section 1** Membership shall be by application and election upon such terms as the Society shall, by its By-laws, provide.

**Section 2** All members shall be provided with a copy of the Constitution and By-laws, which are available on the Society website.

**Section 3** Any member may be removed from membership as provided for in the By-laws.

## ARTICLE 4

### OFFICERS:

**Section 1** The Officers of the Society shall be: President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer and will be referred to as the Executive Committee. All Officers upon taking office, shall be members in good standing of the BLUE RIDGE AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY, INC., for at least the previous twelve calendar months prior to the election, at least 18 years of age, and licensed radio amateurs.

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**Section 2** Candidates for Officers shall be nominated by a three member Nomination Committee created at the August Society Meeting. Members of the Nomination Committee shall be members in good standing of the BLUE RIDGE AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY, INC. and at least 18 years of age. The Nomination Committee will submit at least one eligible candidate for each Office position at the October Meeting. Nominations from the floor for all Officers will be accepted at both the October and November meetings. Nominations shall be provided to the President at the October meeting and shall be read to attending members. Names of Candidates nominated shall be published in the Society Newsletter immediately following the October meeting.

**Section 3** Candidates for Officers receiving the majority affirmative votes of the members in good standing at the November meeting shall be declared elected.

**Section 4** The Officers of the Society shall be elected for a term of two years. The President and Secretary shall be elected during even year elections. A current officer may be nominated for the office of President during the even year elections. The Vice-President and Treasurer shall be elected during odd year elections.

**Section 5** An Officer's term of office shall commence on December 1 of the year elected and terminate two years later on December 31. By allowing the Officers to begin their term on December 1, the new Officers have a joint meeting at which to pass any information needed between the incoming and outgoing Officers.

**Section 6** Officers are allowed to hold only one office at any one time.

**Section 7** Officers can serve only two consecutive terms in any one position before having to be out of their current Office position for at least one term. Before serving in a position they have previously filled, an Officer must be out of that position for at least one term.

**Section 8** In the event of a vacancy in the office of President, the Vice-President shall succeed for the remainder of the President's term. In the event of a vacancy in any other office, the Executive Committee shall appoint a member, in good standing, to fill the unexpired term of the person leaving office, with the approval of the Membership at the next general meeting.

**Section 9** Any Officer may be removed from office for cause, and accomplished via the described method.

The cause for removal will be presented, and discussed, at the next Society meeting following the discovery of the cause. The vote of a majority of the members in attendance at that Society meeting will determine the disposition of the removal. In the event the officer subject to removal is the President, the Vice-President shall conduct the vote regarding the removal of the officer.

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## ARTICLE 5

### DUTIES OF OFFICERS:

**Section 1** The President shall preside at all meetings of the Society and the Executive Committee. The President shall appoint all Committee Chairpersons and be an ex-officio member of all committees. The President shall enforce the Constitution and By-laws; decide all questions of Order; sign Official Documents concerning the Society; be responsible to the general membership of the Society and perform all other duties, customary and pertaining to said office.

**Section 2** The Vice-President shall, in the absence of the President, assume all duties of the President during the President's term of office.

**Section 3** The Secretary shall keep a record of the proceedings of all meetings, including Executive Committee meetings; keep a Roster of all members; carry on required correspondence and perform all other duties customary to the office. The Secretary shall at the expiration of the term of their office, turn over to the new Secretary, all documents records and other material items in their possession belonging to the Society.

**Section 4** The Treasurer shall receive and receipt for all monies paid to the Society. The Treasurer shall keep an accurate account of all monies received and expended. The Treasurer shall pay all bills upon proper authorization. At each regular meeting of the Executive Committee, the Treasurer shall submit to the Secretary and Executive Committee, an itemized statement of receipts and disbursements. The Treasurer shall at the expiration of the term of their office, turnover to the new Treasurer, all documents records and other material items in their possession belonging to the Society.

## ARTICLE 6

### MEETINGS:

**Section 1** The By-laws shall provide for Regular and Special meetings. At the Regular or Special meetings, ten percent of the current membership Roster must be present to constitute a Quorum for the transaction of normal business.

**Section 2** A Parent, Guardian, or Chaperone, over the age of 18 years, must accompany any individual under the age of 18 years.

## ARTICLE 7

### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:

**Section 1** - The affairs of the BLUE RIDGE AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY, INC. shall be managed by an Executive Committee under the guidance of the Constitution and By-laws. The Executive Committee shall consist of the President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer.

**Section 2** - The Executive Committee shall direct the care of the funds of the Society; shall make appropriations for specific purposes (No appropriations shall be made exceeding the money in the Treasury); shall act on all questions of acceptance or expulsion of members and shall, in general, direct the business of the Society, either itself or through its Officers and Committees. However, it shall at all times be responsible to the Membership for its actions. Appointees to Committees may be subject to removal only

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by affirmative vote of a majority of the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee may delegate to Committees such of its powers, as it may from time to time deem necessary.

**Section 3** - The Society President may convene the Executive Committee, outside of the Society General Meeting. However any decisions, which are binding on the Society, may not be carried out without the confirmation of the Membership at the next Society General Meeting. Emergency meetings of the Executive Committee may be convened to address situations of extreme urgency or immediate adverse impact to the Society and to execute corrective actions as required. The Society Secretary will duly record the proceedings of such emergency meetings. A report of any Executive Committee meetings will be presented to the members of the Society at the next Society General meeting.

## ARTICLE 8

### DIRECTORS:

The Director offices that are held at the time of ratification of this Constitution will all be vacated immediately.

## ARTICLE 9

### DUES:

**Section 1** There shall be a fee set forth in the By-laws for annual dues, payable January 1 each year. Dues are covered in the By-laws, Sec. 1.

**Section 2** Dues that are delinquent over 60 days shall be cause for loss of membership and removal from the Roster.

## ARTICLE 10

### AMENDMENTS:

**Section 1** Amendments to this constitution may be proposed by an affirmative majority vote of the members present at any regularly scheduled or special meeting provided the general membership has two weeks prior notice of the proposed amendment. The proposed amendments shall be incorporated into the Constitution upon an affirmative majority vote of all members of the Society.

**Section 2** Amendments to the By-laws may be proposed by an affirmative majority vote of the members present at any regularly scheduled or special meeting provided the general membership has two weeks prior notice of the proposed amendment. The proposed amendments shall be incorporated into the By-laws upon an affirmative majority vote of all members of record of the Society.

## ARTICLE 11

### VOTES

When a vote by the Membership of the Society is called, the following choices will be available to those eligible to vote: "Yes", "No", and "Abstain". A "Yes" vote affirms the motion or the question. A "No" vote rejects the motion or the question. An "Abstain" vote neither affirms nor rejects the question and does not count in tallying the vote negatively or positively.

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## **ARTICLE 12**

### **RULES:**

The rules of the Society are as stated in the Constitution and By-laws.