

**EASTERN SHORE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB**

**CONSTITUTION**

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**Article I - Name**

**Section 1.** The name of this organization shall be the **EASTERN SHORE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB**

**Section 2.** Hereinafter, and in the By-Laws, the **EASTERN SHORE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB** may be referred to as the **ESARC**, the **E.S.A.R.C.** or the **Club**.

**Article II - Purpose**

**Section 1.** Mission:

The Eastern Shore Amateur Radio Club (ESARC) is a non-profit public benefit organization, formed to promote interest in telecommunications, disseminate information about advancements and discoveries in telecommunications, and to train communicators for public service and emergency communications. ESARC also encourages experiments in electronics and promotes the highest standards of practice and ethics in the conduct of Amateur Radio communications.

**Section 2.** Objectives:

ESARC seeks to attain its success by focusing on the Club’s mission, developing leadership within the club, application of state-of-the-art communications capabilities, organizing

educational activities, prudent financial management, publicizing its activities and services to the Virginia Eastern Shore community, and above all a dedication to public service.

**Section 3. Achievement:**

The success of ESARC is shown by an increased involvement of the membership in all Club activities, by public recognition and support from both Accomack and Northampton Counties, by members' advancement in the application of communications technology, and by the proper utilization of the Club's assets.

**Section 4. Limitations:**

The ESARC is organized and operated exclusively for scientific, public safety, educational and charitable purposes. No part of the net earnings of the club inures to the benefit of any private shareholder or individual (except that reasonable compensation may be paid for services rendered to or for the organization), and individual shall be entitled to share in the distribution of any of the corporate assets upon dissolution of the Corporation. No substantial part of the activities of the Corporation shall consist of carrying on propaganda, or otherwise attempting, to influence legislation (except as otherwise provided by Section 501(h) of the Code), or participating in, or intervening in (including the publication or distribution of statements), any political campaign on behalf of or in opposition to any candidate for public office.

## **Article III -Membership**

**Section 1. Qualifications:**

All persons interested in Amateur Radio communication shall be eligible for membership, by registering with the club secretary, and keeping their dues up-to-date.

**Section 2. Full membership:**

Only members that hold an active Federal Communications Commission (FCC) issued Amateur Radio Operator's license shall be voting members. To be eligible for nomination and to hold office a member must be Full Member of ESARC in good standing for at least one year; and be 18 years or older.

**Section 3. Associate Membership:**

Other persons, including family members, and those interested in Amateur Radio Communications but do not hold an active FCC issued Amateur Radio Operator's license, are encouraged to become associate members, but will not have voting rights.

## **Article IV - Governance**

### **Section 1.** Executive Board:

The Club shall be governed by an Executive Board, as provided for in the By-Laws.

### **Section 2.** Club Positions:

Club positions shall include elected Officers, Appointed Positions, and Committees, in all cases as provided for in the By-Laws. At a minimum, the By-Laws shall provide for the roles of President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer.

## **Article V - Meetings and Quorums**

### **Section 1.** Meetings:

The By-Laws shall provide for regular and special meetings. Robert's Rules of Order shall guide proceedings to the extent practical.

### **Section 2.** Quorum:

At Club meetings, for the transaction of regular business, a minimum of one-eighth of the membership shall constitute a quorum. Amending the Constitution is considered special, not regular business. (see Article VII below).

## **Article VI - Financial Obligations**

### **Section 1.** Financial Liability:

Individually, the Club's officers, appointees, and members of the Club shall not be liable for its debts.

### **Section 2.** Dues:

The club shall levy annual dues on the membership, for the purpose of funding club operations, as provided for in the By-Laws. By majority vote of those present at any regular or special meeting (provided there is a quorum), the club may levy upon the general membership additional dues or assessments as shall be deemed necessary for the business of the organization or to meet financial obligations. Non-payment of any dues or assessments may be cause for expulsion from the club, at the discretion of the Executive Board.

**Section 3. Dissolution:**

Upon the termination, dissolution or final liquidation of the Club in any manner and for any reason, the Officers shall first pay or provide for the payment of all liabilities of the organization; all remaining assets shall be distributed for one or more exempt purposes within the meaning of Section 501(c)(3) of the IRS Code (or the corresponding section of any future federal tax code), or shall be distributed to the federal government, or to state or local government, for a public purpose.

**Article VII - Amendments to Constitution**

**Section 1. Requirements:**

This constitution may be amended by a two-thirds vote of the total membership at a regular or special meeting. Proposals for amendments must be submitted to each member in hard copy or electronically at least 30 days prior to the next scheduled regular meeting where the proposed amendment will be voted on.

**Section 2. Absentee Voting:**

The Club's Secretary shall make absentee ballots available. A returned absentee ballot shall count as if that person were present at the next regular meeting during which a vote is to be taken on the proposed amendment.

**Article VIII - Ratification**

This constitution shall go into effect upon the approval of two-thirds of the membership of the ESARC, and shall include ratification of revised By-Laws to support this Constitution. The ratification of this constitution shall render null and void any prior constitution and by laws established by the ESARC.