



**York County Amateur Radio Society Club, Inc.  
Rock Hill, South Carolina**

# **By-Laws**

## **Version 2.0**

Updated: June 1, 2023

### **Preface**

These By-Laws supersede and replace all previous By-Laws including, but not limited to, all memoranda or written policies which may have been issued on the subjects covered in this document.

### **MEMBERSHIP**

#### **Requirements for Membership**

1. Must hold a valid amateur radio license or has passed the examination for a license and is awaiting issue of the license from the FCC
2. Must agree to abide by the By-Laws, Constitution and all rules of the Club
3. Must submit an application for membership
4. Must be current on membership dues (Exceptions for Honorary and Lifetime Members)

#### **Application for Membership**

1. The completed application shall be delivered physically or electronically to a club officer
2. Upon submission of the application and dues being paid, the applicant shall be granted initial membership at the **Associate Member** level

### **MEMBERSHIP LEVELS**

#### **Associate Member**

Description: Any member within his/her first six (6) months of membership

Associate Member privileges:

- Recognition as a member of YCARS
- YCARS Microsoft Office 365 access with @ycars.com email address
- May attend all YCARS meetings either in-person or online (but cannot vote)
- Access to club YouTube content, including any club exclusive material
- Access to Members Only content and forums on club website
- Access to club Elmer assistance
- May join a YCARS committee

## **Member**

After six (6) months of membership, an Associate Member that has demonstrated an interest and ability to contribute to club functions and operations may submit a request to any Club Officer to become a Member. The request will be placed on the agenda of the next regular Business Meeting for a formal vote by other Members. If approved by a majority vote, the Associate Member will immediately become a Member.

Member privileges:

- All privileges of Associate Members with the following additions:
- Must be 18 years of age
- May vote on club business
- May hold officer or other leadership roles in the club
- May chair a committee
- Eligible for credentials/keys to access the clubhouse
- After proper training and demonstrated competence, will have access to operate equipment in the club Ham Shack

## **Lifetime Member**

A Lifetime Members is a:

- Ham Radio operator who has demonstrated and/or provided significant material, financial, or amateur radio support to the club
- Has been nominated for this title by a current club member
- Received a majority vote of Members at a regular Business Meeting
- Abides by Requirements for Membership (Exception: not required to pay dues)
- Enjoys same privileges as Member

## **Honorary Member**

An Honorary Member is a:

- Ham Radio operator that has contributed greatly to YCARS or the amateur radio hobby
- Has been nominated for this title by a current club member
- Received a majority vote of Members at a regular Business Meeting
- Abides by Requirements for Membership (Exception: not required to pay dues)
- Enjoys same privileges as Associate Members
- May also have been a former member but is now a "Silent Key."

## **Members residing in the same household**

- All individuals, regardless of their residence, shall apply for membership on an individual basis.
- Annual dues are the responsibility of each voting member.
- Licensed child(ren) of a member's household may apply for reduced annual dues of 50%. The licensed child(ren) would be associate members only until the age of 18 at which dues will be full amount.

- All requirements and definitions for membership are as stipulated as above.
- Family members are always welcome to YCARS events (e.g. Field Day, Club Picnic, Christmas Party)

### **Duration of Membership**

- Duration of membership shall be dependent upon the continued fulfillment of all the requirements for membership outlined in this document. Failure to comply with the requirements of membership will result in the termination of membership status. (Exception: If an Amateur Radio License expires due to oversight of the member and a new license has been applied for, membership will not be terminated.)
- Any membership may be terminated for committing actions that are inconsistent with the Club Constitution, By-Laws, or policies, or that damage, threaten or jeopardize the Club. Such expulsion will be based on a majority vote of the Officers.
- Any member may resign from the Club at any time upon written notice addressed to the Club Secretary. Dues are non-refundable.
- If membership has been terminated for any reason, the individual may reapply for membership after a period of six months.

### **Annual Dues**

- Establishing the amount of the Annual Dues is the responsibility of the officers using the formula below
- Amount of Dues for the new year will be announced by: December 1
- Dues must be paid by December 31

### **Annual Dues Calculation**

- Expected Annual Operating Budget Costs divided by 2 ( $X * .5$ )
- Divided by the expected number of members for the new year (Y)
- Results rounded to nearest dollar

#### Example

Formula:  $(X * .5) / Y$

Example Calculation:  $(\$3,500 * .5) / 45 = \$39$

### **Prorated Dues**

- Dues for new members within their first year will be prorated quarterly
- Dues for prior members with a lapsed membership will not be prorated

#### Example

If Annual Dues = \$40

Quarterly Proration:  $\$40 / 4 = \$10$

#### Sample Chart based on \$40 Due

Q1: Full Due amount = \$40

- Q2: Full Due - \$10 = \$30
- Q3: Full Due - \$20 = \$20
- Q4: Full Due - \$30 = \$10

### **Access to Club Facilities**

Keys to access the clubhouse will be provided to **Members** upon request of the Member. Use of the Clubhouse is limited to YCARS business, events, and other amateur radio related activities.

In order to maintain key access to the clubhouse the Member must:

- Remain in good standing (Abiding by By-Laws, Constitution, and all Rules)
- Attend at least three (3) business meetings each year
- Participate in three (3) program meetings or Club events each year
- Abide by all procedures and rules regarding use of Clubhouse and Ham Shack
- Revocation of access can be done by any officer for failure to meet the above standards
- Replacement of lost key: \$25.00

### **Standards of Conduct – Smoking / Alcohol / Illegal drugs**

- Smoking in the Club building is prohibited
- Vaping in the Club building is prohibited
- No alcohol is permitted to be consumed or displayed on club premises
- No alcohol is permitted at club at sanctioned events if held in conjunction with a formal youth activity (e.g. Summer Field Day, Winter Field Day, Club Picnics); or where prohibited by law
- The use of illegal drugs on club premises or club sanctioned events is not allowed in accordance with all laws.
- All activities with youth will be in conformance with the Youth Protection Policy which must be read and agreed to. This includes two-deep leadership with youth and appropriate training.

### **Meeting Schedule**

- Club Business meetings will be held on the second Thursday of each month at 7:30 PM
- Program meetings will be held on the fourth Thursday of each month at 7:30 PM
- Other meeting times and events are to be held at the discretion of the Club members
- Business and Program meetings will be held both in-person and virtually unless otherwise noted

### **Club Property**

- No property of the Club will be removed from the Clubhouse except with the express permission of the President and/or Vice-President.
- Club owned radios and other equipment may not be removed from the Clubhouse except for field type events, repairs or emergencies.

### **Door Prizes at the Rock Hill Hamfest**

- No Club member is eligible to win a door prize at the YCARS Hamfest.

### **Payments or Reimbursements Made to YCARS**

- In order to ensure accurate tracking and accountability of funds, no payments or reimbursements made to the Club will be made 'in-kind'.
- Money owed to the Club will be paid in full by cash or check, or other while money owed to individuals will be paid by cash or check or electronic transfer (eg. Paypal, Venmo, Zelle etc)