

CONSTITUTION and BY-LAWS of THE TRYON AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC.

ARTICLE I: Name and Purpose (Preamble)

Section 1.0

The association shall be known as the **Tryon Amateur Radio Club**. (Herein referred to as **Tryon ARC**)

Section 2.0

We the undersigned being desirous of securing for ourselves the pleasures and benefits of the association of persons with the common interest of AMATEUR RADIO primarily within the borders of Fulton County in the state of New York, do hereby enact this Constitution and By-Laws our governing law. The primary objectives and purposes of this club shall be education and public service to our community. It shall be the purpose of this club to provide education and training of persons in the theory and practice of amateur radio, to disseminate information about scientific progress and practice of radio communications, to develop skills in the construction and operation of radio equipment; to encourage experimentation in telecommunication and electronics, to promote the highest standards in professionalism and ethics, and to provide a core of trained individuals available for public service and emergency communications. The Tryon ARC shall make presentations, teach classes, participate in amateur radio and emergency preparedness activities, operate an amateur radio station, publish news and information about amateur radio, and provide public service to the community. The Tryon ARC may also engage in other activities that promote these purposes.

Section 3.0

The club shall pursue goals benefiting its member's pursuit and enjoyment of the hobby of Amateur Radio.

- 3.1 The development of its member's knowledge, understanding and skill in the Amateur Radio hobby.
- 3.2 The advancement of the Amateur Radio service in general.
- 3.3 To serve the community and the public through Amateur Radio.
- 3.4 To promote Amateur Radio as a valuable and beneficial avocation.

Section 4.0

The Tryon ARC shall obtain and maintain affiliation with the **AMERICAN RADIO RELAY LEAGUE**.

Section 5.0

The Tryon ARC Fiscal Year shall begin September 1 and end on August 31 of each year.

ARTICLE II: Membership

Section 1.0

Membership in Tryon ARC shall be open to all persons who profess an interest in Amateur Radio and a willingness to abide by this constitution and by-laws as well as any set policies and procedures set forth by this organization. Application for membership shall be made in writing at any regular meeting.

Section 3.0

A member shall be accepted upon a majority vote of the members present at the meeting. Membership becomes effective upon payment of dues and voting rights begin with the following monthly meeting.

- 3.1 - Voting Members must be members in good standing.

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Section 4.0

Membership is kept on a yearly basis. A member is in arrears if his dues are not paid by the second meeting after the beginning of the organization's fiscal year and is considered a member not in good standing with no voting rights. Delinquent members may regain member status within the same fiscal year by paying the dues in arrears. Past members from previous years must reapply as a new member.

Section: 5.0

The Tryon Amateur Radio Club expects that its members maintain a high level of ethic, moral and lawful behavior due to the nature of our service and our involvement in the community. In order for a person to obtain membership and/or retain their membership in the Tryon Amateur Radio Club they must be in good moral and lawful standing. Any issue pertaining to a person's behavior that will have an impact on the Clubs activities will be brought before the Ethics Committee. That committee will consist of three members in good standing that will include one Board Member. The Ethics Committee chair shall be a current board member appointed by the President with the approval of the remaining Board Members. The Non-Board Committee Members shall be members that are willing to volunteer for the committee and shall be approved by the Board and the general membership. The committee will determine the outcome of the issue and will carry out the dismissal of a member if it deems appropriate. A new committee will be appointed each time an issue needs to be determined. This will provide fairness to all involved.

ARTICLE III: Officers

Section 1.0 Elected Officers

In order to oversee the operation of Tryon ARC officers shall be elected. The officers shall be a President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer.

Section 2.0 Officer Vacancies

Vacancies occurring between elections must be filled by a special election at the next regular meeting. The newly elected officer will fulfill the unexpired term of the office that is vacant.

Section 3.0 Duties

3.1 President. The President shall preside at all meetings of the Tryon ARC and conduct the business of the club in accordance with this constitution and by-laws. The President shall decide all questions of order, enforce the constitution and by-laws, and sign all papers or constitution and by-laws adopted by the Tryon ARC. The President shall perform all the customary duties of the office of President and represent the Club as such.

3.2 Vice President. The Vice-President shall assume all duties of the President in the event of the Presidents temporary absence. The Vice-President shall chair the program and publicity committees. The Vice-President shall maintain close liaison between the club and emergency groups including the Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service and the ARRL Amateur Radio Emergency Service and any other agencies deemed applicable by the President.

3.3 Secretary. The Secretary shall keep the normal records of the club and attend to all club correspondence. The Secretary shall record minutes and attendance of all meetings. The Secretary shall preside in the absence of the President and Vice-President.

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3.4 Treasurer. The Treasurer will keep the financial records and be custodian of all club property, reporting monthly and turning over all records, accounts and inventory of property to his successor on demand. The Treasurer shall make all records available for audit at the direction of the President. The Treasurer shall preside in the absence of the President, Vice-President, and Secretary.

Section 4.0

The Officers shall hold office for a term of one year except the office of President shall be two years. An Officer may be reelected to succeed himself. To be eligible to hold office nominees shall be members in good standing for no less than one year and hold a valid amateur radio operator's license.

Section 5.0

Nominations for officers shall take place at the **October** monthly meeting. Election of officers shall take place at the **November** monthly meeting by the voting members in good standing. A quorum shall be present. Voting shall be held in the order of President, Vice-President, Secretary, and then Treasurer. An unsuccessful candidate for an office may then be available for nomination for subsequent office. Secret ballots must be used in any contested election. The officers of this club shall be elected for a term of one year, January through December.

Section 6.0

Officers may be removed by the membership upon a motion and three-quarters vote of the members in good standing at that date. Excessive nonattendance of Officers shall be cause for removal.

Section 7.0

In order to perpetuate the long-term interests and continuity of Tryon ARC, and advise the officers, there may be established a Board of Directors, but is not required. This Board of Directors, if enacted, shall consist of five members in good standing for no less than one year, and hold a valid amateur radio operator's license. The terms of the Directors shall be for five years and be staggered so that there shall be one Director elected each year. An additional Director shall be elected if there is a vacancy due to resignation or lapse of membership of an existing Director and shall be for the remaining time of that term. The Board of Directors shall assist the incumbent officers in policy matters and long-range planning. A meeting of the Board and Officers shall be held at least once each year and additional meetings may be called at the request of the President or three Directors.

ARTICLE IV: Meetings and Nets

Section 1.0

Regular monthly meetings are to be held the 3rd Wednesday of the months beginning September thru June at a time and place set by the club. Meetings shall be set and announced prior to the close of the previous meeting.

Section 2.0

Special meetings may be called by either the President or by request, presented to the President in writing, by five members in good standing. All members in good standing shall be notified at the earliest possible time of any special meeting and its purpose, time and place. Only such business indicated in the notice may be transacted at the special meeting.

Section 3.0

The Tryon ARC shall conduct weekly Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service (RACES) Nets on the club repeater or any usable frequency if the club repeater is not available. Other nets will be held on an as needed or requested basis.

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ARTICLE V: Dues

Section 1.0

Dues necessary to carry on the normal and expected expenses of the operation of the Club shall be levied on an annual basis. The fiscal year for membership purposes shall commence in September and run through August of each year.

1.1 - Dues rates for the following fiscal year may be set upon motion and vote of the membership at any regular meeting. Current dues are set at \$10.00 (Ten Dollars US).

ARTICLE VI: Committees

Section 1.0

The President shall appoint any committees as needed to pursue the interests of the club. The President is considered, out of courtesy, a member of each committee, even if unable to participate actively, and shall be kept informed of the committee's activity.

Section 2.0

The President shall also appoint the following standing committees:

2.1 Radio Frequency Interference (RFI) Committee. This Committee shall assist members and affected parties with assistance and knowhow to alleviate problems of interference to radio, television, telephone and other electronic devices.

2.2 Repeater Committee. This Committee shall maintain and operate a VHF repeater or any additional repeaters for use of the club membership and the amateur community. This Committee shall maintain affiliation and frequency coordination of the Club's repeaters with the current frequency coordinating body for our area. Trustees of such repeaters shall be Committee members.

2.3 Club History. This Committee shall be appointed to preserve the history of the Club with pictures, articles, movies or video, awards or citations, past Secretary's records, Club newsletters and the like.

2.4 Public Service. This Committee shall be appointed to provide public service in the form of amateur radio communications to the community.

ARTICLE VII: Amendments

Section 1.0

This Constitution and By-laws may be amended in accordance with the following:

1.1 Proposed amendments to the Constitution and By-laws must be submitted by a member in good standing in writing at a regular meeting. The amendment shall be read at the meeting and upon acceptance, the amendment will be tabled for vote at the following meeting.

1.2 Proposed amendments, once accepted, may not be voted upon until the following meeting. The membership must be informed of the amendment along with notice of the meeting..

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1.3 Once notified, a two-thirds majority of those members in good standing, present at the meeting shall constitute passage of the amendment.

ARTICLE VIII: Rules of Order.

Section 1.0

A quorum shall be 3 Officers and 5 or more members in good standing.

Section 2.0

Robert's Rules of Order shall be used as a guide to govern all proceedings at each regular or special meeting. In the absence of specific rules for a question of order in this constitution and by-laws or Robert's Rules, the President shall decide the question without further question of order.

Section 3.0

Unless specified otherwise in this constitution and By-Laws, all motions at regular or special meetings shall be passed upon a vote of the majority of voting members present at the meeting.

Section 4.0

In the event of any votes that result in a tie, the presiding officer shall break the tie.

ARTICLE IX: Donations.

Section 1.0

The acceptance of real property donations to the club shall be voted on by the membership. The membership shall consider any stipulations placed on the club by the donor(s) prior to voting to accept the donations to insure that they are reasonable and do not impact the mission of the club. The presiding officer will make the motion for the acceptance of any real property donations to the club, but will not cast a vote, except in the event of a tie.

ARTICLE X: Dissolution.

Section 1.0

Upon the termination, dissolution or final liquidation of the TRYON ARC in any manner and for any reason, the Officers shall first pay or provide for the payment of all liabilities of the TRYON ARC; all remaining assets shall be distributed in the following order of preference:

First – an amateur radio club in Fulton County, NY.

Second – an amateur radio club in Montgomery County, NY.

Third – an amateur radio club in Herkimer County, NY.

Fourth – an amateur radio club in Hamilton County, NY.

Last – an amateur radio club that is the closest distance from the center of Johnstown, NY until the donation is accepted.