

CHERRYLAND AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

BYLAWS

Preamble:

We, the membership, wishing to secure for ourselves the pleasures and benefits of an association of persons commonly interested in Amateur Radio, constitute ourselves the **Cherryland Amateur Radio Club** of Traverse City, Michigan, a Michigan non-profit corporation, (herein referred to as the **Club**), and enact these bylaws as our governing law.

Mission:

It shall be our purpose to further the exchange of information and cooperation between members, to promote radio knowledge, fraternalism and individual operating efficiency, and to so conduct club programs and activities as to advance the general interest and welfare of Amateur Radio in the community.

ARTICLE I: Membership

1. This organization will not discriminate against any person on the basis of age, gender, race, religion or national origin.
2. Any person having an active interest in Amateur Radio shall be eligible for membership.
3. Application for membership shall be made to the Treasurer and upon payment of the appropriate membership, the application shall be accepted.
4. Membership Classes and Qualifications:
 - a. Regular Membership – any FCC licensed radio amateur.
 - b. Associate Membership – any unlicensed person with an interest in Amateur Radio.
 - c. Family Membership – a spouse, son or daughter of a regular member who holds a valid FCC Amateur Radio license and resides in the same household.
 - d. Student Membership – any licensed Amateur attending elementary, middle, junior high or high school full-time.
 - e. Honorary Membership
 1. A newly licensed amateur is eligible for an honorary membership valid until the end of the first year of licensure.
 2. Honorary Life Memberships can be conferred following a recommendation by the Board and a majority vote of the members at a regular club meeting.

5. A “member in good standing” is one whose dues are paid and who abides by the Club Bylaws. A member whose dues are in arrears 6 months or more is considered inactive and will be removed from the membership roster. An inactive member must pay the full annual dues for reinstatement. The Board may, at its discretion, continue in effect the membership of a member who has failed to pay his or her dues by a majority vote.

6. With the exception of Associate Members, all classes of members shall have full voting rights and are eligible to hold office.

7. Membership Dues. Dues and any assessments deemed necessary by the Board shall be set at the October Board meeting preceding the year they become effective. Said dues and fees will be presented to the general membership at the November regular club meeting to accept or reject by a majority vote.

8. Membership in the club may be terminated for the following reasons:

- a. Misappropriation of club funds or property.
- b. Malicious or grossly negligent damage to or destruction of club property.
- c. Activities or behavior at the club station which would be an embarrassment to either the club or the host facility.
- d. Any action resulting in loss of one’s FCC Amateur license.
- e. Any act which results in public disgrace or disrepute upon the club.

9. If a charge is made against a member which could result in termination of membership, said charge will be investigated by the Board. If the Board decides to proceed with the matter, the member involved shall be notified and given the opportunity to either appear before the Board or respond in writing to answer and defend against the charge. After the member has been given a minimum of 2 weeks to respond to the charge, the Board shall act on the charge and by a majority vote either reject the charge, continue the membership with stipulations, or expel the member. An expelled member will not be eligible for a refund of dues.

ARTICLE II: Officers and Directors

1. The named officers of the club shall be:

- a. President
- b. Vice-President
- c. Treasurer

d. Secretary

e. Digital Content Editor

f. Emergency Coordinator

g. In addition to the named officers there will be three (3) elected Directors

2. The Board of Directors (hereafter referred to as the Board) shall consist of the 5 named officers and the 3 elected Directors.

3. The named officers of the club shall be elected for a term of one (1) year at the regular club meeting in January of each year. The Directors will serve a term of three (3) years and only one (1) will be elected each year.

4. No person shall hold more than one (1) elected office.

5. Two (2) or more members of the same household may not serve concurrently as officers and/or Directors.

6. Vacancies occurring among elected positions shall be filled at the next regular club meeting.

7. January Elections. It shall be the duty of the Board to present a slate of proposed candidates for the five named offices and 1 Directorship at the January regular club meeting. In addition, the President will call for any nominations from the floor. With the exception of Associate members, any other class member is eligible for office and may be nominated by any regular member or self-nominated. Election will be by simple majority of the members present by show of hands. Any member may call for a paper ballot should he or she contest the election.

8. Elected officials (Officers and Directors) may be removed from office upon a proper vote of three-fourths (3/4) of the voting members in attendance at a regular meeting; provided that notice of the proposed vote is communicated to the membership at least two (2) weeks prior to the vote.

ARTICLE III: Duties of the elected officials and the Board.

1. President: The president shall preside at all Board and regular Club meetings, appoint or remove committee chairpersons and committee members, and be responsible for the conduct of club affairs, activities and proper functioning of all officials and committees.

2. Vice-President: The Vice-President shall assume all duties and authority of the President whenever the President is incapable of performing the responsibilities of the office.

3. Treasurer: The Treasurer shall collect all monies, pay bills, report the financial condition of the club, maintain the current club membership roster and publish the Club Directory as determined by the Board.

4. Secretary: The Secretary shall record minutes of all meetings and provide copies of said minutes to the President and the Digital Content Editor. In addition, the Secretary shall be responsible for all official club correspondence.
5. Digital Content Editor: The Digital Content Editor shall edit and publish, by either electronic means or print media, the monthly Cherry Juice newsletter, manage the club web site and any social media platforms the club may choose to use for distributing club information.
6. Emergency Coordinator: The Emergency Coordinator will act as liason between the Board and all public service agencies and organizations requesting our assistance in service to the general public and the community.
7. Directors: The Directors shall attend all Board meetings, be prepared to chair or serve on committees appointed by the President and assume the duties of other Board members if necessary.
8. The Club shall maintain a Technical Committee consisting of three to five regular club members appointed by the President with the advise and consent of the Board. This committee is tasked with maintaining the proper function of club equipment and reporting to the Board the status of the voice and digital repeaters. In addition, the committee will maintain an accurate inventory of club assets and develop a protocol for visits to the repeater sites.
9. The President shall appoint any other committees deemed necessary for the efficient operation of the Club.
10. The Board shall conduct most of the Club business at the Board meetings, thus relieving the regular Club meetings of routine Board activities and providing more time for programs. Expenditure of club funds or disposal of club assets in excess of fifteen hundred (1500.00) dollars shall require a majority vote approval of voting Club members at a regular Club meeting. Upon the request of any Board member, any matter may be referred to the club membership for discussion and guidance. Any matter voted on by the Club members shall be binding upon the Board.
11. The club recognized and affirms our association with the **Traverse Bay Amateur Radio Group**, a Michigan non profit corporation (hereby referred to as TBARG), as the emergency communications arm of the Cherryland Amateur Radio Club. The Club agrees to provide technical assistance and the use of Club equipment as requested by TBARG to support emergency communications to the community.

ARTICLE IV: Trustees

1. The Board shall appoint such a Trustee or Trustees as necessary to conduct discussions with the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) on any and all matters pertaining to the issuance and maintenance of Amateur Radio Station licenses issued to the Club. The Trustee(s)

shall be responsible for the Club's compliance with the rules and regulations prescribed by the FCC relative to the operation of the Club's radio equipment where the FCC regulations pertain. He or she shall act as the Club's liaison with the ARRL and coordinating councils concerning Amateur Radio spectrum allocation and use. All actions of the Trustee(s) shall be under the direction and control of the Board.

2. A Trustee shall hold office until the expiration date of the Club station license for which he or she is responsible, or until he or she is no longer willing or able to serve and a successor is appointed.

ARTICLE V: Meetings

1. The Board shall meet on the first Tuesday of each month. The regular Club meetings will take place on the 4th Tuesday of each month. All Board meetings are open to the entire membership.

2. The order of business at the regular Club meetings shall be determined by the Club President. A treasurer's report shall be read or distributed at each meeting. The President shall allow ample opportunity for the members present at each meeting to discuss old business and introduce new business.

3. Quorums. Twelve (12) regular members shall constitute a quorum at regular Club meetings. Any combination of 5 named officers and Directors shall constitute a quorum for meetings of the Board.

4. At times when in-person meetings cannot be held due to extenuating circumstances, the Club leadership may choose to meet via video conferencing to ensure the smooth and continuous operation of the Club. A quorum will still be required to conduct Club business.

ARTICLE VI: Amendments to the Bylaws

Proposals to amend the Bylaws must be submitted to the Board. Proposals must be distributed in the Club newsletter and read at a regular Club meeting before being voted upon at the next regular meeting. A simple majority vote will be sufficient to amend the Bylaws.

ARTICLE VII: Dissolution

Upon dissolution of this organization, after payment of all just liabilities, any remaining assets shall be conveyed to an organization having similar purposes or to a recognized charitable organization under Section 501 (c)3 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended. No portion of the assets may be transferred to any member or members.