

# **Sheriff's Tactical Amateur Radio Club**

## **Constitution & By-Laws**

### **Preamble:**

We, the undersigned, wishing to secure for ourselves the pleasures and benefits of an association of persons commonly interested in Amateur Radio and Amateur Radio Emergency communications, constitute ourselves the Sheriff's Tactical Amateur Radio Club (STARC) and enact this constitution as our governing law. It shall be our purpose to serve the Office of the Hillsborough County Sheriff by providing emergency communication assistance, 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.

### **Operating Authority: Article I**

The Sheriff's Tactical Amateur Radio Club is authorized to operate under the sole authority of the Hillsborough County Sheriff's Office. All actions and procedures relating to communications assistance to the Sheriff's Office will be approved in advance by the Sheriff or his appointed representative.

### **Membership: Article II**

All persons interested in Amateur Radio communications shall be eligible for membership. Membership shall be by application and election upon such terms as the club shall provide in its by-laws.

### **Officers: Article III**

Section 1. The officers of this club shall be President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer

Section 2. The officers of this club shall be elected for a term of one (1) year by ballot of the membership present at the annual meeting.

Section 3. Vacancies occurring between elections shall be filled by special appointment, by the club President, at the first regular meeting following the withdrawal or resignation. This appointment shall continue until the next regular elections.

Section 4. Officers may be removed by a three-fourths vote of the total membership.

Section 5. The Executive Committee, will consist of the four elected Officers and three Directors appointed by the club President

### **Duties or Officers: Article IV**

Section 1. The President shall preside at all meetings, and conduct them according to the rules adopted. He/She shall enforce due observance of this Constitution and by-laws, decide all questions of order, sign all official documents adopted by the club, and perform all other duties pertaining to the office of President.

Section 2. The Vice-President shall assume all the duties of the President in his/her absence. In addition, he/she shall organize club activities, plan and recommend contests for operating benefits, and advance club interest and activity as approved by the club. He/She shall maintain close liaison with the ARRL Section Emergency Coordinator to further club participation in the Amateur Radio Emergency Service.

Section 3. The Secretary shall keep a record of the proceedings of all meetings, keep a roll of all members, submit membership applications, carry on all correspondence, read communications at each meeting, and E-mail meeting notices to each member, when applicable. At the expiration of his/her term he/she shall turn over all items belonging to the club to his/her successor.

Section 4. The Treasurer shall receive and receipt for all monies paid to the club, keep an accurate account of all moneys received and expended, pay no bills without proper amortization (by the club or its officers constituting a business committee). At the end of each quarter he/she shall submit an itemized statement of disbursements and receipts. At the end of his/her term he/she shall over everything in his/her possession belonging to the club to his/her successor.

#### **Meetings: Article V**

The By-Laws shall provide for regular and special meetings. Robert's Rules shall govern proceedings.

#### **Dues: Article VI**

The club, by majority vote of those present at any regular meeting levy upon the general membership such dues or assessments as shall be deemed necessary for the business of the organization. Nonpayment of such dues or assessments shall be cause for expulsion from the club within the discretion of the membership.

#### **Amendments: Article VII**

This Constitution or by-laws may be amended by a two-thirds vote of the total membership. Proposals for amendments shall be submitted in writing at a regular meeting and be voted on at the next following regular meeting, provided all members have been notified at least 24 hours before, of the intent to amend the constitution and/or by-laws at said meeting.

#### **By-Laws**

Secretary -It shall be the duty of the Secretary to keep the Constitution and by-laws of the club and have the same with him/her at every meeting. He/She shall note all amendments, changes and additions on the constitution and shall permit it to be consulted members upon request.

2. **Membership** -Full Individual membership is open to licensed amateurs. Associate membership is open to those actively engaged in a class leading to an Amateur Radio license and all other interested persons. Full Household membership is open to households with two or more Amateur licensees. Full Individual membership and Full Household membership includes all club privileges as well as rights to hold a club office and to vote for club officers. Associate membership includes all club privileges except for the right to hold office and vote for club officers. Applications for membership shall be submitted at regular meetings.
3. **Meetings** -Regular meetings shall be held on the fourth Monday of each calendar month. The club President can change a meeting date due to any unforeseen circumstances. Special meetings may be called by the President upon the written request of any five (5) club members. Notices shall be sent to members concerning special meetings and the business to be transacted. Only such business as designated shall be transacted. Such notices shall be sent so that they arrive not less than 24 hours before the meeting.
4. **Dues** -Annual membership dues are payable on March 01 each year. The amount of dues will be recommended by the Executive Committee and subject to the approval of a majority vote at a regular meeting.
5. **Committees** -The President shall appoint specialized committees to study and investigate specific ideas of concern to the club and the Hillsborough County Sheriff's Office.
6. **All licensed club members should be registered with the Hillsborough County ARES/RACES.**

Presented to membership on 02/26/2001