

CONSTITUTION OF THE WILLITS AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY

Article 1: Name and Location

The name of this organization shall be the Willits Amateur Radio Society (herein known as the Society) and otherwise known as WARS. The locus of Society meetings and other proceedings shall be in or near the City of Willits, California. Membership is open to all those interested in furthering the objectives of the Society no matter where they live and particularly those Amateur Radio operators residing anywhere within Mendocino County, California.

Article 2: Objectives

The objectives of the Willits Amateur Radio Society are:

- to promote interest in fellowship and fun in Amateur Radio;
- to further the cooperation between Mendocino County Amateur Radio Operators;
- to provide emergency or public service communications when normal means of communications are disrupted;
- to advance the state of the Amateur Radio art through individual and collective research;
- to conduct programs and activities so as to increase the general interest and welfare of Amateur Radio in the community including classes and testing;
- to support lawful, responsible conduct by its members and the amateur fraternity in general.

Article 3: General Structure

The Society shall be structured so as to provide organization for all persons interested in Amateur Radio communication. Overall administration and control of the Society shall be managed by a group of three elected officers and two appointed officers as defined in Article 5 of this Constitution.

Article 4: Membership

Section 1: Types. Any person interested in Amateur Radio who pays the required membership dues is entitled to become a voting member of the Society.

Section 2: Dues. The membership dues of the Society shall be assessed by a majority vote of the regular membership present and voting at the November regular meeting. These dues shall cover the operational expenses of the Society. A member who maintains a domicile with another member shall pay 50% of the regular dues.

Members under 18 years of age pay 50% of the applicable dues. All are due and payable on January 1st of each calendar year. Those members who have not paid the assessed amount on or before January 31st shall have their membership terminated. Persons joining the Society after January 31st shall pay a pro-rated amount based on remaining calendar months. Members electing not to receive the Society newsletter via email or internet web page may be assessed an additional amount to cover the costs of printing and mailing a newsletter delivered via US Mail.

Section 3: Termination. The membership of any member who has acted in a manner contrary to the interest of the Society or to the furtherance of its objectives, or who conducts himself/herself in a manner unbecoming of proper conduct may be terminated for cause. After giving the offending member an opportunity to be heard and after considering all the facts of the case, the members voting by secret ballot at a regular meeting may terminate the membership. A two-thirds majority of the members present and voting shall be required for termination. A written notice of termination shall be delivered in person or by certified mail and a notice of such termination shall be published in the Society's newsletter. A second meeting and vote shall be required to make the termination final. A confirming vote by secret ballot, two-thirds of the members present and voting to terminate, shall make said termination of membership final.

Section 4: Meetings. The regular meetings of this organization shall be held at a time and place determined by a vote of the membership announced in the Society newsletter. Regular meetings for the purpose of conducting the Society's business shall be held once a month except, perhaps, in the month of December. Other meetings of a social, technical, operating, or other purpose may be held as the membership decides. A quorum shall consist of those members attending a regular meeting for the purpose of voting on motions or elections. Unless otherwise specified in this constitution, a simple majority of the members present and voting shall be required to pass any motion or elect any officer.

Article 5: Officers

Section 1: Officers. The elected officers of the Society shall consist of a President, a Treasurer, and a Secretary. Appointed officers shall consist of a Webmaster and a Trustee.

Section 2: Election. The officers of this Society shall be elected for the term of one (1) year, commencing on January 1, by secret ballot of the members at the November regular meeting. Vacancies occurring between elections shall be filled by special election at the next regular meeting. A nominating committee of three (3) members shall be appointed by the President for the purpose of selecting qualified future officers. The committee shall appoint one member as its chairperson. At the November regular meeting, the President shall announce the nominees for each office and will also accept nominations from the floor. There shall be no proxy voting or absentee ballots.

Section 3: President. The President shall have general supervision, direction, and control of the business and affairs of the Society. The President shall enforce due observance of this Constitution; decide all questions of order; sign all official documents adopted by the Society; and generally represent the Society as a whole before any other organization or person. The President shall ensure that an adequate educational and training program is maintained, shall coordinate public service activities of the Society, shall promote activities that encourage good fellowship among Society members, and

shall provide informative and entertaining presentations at Society meetings. The President may request assistance from other members or others in order to provide these services.

Section 4: Treasurer. The Treasurer shall prepare a budget each year and submit it to the Society membership for approval. The Treasurer shall keep and maintain adequate and correct books and records of accounts of the properties and business of the Society. The Treasurer shall deposit moneys and other valuables in the name and to the credit of the Society with such depositories as may be designated by the membership.

The Treasurer shall disburse the funds of the Society in payment of the just demands against the Society or as may be ordered by the membership. All disbursements shall be signed by the Treasurer and one other elected officer not from the Treasurer's household.

The Treasurer shall provide an accounting of all transactions and of the financial condition of the Society each month of the term of office. Said accounting to be given at all regular monthly meetings and provided to the Webmaster for posting.

The Treasurer shall maintain a Post Office box with the Willits Post Office for the purpose of receiving membership applications, funds to be deposited, and general correspondence. The Treasurer shall submit to the Webmaster a list of all members having dues paid.

In the absence or disability of the President, the Treasurer shall perform all the duties of the President.

Section 5: Secretary The Secretary shall keep a book of minutes of all meetings, the original or a copy of the Constitution as amended or otherwise altered to date; shall give notice of all meetings of the Society; and shall produce, publish and distribute a monthly newsletter regarding Society activities, functions and/or other relevant and pertinent information.

The secretary shall maintain an up-to-date registry of the email addresses of all members for the purpose of distributing the monthly newsletter and other notices of Society business.

The preferred method of distribution of the monthly newsletter shall be by email attachment or link to a web page for those members having a current email address. Distribution of the monthly newsletter for those not having an email address and paying the required fee shall be by means of the US Mail. The Secretary shall be reimbursed for the costs of printing and mailing those newsletters delivered by US Mail by application to the Treasurer

Section 6: Webmaster. The President shall appoint a Webmaster from among those members having the knowledge and ability to maintain an internet web site dedicated to the Society. This appointment shall continue until the Webmaster resigns or the appointment is revoked. The Webmaster shall control and maintain the internet web site that contains, as a minimum, the following: information about this Society, contact information for new prospective members, this Constitution, meeting notices, meeting minutes, upcoming events of general amateur interest, and a members directory. The members directory shall include name, call sign, address, telephone number, and email address in a manner not susceptible to internet harvesting of members data and only

accessible by a members-only password. The Webmaster shall accept such data as applicable from the Treasurer or Secretary and shall publish said data on the web site.

Section 7: Trustee The President shall appoint a Regular Member having an Amateur Extra class operator license to be the trustee of the Society's Amateur Radio station license. The Trustee shall be registered with the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) to hold this office with the FCC assigned call sign . This appointment shall continue until the Trustee resigns or the appointment is revoked.

The Trustee shall ensure that stations operated by Society members using the Society station call sign operate in accordance with the rules of the FCC.

Section 8: Recall of Officers -- The recall of an officer may be initiated by a petition signed by ten (10) percent of the total membership and submitted to the Secretary. The President shall then seek a ballot at the next regular meeting. A vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the members present and voting by secret ballot is needed for removal.

Article 7: Amendment

The Constitution of the Society may be adopted, amended or repealed by the members. An amendment to this Constitution may be presented at any regular meeting by any member in a written form or via email by the Secretary at least three days prior to the meeting. Upon being seconded and voted in the affirmative, the motion to amend will be recorded in the minutes by the Secretary who will then notify each member through the Society newsletter of the proposed amendment. It shall then be again voted on by the members present at the next regular meeting, a two-thirds majority of the members present and voting being required for adoption.

Article 8: Dissolution

The Society may be dissolved by the members. A motion to dissolve the Society may be presented at any regular meeting by any member. Upon being seconded and voted in the affirmative, the motion to dissolve will be recorded in the minutes by the Secretary who will then notify each member through the Society newsletter of the proposed dissolution. It shall then be voted on by the members present and voting at the next regular meeting, a simple majority of the members present and voting being required for dissolution.

Upon a majority vote of the members of the Society, the Society shall be dissolved and its assets, (after payment of all obligations) shall be distributed upon such dissolution pro rata among the Society's then existing paid-up members.

This revision of the WARS Constitution adopted by the members present and voting at the regular meeting on January 23, 2006.

George Burton, K7WWA , President

Paul Ubelhart, KB6FFB, Treasurer

Tim Hanna, WB9NJS, Secretary