

# **Gaston Radio Club By-Laws**

## **1. 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 by members upon request.

## **2. Memberships**

**Full membership** is open to licensed Radio Amateurs. Full membership requires dues and includes all society privileges as well as rights to hold an office position and to vote for officers. Spouses of full members are allowed to become members and are not required to become licensed. Non-Licensed spouses do not have the right to vote or hold office.

**Associate membership** is open to those actively engaged in a class leading to an Amateur Radio license and all other interested persons. Associate membership requires dues and includes all society privileges except for the right to hold office and vote for officers.

**Honorary membership** may be given to an individual or group whose interest supports the society. Honorary membership does not have dues, may not vote or hold office.

## **3. Meetings**

Regular meetings shall be held on posted days of each calendar month. Special meetings may be called by the President upon the written request. 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, Fees and Assessments**

Annual dues are hereby assessed in accordance with the provisions of Article V of the constitution for the purpose of providing funds for expenses. Membership dues are payable on April 15<sup>th</sup> of each year or prorated upon submission of new application of membership. Annual dues may not be broken up into quarterly payments. Any member whose dues are not paid by May 1<sup>st</sup> will be considered inactive and removed from the membership roster. Inactive members have no privileges. Termination of membership either by resignation or expulsion will not constitute a refund of dues paid. Payment of dues may be waived by the PRESIDENT for hardship cases. Such waiver shall not be publicized.

## **5. Elections**

Officer elections will be held annually at the regular November meeting. Officers will assume their elected office January 1st of the following year.

### **Nomination Committee**

The PRESIDENT will appoint a nomination committee six months prior to elections. The committee will be charged with finding qualified candidates to run for office. The committee will present a ballot to the President at the regular meeting one month prior to elections at which time the President will entertain a motion for nominations and to accept the ballot. The final ballot will be published and made available to all club members by email/website. The PRESIDENT will dissolve the nomination committee after the annual elections.

### **Voting**

Voting will be done using paper ballots. Immediately after voting the ballots will be counted openly in front of the membership. Any candidate may request a recount of the ballots. In the case of an unopposed slate the PRESIDENT may entertain a motion for the Secretary to cast a single ballot.

### **6. Amateur Radio Emergency service – ARES ®**

ARES® is a program of the American Radio Relay League -- our club will abide by the *Rules and Regulations of the ARRL's Field Organization* as they may be amended from time to time, and by ARRL policies, rules, and guidelines contained in ARRL publications.