

Thousand Islands Repeater Club
(TIRC)

Mission statement: The mission of the Thousand Islands Repeater Club is to further the camaraderie, knowledge, and service of the Amateur Radio community in the Thousand Islands region.

Preamble:

We, the membership, wishing to secure for ourselves the fulfillment and benefits of an association of persons commonly interested in Amateur Radio, do establish the Thousand Islands Repeater Club and enact this Constitution as our governing law.

The purposes for which this organization was formed are as follows:

- To promote good will and cooperation among its members.
- To provide for an exchange of information in cooperation between members.
- To secure for its members the pleasures and benefits of the association of persons commonly interested in Amateur Radio.
- To promote radio knowledge, fraternalism and individual operating efficiency and to so conduct its activities as to advance the general interest and welfare of Amateur Radio in the community.
- To advance the theory of radio and aid in the education of its members in the practice of Amateur Radio.
- To support scientific research and tests in the field of radio communications; encourage participation of persons interested in Amateur Radio.

ARTICLE I
MEMBERSHIP

Section 1 – Eligibility

All persons interested in Amateur Radio shall be eligible for membership. Applications for membership shall be restricted so that at least 51% of the active membership has a valid amateur radio operator's license issued by the Federal Communications Commission.

A person desiring membership must attend one membership meeting or event prior to applying for membership. The application for membership must be in writing accompanied by an application fee (waived for the 2012 calendar year). All applications for membership shall be read at the next meeting after having been received, and a majority vote shall be required for acceptance of the applicant as a member.

Section 2 – Levels of Membership

All individuals over the age of 18 hold full membership in the Thousand Islands Repeater Club, whether holding an Amateur Radio license or not.

Members under the age of 18 years do not have voting rights and may not hold office. They may be involved in all other club activities.

ARTICLE II
OFFICERS and BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Section 1 – Officers & Board of Directors

Officers of the club shall be President, a Vice President, a Secretary, a Treasurer, and the office of Secretary and Treasurer may be held by one person.

The Board of Directors shall consist of the four (4) elected officers and three (3) elected directors. All shall hold a valid Amateur Radio License.

One Director shall be elected for a term of one (1) year. Two other (2) Directors shall be elected for the term of two (2) years. (*Board of Directors section added via vote at 12/18/13 meeting*).

Section 2 - Description of Offices

It shall be the duty of the President to preside at all meetings, appoint any necessary committees and to help further any activities in the interest of the club. The President shall maintain the right to vote and serve ex-officio on all committees. The President has a term of one year after which he/she may be elected to serve again. There are no limits as to the number of terms an individual may hold for any office.

The Vice President shall preside at a meeting in the absence of the President and shall assist the President whenever necessary in the interests of the club. The Vice President will also be in charge of keeping track of the Club's inventory of electronics and related items. The Vice President has a term of one year after which he/she may be elected to serve again. There are no limits as to the number of terms an individual may hold for any office.

The Secretary shall keep minutes of all regular and special meetings, notify all active members by mail or email of any regular meetings, special meetings, event or functions to be held by or in the interests of the club. The Secretary shall keep a list of all members and the official copy of these By-Laws, as well as other official papers of the club. The Secretary has a term of one year after which he/she may be elected to serve again. There are no limits as to the number of terms an individual may hold for any office.

It shall be the duty of the Treasurer to collect all dues or assessments and keep a record thereof, pay any bills approved by the club, keep a correct account of all money collected or expended by him/her on behalf of the club. The Treasurer shall take any steps deemed necessary by the club to safeguard the funds. The Treasurer will notify the Secretary on a monthly basis of all transactions in writing. The Treasurer has a term of one year after which he/she may be elected to serve again. There are no limits as to the number of terms an individual may hold for any office.

The Board of Directors shall have the control and management of the affairs and business of this organization. Such Board of Directors shall only act in the name of the organization when it shall be regularly convened by the president after due notice to all the directors of such meeting. Each director shall have one vote and such voting may not be done by proxy. Vacancies in the Board of Directors shall be filled by a vote of the majority of Membership for the balance of the term of office. (*Board of Directors section added via vote at 12/18/13 meeting*).

ARTICLE III
ELECTION OF OFFICERS and DIRECTORS

Section 1 – Eligibility for Officer and Board positions

Only members licensed as amateur radio operators by the Federal Communications Commission shall be eligible for election as President or Vice President. Any member over age 18 may be eligible for election to the office of Secretary or the office of Treasurer.

Section 2 - Nominations

Any member in good standing may make a nomination from the floor, but each nomination must be seconded by another member in good standing. All nominations shall be made at the August meeting with an election via secret ballot at the Annual Meeting in September. The current Secretary and President shall then count the secret ballots in front of the membership at the club meeting and then the President shall announce the results to the rest of the Club.

For the 2012-2013 year, nominations and elections will not take place until August/September 2013.

Section 3 - Election

A majority vote of the members at the Annual Meeting shall be required for election providing that a quorum is present.

Section 4 - Term of Office:

Terms of all regularly elected officers shall be for the term of one year with the term of office to start with the first regular meeting in October of each year and continue through September of the next year. Should a vacancy occur in the office of President, it shall be filled by the Vice President and be for the remainder of the unexpired term. Should a vacancy occur in the office of Vice President, Secretary, or Treasurer, it shall be filled at the next regular meeting and be for the remainder of the unexpired term. There are no limits as to the number of terms an individual may hold for any office. The offices of President and Vice President may not be held by the same individual concurrently. Neither may the President nor Vice President hold the position of Secretary or Treasurer concurrently. Only the offices of Secretary and Treasurer may be held by the same person.

Section 5 – Removal of Officers

Any officer may be removed from office by a three-fourths vote of members at attendance at a special meeting called for this purpose and at which each member has received a notice in writing, either via email or postal mail.

ARTICLE IV
MEETINGS

Section 1 – Annual Meeting

The Annual Meeting shall be held in September of each year. The place and format of the Annual Meeting shall be determined by the membership.

Section 2 – Regular meetings

Regular meetings shall be held once per month at a location and time to be determined by the Officers. Regular meetings shall not be called for December and at such time the Officers determine due to inclement conditions. The place of each meeting shall be determined by the Officers.

Section 3 - Quorum

One-third of the voting membership of the club shall constitute a quorum for a meeting.

ARTICLE V DUES

Section 1

All members shall be required to pay dues and the dues for various classes of membership shall be in such amounts as the membership shall determine from time to time.

Section 2

The fiscal year of the club shall be the calendar year, January 1st to December 31st. Dues are due by January 31st of each year.

Section 3

Members who failed to pay their dues by April 1st of each year shall be dropped from the membership rolls. However, any past member may be reinstated to active membership by paying dues for the current year during which he seeks to be reinstated.

Section 4

Dues of a new member shall be pro-rated on a semi-annual basis from the time the application is received.
January – April – Full 100% May – August – 75% September – December – 50%

Dues amounts, adopted as of 10/16/13 will be \$25 for individuals and \$37.50 for families.

On August 20, 2014 it was adopted that there would be a student membership, for all full-time students, of \$10.

Addendum

There will be no dues for the 2012 calendar year.

ARTICLE VI
MEMBERSHIP ASSISTANCE

The club, through designated committees on such matters as Interference, Public Relations and Operating will provide technical advice to members concerning equipment design and operation. The goal is to aid members with attaining proper frequencies, having a clean signal, keeping practices of the Ham community uniform and preventing spurious radiation from this Club's member stations.

If any club member needs assistance with antennas, radios or other related equipment it is the obligation of the Club to provide assistance as possible.

ARTICLE VII
AMENDMENTS

No alteration or addition shall be made to these By-Laws unless the changes are submitted in written form one month and allowed to be tabled for one month for consideration before being voted upon by the membership.

The Secretary shall notify all active members in writing, either via email or postal mail, of such proposed amendment and that said amendment shall be voted on at the next regular meeting. Two-thirds majority of the voting members present at this meeting shall be considered sufficient.

Upon passage of a proposed amendment, a new set of By-Laws will be drafted by the Secretary to be submitted to the Membership for passage at the next regular meeting.

ARTICLE VIII
DISSOLUTION OF THE CLUB

Section 1 – Termination of Operations

In the event that the Officers vote to dissolve this Club, the motion for dissolution must receive more than two thirds vote of the FULL membership to pass.

Section 2 – Disposition of Assets

The Officers shall be in charge of the disbursement of all assets of the Club.

No member of the Club shall receive benefit from the assets.

All equipment will be sold, and the net proceeds will be donated to one or several non-profit organizations.

All remaining cash will be donated to a non-profit organization.

BY-LAWS

SECRETARY:

It shall be the duty of the Secretary to keep the Constitution and By-Laws of the Club and have these documents with him/her at every meeting. He/she shall make note of all amendments, changes and additions of the Constitution and shall permit the document to be consulted by members upon request.

MEMBERSHIP:

A person desiring membership must attend one membership meeting/event prior to applying for membership. The application for membership must be in writing accompanied by an application fee (waived for the 2012-2013 calendar year). All applications for membership shall be read at the next meeting after having been received, and a majority vote shall be required for acceptance of the applicant as a member.

- Any member holding a valid amateur radio operator's license may be a member.
- Any member who does not hold an amateur radio operator's license may be a member with all the rights and privileges except the privilege of holding office as President or Vice President. Associate members have the right to vote.
- A member of the club who is under 18 years of age may be involved in all club activities, but may not hold office or vote.

MEETINGS:

A regular meeting shall be held each month on a date and at a time determined by the Officers. Meetings may be at a physical location or on a designated repeater. Frequency to be determined.

Special meetings may be called by the President or by any three members Club members in the event the President fails to call the meeting. Notices of Special Meetings will be sent by the Secretary via email or postal mail, indicating time, place and business to be discussed. Only business designated by the notification will be discussed at such a meeting. Notices will arrive at least 2 days before the set meeting date and time.

DUES, FEES AND ASSESSMENTS:

Annual dues for the diverse membership levels will be determined by the Board upon assessment of expenses of administering the Club. Percentages of the Full membership dues will determine the dues for the other membership levels. These percentages are as follows:

Full membership – 100%

Under 18 years of age membership – 50%

Family membership – 150%

Membership dues are due by January 31st.

Any member whose dues are not paid by April 1st of each calendar year, will be considered inactive and removed from the membership roster. Inactive members have no voting privileges.

Termination of membership either by resignation or expulsion will not constitute a refund of dues paid.

ELECTIONS:

- Officer elections will be held annually at the Annual Meeting in September.
- Officers will assume their elected office at the regular October meeting.
- Any member in good standing may make a nomination from the floor, but each nomination must be seconded by another member in good standing. All nominations shall be made at the August meeting. Membership will be notified via the newsletter as to who is nominated for what position between the time of the August meeting and the Annual Meeting. An election, via paper ballot, will take place at the Annual Meeting in September.
- Counts from the voting will take place immediately following the election and counted openly in front of the membership present.

COMMITTEES

- There are no established committees indicated in the Constitution or By-Laws.
- Committees will be established ad hoc and dissolved when no longer needed.

Goals for the first year and for yearly activities:

- Newsletter for members, quarterly.
- Participate in ARRL field day in June
- Club picnic
- Participate in other events agreed upon/desired by membership
- Other activities as agreed upon by the membership to be determined.

Upon the formation of this club the following will be the fees assessed for membership after 2012:
Amounts to be established at the November meeting for the next calendar year.

- One time application fee for new members as of 2013 - \$5
- Full membership – To be determined.
- Under 18 years of age membership – To be determined
- Family membership – To be determined.