

# **Sci-Tech Amateur Radio Society (STARS)**

**A Non-Profit Youth and Family  
Amateur Radio Club**



**Established 2018**

Sci-Tech Amateur Radio Society (STARS)  
Hosted by New England Amateur Radio Inc.  
16 Tech Circle, Natick, MA 01760  
508-720-4179

## **Document of Organization**

0.0 This Document of Organization supersedes in whole all previous versions.

### 1.0 Organization

- 1.1 Name: The name of this organization is Sci-Tech Amateur Radio Society and shall henceforth in this document be referred to as “the Organization” or by the initials STARS.
- 1.2 Location: STARS will be located at the premises of its sponsor, New England Sci-Tech, Inc. (NESciTech), 16 Tech Circle, Natick, MA 01760, and hosted by New England Amateur Radio, Inc. (NEAR), which is in turn hosted by New England Sci-Tech. If this location ever becomes unavailable, STARS officers may choose to relocate the club.
- 1.3 STARS shall be run as a social and educational club under the auspices of New England Sci-Tech, Inc.
- 1.4 Call sign: STARS will have a club call sign, the use of which shall be supervised by the Club Call Sign Trustee.
- 1.5 Non-profit status: STARS is organized as a non-profit amateur radio club within the meaning of section 501(c)(7) of The Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (26 U.S.C. 501(c)(7)) and section 5 of part 97 of the FCC Regulations supporting The Communications Act of 1934 (47 C.F.R. 97.5(d) (2)). However, no filing before the Internal Revenue Service for non-profit status shall be necessary as long as STARS is run as a social club under the auspices of New England Sci-Tech.
- 1.6 Rules of order: Unless and except as specified in this document, Robert's Rules of Order shall govern the operation of STARS.
- 1.7 Funding: Upon formation, this organization shall be an unincorporated association. STARS has been created as an educational activity club under the auspices of New England Sci-Tech, Inc. and, as such, this sponsoring institution may, at its discretion, provide funds to STARS and/or oversee the management of club funds.

### 2.0 Educational Purpose

- 2.1 STARS shall strive to introduce youth and their families to radio electronics, the art of radio communications, the importance of the Amateur Radio Service, and the rules of the Federal Communications Commission (FCC).
- 2.2 STARS shall strive to spark youth interest in electronics, physics, astronomy, and other sciences through club activities and the use of the Amateur Radio Service.

- 2.3 As per FCC Regulations Part 97.1, STARS shall provide an educational forum for advancing youth skills in the communications and technical phases of Amateur Radio use.
- 2.4 Through club activities and/or radio communications STARS shall strive to promote and enhance good will within the local community and the global (international) community.
- 2.5 In its proximity to and relation with New England Sci-Tech, a STEM education center and maker space with a space science interest, STARS shall encourage youth to pursue interests in radio electronics related to astronomy, radio astronomy, and space-based communications.
- 2.6 STARS shall encourage all members to join and/or support the American Radio Relay League (ARRL) to support ARRL's national efforts in support of local clubs. STARS shall strive to educate all members about the missions and functions of ARRL and its programs, especially the Amateur Radio Emergency Services® program (ARES®), to ensure that STARS members abide by ARRL and ARES policies, rules, and guidelines.

### 3.0 Membership

- 3.1 Membership in STARS shall be open to all licensed radio amateurs in good standing with the FCC, their families, and those who plan to become licensed amateurs within a few years. Membership shall not be denied because of race, creed, color, religion, gender, age, sexual orientation, political affiliation, marital status or any other reason that would be biased or prejudicial.
- 3.2 Categories of the general membership shall be:
  - (a) Active: Licensed members in good standing who attend regular meetings and club-sponsored events or any person who has contributed monetarily or socially to the club as determined and accepted by the officers.
  - (b) Supporting: Licensed members in good standing or unlicensed members who prefer not to participate in regular club activities but wish to lend support in other ways to STARS.
  - (c) Provisional: Unlicensed members who are studying for an amateur radio exam and plan to become active and licensed members within a few years.
  - (d) Honorary: Membership for VIPs such as ARRL leaders, astronauts, or other dignitaries that may be recommended and agreed upon by the STARS leadership.
- 3.2 New applicants for membership should be sponsored by a current member and approved by the Officers.
- 3.3 Provisional members should be sponsored by a licensed member who will mentor him/her to ensure progress toward becoming licensed.
- 3.4 Membership may be denied or discontinued for any person who is not in good standing with the FCC or whose behavior is contrary to the interests of STARS and the regulations of the FCC.
- 3.5 Terms of membership shall be for 1 year and may be automatically and indefinitely renewable.

## 4.0 Officers

- 4.1 STARS shall have a minimum of three officer positions, a President, a Vice President, and a Club Call Sign Trustee (henceforth known as the Trustee). Another Officer may hold the officer position of Trustee.
- 4.2 The Officers shall be elected yearly by the general membership at a meeting called during June or July. Nominees must be Active Members in good standing. Permanent vacancies may be filled by election from the general membership at a meeting called any time of the year.
- 4.3 The President and Vice President shall have authority as outlined in the current edition of the Robert's Rules of Order, except where limited or enhanced through this Document of Organization.
- 4.4 The Trustee shall establish and maintain an Amateur Radio Club Station for use by the licensed members of STARS and other licensed amateur radio operators, and shall carry out the duties designated by the FCC for the trustee of this station. Each successor must apply to the FCC to become trustee of the STARS club station.
- 4.5 Other categories of officers and other radio station trustees may be promoted to or removed from position of Officer by a majority vote of the Active membership.
- 4.6 Election procedure shall follow Robert's Rules of Order unless otherwise stated in this Document of Organization.

## 5.0 Dues

- 5.1 Dues are to be collected through New England Amateur Radio Inc. (NEAR), the hosting organization of STARS or through New England Sci-Tech Inc., the sponsoring organization, or through any other legal means, if STARS should change sponsors, hosts, or become independent.
- 5.2 The Officers of STARS and NEAR may set any necessary annual membership dues, and may decide to split the dues a fair proportion as agreed upon yearly.

## 6.0 Meetings

- 6.1 All meetings of STARS shall be informal and may be called at the discretion of the President or at least two members of the Organization. Such meetings may take place in person, over amateur radio, or through other electronic communication means.
- 6.2 Meetings called for the purpose of voting require a quorum, which shall be loosely defined as a reasonable number of Active members expected to show up for a meeting based on a reasonable average of attendees at a reasonable number of previous meetings.
- 6.3 Meeting minutes of STARS shall be maintained by the President or his/her designate at his/her discretion.

## 7.0 Equipment and Property

- 7.1 Any member wishing to use the Organization's amateur radio station, repeaters, Internet gateway, or other radio frequency device for transmitting purposes must satisfy the Trustee or Trustee's designate as to his/her authority to do so by identifying his/her amateur radio license call sign. Both the President and the Trustee must approve requests to utilize the Club Call Sign for special operating events.
- 7.2 Unless purchased with funds from the Organization's treasury or donated to the Organization, all equipment used by the Organization remains the property of the respective owner/trustee. No rights shall affix to the equipment by virtue of its use by the Organization or its members nor shall the ownership rights of the equipment owner/trustee be diminished. All equipment purchased by the Organization itself, from its treasury, or donated to the Organization, remains the property of the Organization and likewise, no right of ownership attaches to such by the appointed Trustee (or his/her successor).
- 7.3 All records of STARS including station license, copies of members' licenses, station logs, club activity reports, and meeting minutes shall become the property of STARS and therefore of its host, New England Amateur Radio, Inc. and/or its sponsor, New England Sci-Tech, Inc.
- 7.4 If STARS should ever cease operations and/or be dissolved or disbanded, all equipment owned by others shall be returned to owners, and all other equipment shall become the property of host organization New England Amateur Radio, Inc. or sponsoring organization New England Sci-Tech, Inc. Should host and sponsor no longer be operating, then the equipment must be donated to another non-profit organization as determined by the current officers.

## 8.0 Ratification

This Document of Organization is hereby ratified on the 6<sup>th</sup> of June 2018, with the initial Officers of the organization being:

Rishi Bhagat, KC1BKX, initial President and Club Call Sign Trustee, Founding Member, and Active Member in good standing, 10th grader

Julie Sage, KC1GMW, initial Vice President, Founding Member, Active Member in good standing, 8th grader

Nolan Palmer, KC1IEO, Founding Member, Active Member in good standing, 9th grader

Bruce Tinkler, N9JBT, Technical Advisor, Founding Member, Active Member in good standing, adult supervisor

Bob Phinney, K5TEC, Clerk, Founding Member, Active Member in good standing, adult supervisor