



The CONSTITUTION of **the International Fellowship of Rotarians of Amateur Radio** **(The Fellowship)**

As amended at its Annual General Meeting (AGM) held in Houston and on "Zoom" on JUNE 6th, 2022.

Purposes of the Fellowship

The purposes of the fellowship are to provide a forum for the exchange of views between members who share an interest in Amateur Radio, as either licensed Radio Amateurs or as Short-wave Listeners with a view to developing understanding, acquaintance and fellowship between members worldwide.

Qualifications for Membership

Members must be Rotarians, or Rotaractors or Retired Rotarians, or the Spouses of Members, who hold a license issued in their own country of residence, or who have a genuine interest in Shortwave Radio.

Officers

President, Secretary, Treasurer, Regional Vice Presidents and Magazine Editor

Appointment of Officers

New Officers shall be proposed by the existing Officers, for confirmation at the Annual General Meeting which will, where practicable, be held at the time of the International Rotary Convention.

Officers shall be appointed to serve a three-year term.

Dues

Dues shall be at a level recommended by the Officers, for confirmation at the AGM, and shall be collected by the Treasurer, or by arrangement, may be collected in the Regions for submission to the Treasurer. The Treasurer may agree to a reduced International subscription where the local membership bears the cost of the distribution of the Roster and Communicator magazine. Where members have failed to submit dues for a period of five years, they shall be removed from the membership roster.

Annual Reports

The President and Secretary shall submit to the membership, for consideration at the AGM, a report on the activities of the Fellowship. The Treasurer shall submit a report account of the financial affairs of the Fellowship.

Activities

The Officers and Regional Vice Presidents shall be responsible for the organisation of regular radio schedules for members, internationally and locally as is appropriate, and shall also arrange for the regular publication of a Roster of Members and a newsletter. Where practicable, information for members shall be made available on the Fellowship's International Websites.

Voting and Amendments

Changes to this Constitution may be proposed by any paid-up member, for consideration by the Officers, who will then make recommendations to the members at the next AGM. Any necessary voting on motions at the AGM shall require a simple majority of those attending.

Bylaws.

Regional Vice-Presidents:

- a) Vice-Presidents may be assigned to the following **Seven** Regions:
 - i. **ANZO** - Australia, New Zealand and other places not included in any other region
 - ii. **ASIA** - The Continent of Asia
 - iii. **CEEMA** – The Continent of Europe and The Continent of Africa
 - iv. **RIBI** - Great Britain and Ireland (GBI)
 - v. **SACAMA** – The Continent of South American (except Guyana, Suriname and French Guiana), Central America, Mexico, and the Spanish speaking island nations of the Caribbean (except Puerto Rico)
 - vi. **USCB (East)** – East side of the Continent of North America including Bermuda and Puerto Rico and
 - vii. **USCB (West)** – West side of the Continent of North America
- b) A Vice-President will be appointed to a Region, either by resolution at an Annual General Meeting or, in the case of a vacancy, the President may appoint a member willing to serve in accordance with the Constitution.
- c) Vice-Presidents are responsible for:
 - i. Membership promotion within their Region
 - ii. Facilitating contributions to the ROAR Newsletter and any other Regional publications
 - iii. Memorialising significant changes to members: e.g., obituaries for Silent Keys & notification of recipients of awards or honours
 - iv. Organising at least one regional general meeting each Rotary Year
 - v. Promoting Nets or establishing other initiatives that carry out the Purposes of the Fellowship
 - vi. Assisting the President to exercise the delegations of that office
 - vii. Delegating tasks to other members of the region who wish to contribute.

AGM, President's Delegations and Inter-AGM Delegations of Authority for the President and Officers:

- a) The Secretary shall give 30 days' notice of the Annual General Meeting of the Fellowship, that, wherever possible, is to be held at a time and at the place of the Annual Rotary Convention. If the International Rotary Convention cannot be held at any location, the Secretary shall give 30 days' notice of an alternative meeting mechanism, such as via teleconference. In any case, the Secretary shall make provision for members to attend any AGM by teleconference.
- b) The President is delegated the financial authority to approve expenditure on technological or service initiatives in any Region subject to the following conditions:
 - i. That the initiative is non-recurring, would be beneficial to members in general and could be enjoyed by any of them,
 - ii. That any single initiative or combination of initiatives does not incur expenditure in excess of ten percent of the Fellowship's equity in any Rotary year,
 - iii. That no member of IFROAR receives any pecuniary benefit, directly or indirectly, from the funding of any initiative approved under this delegation,
 - iv. That all initiatives under consideration are disclosed to members in the Fellowship's newsletter **before this delegation is exercised on any of them.**
- c) In the event that the President is unable to serve out the term of office, the Immediate Past President shall be President until the next AGM where an election of a President shall be held. In the event that the Immediate Past President is unable to serve, the Secretary shall request the Vice-Presidents to confer, and they shall appoint one of their number to be President until the next AGM where an election of a President shall be held.
- d) If the Office of Secretary or Treasurer becomes vacant, the President shall appoint a suitably qualified member who is willing to serve in accordance with the Constitution.

Management of Key Information:

- a) Banking:
 - i. The President and the Treasurer shall ensure that suitable banking facilities are used to deposit the Fellowship's funds, which shall be held in the name of the Fellowship.
 - ii. The methods of communication with and operations of the banking facilities shall be fully described in writing by the member currently responsible for them, along with any necessary access codes. A backup copy shall be kept in strict confidence by the Secretary and only disclosed to the President and Treasurer with the support of a majority of Vice-Presidents for the purposes of recovery.
 - iii. Two signatories, one of whom is either the Treasurer or the President, shall be required to disburse any funds from the Fellowship's bank accounts. A third signatory shall be appointed by the President in accordance with the prevailing banking rules.
 - iv. If PayPal or any similar online banking or payment service is used, the Treasurer shall ensure that its balance is always less than \$1,500. Funds received from such services should be moved to the Fellowship's bank accounts as soon as possible.
- b) Maintenance of Intellectual Property:
 - i. The methods of communication with and operations of the Fellowship's website, domain account and any other Internet-based services relied upon for fulfilling the Purposes of the Fellowship shall be fully described in writing by the member or service provider currently responsible for them, along with any necessary access codes. A backup copy shall be kept in strict confidence by the Secretary and only disclosed to the President with the support of a majority of Vice-Presidents for the purposes of recovery.

- c) Reviewing the Annual Accounts:
 - i. The Treasurer shall provide Statements of Financial Performance and Financial Position during the month of MAY to a Vice-President nominated by the President to review the accounts. Details of all income and expenses shall be provided along with any other information reasonably requested by the reviewer. The Reviewed Accounts and the opinion of the reviewer shall be presented at the AGM for approval by the members.
- d) General:
 - i. Attendance at International Rotary Conventions. The Fellowship should use its best endeavours to be physically present in the House of Friendship (or equivalent) and wherever practicable, arrange for the operation of a special event HF station (e.g., remote operation) and a VHF/UHF digital modes hotspot as part of the convention communications plan. The Fellowship will meet all actual and reasonable costs associated with establishing a physical presence at Convention. Expenses incurred by members attending or participating in the Convention are excluded.

Usage Notes:

Citation of clauses in this Constitution is as follows: "Clause Name", "Clause Sub Section", "Clause Sub-Sub Section".

E.g., The President's Delegation are cited as **AGM, President's Delegations and Inter-AGM Delegations of Authority for the President and Officers; (b),(i – iv)**