

ARTICLE I (ORGANIZATION)

CIRCA 1977?

Paragraph 1 (Groups)

1.1 The Appalachian Search and Rescue Conference (ASRC) shall be divided into field organizations called 'Groups.' Each Group shall provide for itself whatever name, organization, operating procedures and training it deems appropriate, provided it adheres to the By-laws, operational procedures and training standards of the ASRC. ~~Every member of a Group shall be a member of the ASRC, and every member of the ASRC shall be a member of a Group.~~

2.1 The administrative and executive authority of the ASRC shall be vested in a 'Board of Directors.' The responsibilities of the Board of Directors shall be:

- a) to coordinate the efforts of the various groups and to provide liason among them,
- b) to establish, publish, and enforce standards of procedure and competence for the conduct of search and rescue operations,
- c) to solicit monetary and material contributions for the support of ASRC, and to draft and administer its budget,
- d) to inform the appropriate civil and military authorities of the activities and capabilities of the ASRC and its groups, and to cooperate with those authorities in making the services of the ASRC available to the public,
- e) to inform other search and rescue, and related organizations, of the activities and capabilities of the ASRC and its Groups, and to cooperate with those organizations in the effort to provide and effective search and rescue capability to the public,
- f) to fulfill other incidental duties specified in the By-laws,
- g) to fulfill the requirements of the Articles of Incorporation.

2.2 The Board of Directors shall have no power over the conduct of Group business, except for the enforcement of the By-laws, operational procedures and training standards. ~~STANDARDS OF PROCEDURE AND COMPETENCY.~~

2.3 The Board of Directors shall be composed of two members from each Group. ~~Terms shall be determined by the individual Groups.~~

2.4 (NOT P.)

2.5 The responsibilities of the Chairman shall be:

- a) to call and conduct meetings of the Board of Directors,
- b) to oversee the administration of the ASRC and ensure that the provisions of 2.1 are carried out.

To educate the public in ^{safe} wilderness travel.

2.6 The responsibilities of the Vice-Chairman shall be:

- a) to serve as Chairman in the absence or incapacitation of the Chairman,
- b) to fulfill other duties as designated by the Chairman.

2.7 The responsibilities of the Secretary shall be:

- a) to record the proceedings of the meetings of the Board of Directors and of any membership meetings,
- b) to maintain the conference roster,
- c) to maintain the records and correspondence of the ASRC.

2.8 The responsibilities of the Treasurer shall be:

- a) to keep the financial records and accounts of the ASRC.

2.4 Only ASRC ^{CONF'00} members with ~~Conference voting privileges~~ shall be eligible for office on the Board of Directors.

2.5 Selection of the Board of Directors shall be as follows:

- a) Each Group shall elect from its ^{CONF'00} Membership two delegates to the Board of Directors to be installed 1 April of each year.
- b) At the first meeting upon taking office, the Delegates shall elect from among themselves the officers of the Board of Directors:
Chairman, Vice Chairman, Secretary, and Treasurer.

ARTICLE II (ASRC MEMBERSHIP)

Paragraph 1 (Applications and Roster)

1.1 Applications for membership shall be taken by the individual Groups, and guidance to applicants for securing membership shall be provided by the Groups.

1.2 Each Group may accept applications for, and grant memberships as Associates or Auxiliaries.

1.3 Each Group shall maintain its own personnel records. Each Group shall supply the Secretary with a roster of its members, including the following information for each member:

- a) Name
- b) Kind of membership
- c) Mailing Address
- d) Telephone Numbers

1.5 Changes to this roster shall be reported to the Secretary within thirty days of the time the changes are effective.

1.4 The Secretary shall maintain an ASRC membership roster comprised of all the Group rosters. Access to the Conference roster shall be open to any member with voting privileges.

1.4.4 A member may be expelled from the Group only after three-fourths of the Group voting members vote for his expulsion. Voting on questions of expulsion shall be by written ballots, with votes by proxy accepted from voting members. A record of the vote shall be made at the request of any voting member of the Group. *WITH THE PRIVILEGE TO VOTE IN GROUP MEETINGS*

Paragraph 2 (Certified Members)

2.1 Certified Membership shall be conferred upon those applicants who meet, as a minimum, the Standards and Requirements for Certified Membership as established by the Board of Directors, and who are elected by the Certified Members of the Group to which they apply. In the case of a Group with no Certified Members, or of a new Group, Applicants may be certified by the Board of Directors. *IN THE TRAINING GROUP*

2.2 All Certified Members shall have all rights of voting and of eligibilities for any office in the ASRC and of the Groups of which they hold membership.

2.3 Certified Members shall have ~~the~~ ASRC conference membership rights. *SUPPORT*

Paragraph 3 (Trainee Members) *These are the 3 classes of support membership: TRAINEE, ASSOCIATE, AND APPLICANT.*

3.1 Trainee Membership may be offered by each Group to those Applicants who wish to become Certified Members, but have not completed the requirements for Certified Membership.

3.2 Trainee Membership shall be granted to any Applicant who secures a simple majority of the votes cast in a scheduled membership meeting of the Group to which he applies, and meets the Standards and Requirements established by the Board of Directors for Trainee Membership. *IN THE TRAINING GROUP*

3.3 Trainee Members may vote in all general Group elections, but shall not vote in Conference elections. Trainee Members shall be eligible for any Group office, but shall not be eligible for any Conference office.

Paragraph 4 (Associate Members)

4.1 Associate membership may be offered by each Group to applicants who possess some skills useful to the individual Group, but who are unable or unwilling to complete the requirements for Certified membership.

4.2 An Associate Member may enjoy the privilege of voting and of eligibility for office in his Group only by securing three-quarters of the votes cast for that privilege by his Group.

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Paragraph 6 (Auxiliary Members)

6.1 Auxiliary Membership may be offered by each Group to those applicants who wish to be available for search and rescue operations.

6.2 Auxiliary Membership shall only be granted to applicants who

- a) meet the Standards and Requirements for Auxiliary Membership as set forth in the Training Manual,
- b) sign the waiver of liability for Auxiliary Members (the signature of the Applicant's legal guardian is required if the Applicant is a minor.)

6.3 Auxiliary Members may only be employed as searchers, litter bearers over non-technical terrain, and in support tasks. Further restrictions may be imposed by the ASRC Operations Manual.

6.4 Auxiliary Members shall have no right of vote or holding office in the ASRC or Group.

ARTICLE III (OPERATIONS)

Paragraph 1 (Board Meetings)

1.1 Board Meetings shall be held at least once in each quarter of the calendar year.

1.2 The Secretary shall publish the date, time and place of Board Meetings at least 30 days in advance.

1.3 Board Meetings shall be open to all interested parties.

1.4 The Secretary shall make available the minutes of each Board Meeting within 60 days of the meeting.

Paragraph 2 (Membership Meetings)

2.1 General membership meetings of the ASRC may be called when deemed appropriate by the Board of Directors or by petition of twenty-five percent of the membership.

2.2 Notice of a general membership meeting shall be published by the Secretary at least 30 days in advance.

2.3 At least 30 days before each Membership Meeting, the Secretary shall publish the Agenda.

2.4 A report on the Membership Meeting, including reports of the Groups, Committees, and other pertinent information shall be prepared by the Secretary within 90 days of the meeting.

2.5 The Membership Meetings shall be open to all interested parties.

Paragraph 3 (Groups)

3.1 A Group shall be chartered by the Board if:

- a) a nearby Group will sponsor the new Group and vouch for their interest and capabilities, or if the Group undergoes unit testing,
- b) The new Group indicates to the Board of Directors a commitment to meet and maintain the standards and requirements of an ASRC Group as detailed in the Articles of Incorporation, By-laws, Training Manual, and Operations Manual.

3.2 Violation of a Group's responsibilities as designated in the Articles of Incorporation, By-laws, Training Manual, or Operations Manual may be cause for their Charter to be revoked by the ASRC. A Group's charter shall be revoked only by a vote of three-quarters of the Board of Directors. All members of a Group that has had its charter revoked, who possess the status of Trainee or Certified Member at the time of revocation, shall have their status changed to non-voting Associate Members, *AND ALL MEMBERS SHALL BECOME MEMBERS OF THE NEWEST GROUP.*

3.3 Each Group will maintain as minimum standards the ASRC standards of certification and operations in the Training ^{Guide} and Operations Manuals.

Paragraph 4 (Association with other organizations)

4.1 The Board of Directors is empowered to enter into cooperative agreements, formal and informal, with other organizations and agencies, provided that:

- a) such agreements are in the interest of providing enhanced search and rescue, or search and rescue related service to the public,
- b) such agreements do not conflict with the Articles of Incorporation or By-laws,
- c) such agreements do not impair the effectiveness of the ASRC in providing services to the public,
- d) such agreements do not make the ASRC, its Groups, or its Members more liable for suit or prosecution,
- e) such agreements do not restrict ASRC officers and members in caring for the safety of victims or search and rescue personnel,
- f) such agreements do not place ASRC personnel involuntarily under the direction of leaders not ASRC qualified, so that they cannot decline to follow directions they consider unnecessarily dangerous to victims or SAR personnel or deleterious to the goals of the mission.

PROHIBIT GROUPS TOO?

ARTICLE IV (FINANCES)

Paragraph 1 (Sources)

1.1 The Board of Directors shall provide for the financial needs of the ASRC by approving fund raising projects, soliciting donations of funds, equipment, and services, dues and administrative fees.

1.2 The ASRC, its Groups, or members shall not permit use of any name, symbol, or other identification of ASRC or its Groups for the purpose of commending or endorsing any commercial product, except when such commendation or endorsement will contribute directly to the purposes of the ASRC, as determined by the Board of Directors.

1.3 All donations shall be acknowledged in writing.

Paragraph 2 (Distribution of funds)

2.1 ASRC funds shall be used only to advance the purpose of ASRC.

2.2 ASRC funds may be used to:

a) provide for the administrative functions of the ASRC, including publications and mailings,

b) provide for the costs associated with the ASRC-level of operations (as defined in the Operations Manual),

c) purchase needed equipment to be issued to ASRC Groups or other operational stations,

d) provide for outdoor safety education programs,

e) provide additional funding to Groups exhibiting special needs.

2.3 No expenditures shall be made without the approval of the treasurer, or without the approval of a majority of the Board of Directors.

2.4 A detailed financial report shall be submitted as part of the annual report, and ASRC financial records shall be public record.

ARTICLE V (AMENDMENTS)

Paragraph 1

Amendments to these By-laws must be proposed by the Board of Directors, or by petition signed by at least 10 percent of the members with ASRC voting privileges.

Paragraph 2

All proposed amendments must be filed with the Secretary at least 30 days prior to the annual membership meeting.

Paragraph 3

Amendments must receive a vote of 2/3 of the members with ASRC voting privileges to be enacted.

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((COMPILED BY T. VINES USING NOTES FROM MEETING WITH: Y. BROWN
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