



# Radio Scouting Ireland Constitution

## Name and type Organization

The organisation shall be known as Radio Scouting Ireland (RSI) and the organisation shall be a club by association.

## Purpose of the Organization

The purpose of the organisation shall be to:

- 1.) Promote and support Amateur Radio, science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM ) activities in a fun and interesting way across the scout and guiding troops of Ireland, particularly the annual global JOTA-JOTI scouting event
- 2.) Provide a focal point for amateur radio equipment donations and distribute on loan or on a permanent basis such donations to scout troops who wish to take part in amateur radio and radio scouting activities
- 3.) Contribute to IRTS, Scouting & ComReg consultations in order to help promote Radio Scouting activities

## Membership requirements

Membership shall be open to all scout leaders and/or licensed amateurs over the age of 18 with an interest in promoting and supporting Amateur Radio activities within scouting, guiding & youth organisations.

Members must familiarise themselves with, and agree to abide by the Radio Scouting Ireland constitution.

Members must familiarise themselves with, and agree to abide by Scouting Ireland, Irish Girl Guides or any other scouting group's safeguarding policy, and obey any guidance or lawful instruction from scout/guide leaders when taking part in scouting, guiding or other youth events.

There shall be two classes of membership and membership fee:

- Ordinary Members, €10 per annum
- Ordinary Members + Remote Access, €20 per annum

Remote Access members note: remote access is on a best effort voluntary basis and scouting or other youth events take precedence.

The membership Year is defined as beginning on 1<sup>st</sup> January and ending 31<sup>st</sup> December. Membership and meeting attendance shall be suspended and for any membership unpaid by 28<sup>th</sup> February.

Guests may be invited by current members and may attend a maximum of two meetings, excluding the AGM and any EGM.

After attending and contributing at two meetings, a person may apply to join the club and on application shall receive a copy of the constitution. All members must be over 18 and must agree to be garda vetted via garda e-vetting.

Upon approval, post completion of an interview with two members of the committee and payment of appropriate fees the applicant will be accepted as a member of the club.

Membership shall be at the discretion of the committee, the decision to refuse, withhold or withdraw membership/application rests with the elected Committee. Such a decision must be carried by at least three of the total Committee membership.

No Member shall be expelled without first being given the opportunity to appear before the Committee.

## Meetings

There shall be a minimum of 4 formal minuted meetings annually where at least three of the committee must be present.

Additional meetings can be called on an ad hoc basis to plan events or discuss aspects of the hobby and may be scheduled by any member.

Meetings may be held in person or online.

## Officers of the Organization

The Club's affairs shall be administered by a committee. The committee is responsible for the running and management of the organisation.

The Committee shall comprise of:

- A President, who will be responsible for running and direction of the club.
- A Chairperson, who will be responsible for the conduct of meetings.
- A Secretary, who shall be responsible for:
  - Scheduling and minuting any formal meetings
  - Ensuring all club correspondence is correctly handled
  - Is responsible for ensuring that all members are made aware of the future programme of club meetings and activities.
- A Treasurer, who shall manage the clubs finances and present a statement of the Club's accounts at the AGM.
- A Quartermaster, who shall be responsible for managing and maintaining the club's equipment whether in storage or on loan to a scout troop.
- An IT & Communications manager to set up and manage social media accounts, online file management etc.

The committee shall be elected at the AGM every year by the membership. To be elected each candidate must be nominated and seconded by a fully paid up member. Where a position is uncontested the candidate is deemed elected once nominated and seconded.

Where more than one candidate is nominated and seconded, candidates will be given the opportunity to give a one minute speech to outline why they feel they would be the best candidate for the role. Contested candidates may be voted in via a show of hands, a call for aye or via email vote as appropriate.

In-between AGM's, members may be co-opted to serve on the Committee by existing Committee members as and when necessary for the running of the club.

No member may hold their position on the Committee for more than two or serve on the committee for more than 4 consecutive years, except where:

- There are no other volunteers/nominees
- They co-opted to serve on the Committee by existing Committee members when necessary for the running of the club.

An outgoing committee member can be nominated and voted into a different committee post after two years in another post. A past committee member may be re-elected after a break of one year.

## Finances

The financing of The Club shall be carried out through donations, grants and annual subscriptions and by any other way approved by the Committee.

Annual subscriptions shall be decided from time to time by either an Annual General Meeting (AGM) or an Extraordinary General Meeting (EGM).

## Conduct of formal meetings

The Annual General Meeting shall be held where possible within the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter of each year, and the members of the Club shall be notified one month or more prior to the chosen date. The date of the AGM shall be chosen by the Committee. The business of the AGM shall include a review of the year by the president, the presentation of the balance sheet and setting of annual subscription rates led by the treasurer, the presentation of the clubs assets by the quarter master including summarising equipment donations, disbursements and retirement/disposals, the voting on any motions, the election of the Committee and AOB let by the Chairperson.

An Extraordinary General Meeting may be called by the Committee at any time, by simple majority.

To call an EGM the date of the EGM and all motions to be considered by the EGM must be notified to all club members a minimum of two weeks prior to the proposed date.

The voting on motions shall be by a show of hands, a call for aye/nay, by email or other electronic means.

All discussion shall be through the chair.

Motions shall be carried by a majority of two-thirds of those present and eligible to vote.

Committee members shall be elected by a simple majority. Where a member cannot attend a meeting they may make known their vote choices or proxy via post/email to any member of the committee plus the chair. The Chair will make known to the members present any proxy's or not in person vote choices.

A quorum for an EGM or AGM is defined as half of the current membership.

Members who have chosen a proxy or postal/email vote are considered to be present for the purposes of counting a quorum.

All members who have paid their annual subscription are eligible to vote at an AGM or EGM.

An AGM is always considered as being part of the preceding year, an EGM as being part of the current year.

For clarification, notices may be delivered electronically or on paper. A notice is deemed to be delivered if emailed to the club member's provided email address, messaged to their mobile number or if sent by a recognised postal service. In the event that an email is notified as failed, an alternative notification shall be sent in its place as soon as is reasonably practicable. If this second notice arrives later than the notice period specified for an AGM or EGM that will not invalidate the notification process.

In the unlikely event a notification is late, the notification process will not be invalidated if sent within 5 days of the notifications date.

## Constitutional and Other Changes

This constitution may only be amended by a motion at a fully quorate AGM or EGM. Such a motion may make any changes to this constitution that it may wish. Change to the constitution may be circulated and agreed by simple majority via email or other electronic means.

A proposal for a change to be made to the rules or constitution of The Club may be submitted by any member at an AGM. This proposal must be included in the agenda distributed with the AGM notice.

A quorum for the AGM or an EGM is competent to make any changes to club running or procedure that it may wish.

## Winding up of the Club.

The decision to wind up the Club may be taken only at an EGM by a two thirds majority.

The funds of the Club shall, after the sale of all assets and the payment of all outstanding debts, be disposed of as much as possible to scouting and youth organisations or as directed by members at the final EGM.

This 1st constitution was adopted at a general meeting of the Club on 15th August 2022.

This version of the constitution was adopted by club members by electronic means on 19/4/24.

Singed By:

Marty Grady (President) \_\_\_\_\_Marty Grady\_\_\_\_\_ Date:19/4/24

Declan McGuire (Chairmand) \_\_\_\_\_Declan McGuire\_\_\_\_\_ Date: 19/4/24