

GATOR AMATEUR RADIO CLUB CONSTITUTION

Article One: Purpose

Section 1

The purpose of the Gator Amateur Radio Club (GARC) shall be:

- To promote the interest in Amateur Radio in the University of Florida community.
- To increase the number of competent, licensed Amateur Radio operators among University of Florida students.
- Recognition and enhancement of the value of the Amateur Service to the public as a voluntary, non-commercial communication service, particularly with respect to providing emergency communications.
- Continuation and extension of the Amateur's unique ability to contribute to the advancement of the radio art.
- Continuation and extension of the Amateur's unique ability to enhance international good will.
- To otherwise contribute to the goals of the Amateur Radio Service as specified in Part 97 of the Rules and Regulations of the Federal Communications Commission (FCC).

Article Two: Membership

Section 1

Any person who is registered as a full-time or part-time student at the University of Florida, and is interested in Amateur Radio, shall be eligible for full membership, which confers full voting privileges, and eligibility to hold office. Full members who hold a valid Amateur Radio operator's license are eligible to be issued a station key for unsupervised access to the club Amateur Radio station, W4DFU.

Section 2

Any University of Florida faculty, staff member, or student spouse interested in Amateur Radio shall be eligible for associate membership, which confers the right to attend meetings and participate in club activities. Associate members who hold a valid Amateur Radio operator's license and are employees of the University of Florida are also eligible to be issued a station key for unsupervised access to the club Amateur Radio station, W4DFU.

Section 3

No membership dues or any other dues shall be required of eligible GARC members.

Article Three: Officers

Section 1

The four student officers shall be: President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer. At the discretion of the voting membership, the offices of Secretary and Treasurer may be combined to that of a single Secretary-Treasurer who shall assume the duties of both offices.

Section 2

The two faculty officers shall be: Faculty Advisor and Station Trustee. At the discretion of the voting membership, the two faculty offices may be combined to that of a single Faculty Advisor-Trustee who is eligible(see Article 4, Sec. 5 & 6) to hold both offices and shall assume the duties of both offices.

Section 3

The official election for ALL officers will be at the last meeting of Spring semester. The officers will be established by a simple majority of voting members present at the election meeting. The student officers shall serve a term of 12 months (1 year). The faculty officer(s) position shall be filled with a simple majority vote of the voting members present at the the election meeting. The faculty officers shall serve until they are no longer employed by the University of Florida, resign, or are removed by the voting membership.

Section 4

Vacancies occurring between official elections will be filled by special election, held at the first meeting following the vacancy, or the second meeting if the first occurs less than one week after the vacancy. Terms will last until the formal election of Spring semester. Meetings at which elections will be held will have meeting notices publicized as prescribed by the [Bylaws](#) at least one week prior to the meeting.

Section 5

Officers may be removed by a two-thirds vote of the voting membership present at a meeting. Meetings at which the removal of an officer will be considered shall be publicized at least one week prior as prescribed by the [Bylaws](#).

Article Four: Duties of Officers

Section 1

The President shall preside at all meetings, shall enforce the Constitution and Bylaws, shall sign all correspondence, shall appoint the repeater control operator to manage and control the club repeater systems, and shall perform all other duties pertaining to the office of President.

Section 2

The Vice President shall assume the duties of the President in the latter's absence, shall function as station manager, monitoring the status and maintenance of the club Amateur Radio station equipment, and shall recommend and implement actions to insure efficient utilization of the station.

Section 3

The Secretary shall keep a record of the proceedings of all meetings, shall keep a role of members, shall facilitate all correspondence, and shall maintain the club's library of documents

Section 4

The Treasurer shall keep a complete and accurate record of all monies paid to the club and of all monies expended. No disbursement in excess of fifty dollars may be made without prior approval of the membership. Any expenditure less than fifty dollars and not previously approved must be reported at the first meeting subsequent to the expenditure for approval. Receipts must be presented for all items purchased.

Section 5

The Faculty Advisor shall be a member of the faculty or staff of the University of Florida, shall advise and counsel the officers and members of the club, and shall serve as a resource person when dealing with the other branches of the University. The Advisor shall be custodian of equipment belonging to the club and must sign for equipment loaned, transferred, or donated to the club by other branches of the University or outside contributors.

Section 6

The Station Trustee shall be a licensed Amateur of General Class or higher who is a member of the faculty or staff of the University of Florida. The Trustee shall be the person in whose name the club station is licensed, and therefore have final responsibility and authority regarding operations of equipment at the club station or under the club call sign, W4DFU. The Trustee shall keep informed as to actions of the FCC pertaining to the Amateur Radio Service and advise the officers and members of any changes. The Trustee shall renew or modify the station license as may be required.

Article Five: Meetings

Section 1

Meetings will be scheduled by the President in accordance with the club's [Bylaws](#) and will occur at least twice per semester. A quorum as defined in the Bylaws must be present to conduct business.

Article Six: Club Station Rules and Operation

Section 1

All equipment must be operated in a technically proficient manner to avoid interference. The current W4DFU Station Rules and W4DFU Repeater Rules must be followed at all times. All operations must comply with FCC and University of Florida rules and regulations.

Section 2

The Trustee (or the President after having consulted with the Trustee) will have the authority to require the surrender of a member's station key if his/her activities at the club Amateur Radio station warrant. Disposition of the member's case will be resolved at the next meeting.

Section 3

The club will have the authority to expel members reviewed under Article 6, Sec. 2. Two thirds of the total active voting membership present as defined in the [Bylaws](#) are required to pass this action.

Section 4

No station key will be issued by the Trustee without proof of possession of a valid Amateur Radio operator license. A station key deposit will be collected and shall be returned when the station key is returned.

Article Seven: Amendments

Section 1

Amendments to the Constitution may be enacted by two thirds of the total active voting membership as defined in the [Bylaws](#). The proposed

change must be publicized at least one week prior to the close of the vote as prescribed by the Bylaws.

Section 2

Amendments to the Bylaws may be enacted by a two thirds vote of the voting members present at a meeting. The proposed change must be publicized at least one week prior to the meeting as prescribed by the Bylaws.

Section 3

Votes on amendments to the Constitution or Bylaws shall not be conducted during inter-semester breaks or other periods in which normal University of Florida classes are not held for a period of more than three days, except that a vote may be held during "Finals Week".

Article Eight: Hazing

Section 1

The club will neither instigate nor tolerate any activities that may be deemed malicious or degrading towards individuals. All activities must adhere to the STUDENT GUIDE and other laws, rules, and regulations governing the University of Florida and its students. Persons guilty of prohibited activities will be dealt with as per Article 6, Sec. 2 & 3.

Section 2

The club will not discriminate on the basis of race, creed, color, sex, age, national origin, disability or sexual orientation.

Section 3

Members are free to leave and disassociate without fear of retribution or harassment.