

**CONSTITUTION**  
**Ventura County D-Star Network**  
As enacted 12/23/2013

**Mission Statement**

The mission of the Ventura County D-Star Network (VCDSN) is to further the camaraderie, knowledge, and service of the Amateur Radio community in the Ventura County region.

**Preamble**

We, the membership, wishing to secure for ourselves the fulfillment and benefits of an association of persons commonly interested in Amateur Radio, do establish the Ventura County D-Star Network and enact this Constitution as our governing law.

The purposes for which this organization was formed are as follows:

- To promote good will and cooperation among its members.
- To provide for an exchange of information in cooperation between members.
- To secure for its members the pleasures and benefits of the association of persons commonly interested in Amateur Radio.
- To promote radio knowledge, fraternalism and individual operating efficiency and to so conduct its activities as to advance the general interest and welfare of Amateur Radio in the community
- To advance the theory of radio and aid in the education of its members in the practice of Amateur Radio.
- To support scientific research and tests in the field of radio communications; encourage participation of persons interested in Amateur Radio.

**ARTICLE I - MEMBERSHIP**

**Section 1 – Eligibility**

All persons interested in Amateur Radio shall be eligible for membership. Applications for membership shall be restricted so that at least 51% of the active membership has a valid amateur radio operator's license issued by the Federal Communications Commission.

A person desiring membership must submit an application for membership. The application for membership must be in writing accompanied by a copy of a valid amateur radio operator's license, if held. All applications for membership shall be read and reviewed by the designated governing body of the VCDSN.

**Section 2 – Levels of Membership**

All individuals over the age of 18 hold full membership in the Ventura County D-Star Network, whether holding an Amateur Radio license or not.

Members under the age of 18 years do not have voting rights and may not hold office. They may be involved in all other club activities.

Charter Members are the original officers of the VCDSN, who were so at the time of charter.

## **ARTICLE II - OFFICERS**

### **Section 1 - Officers**

Officers of the club shall be President, a Vice-President, a Secretary, a Treasurer, and a Trustee of Licenses. The office of Secretary and Treasurer may be held by one person. The Trustee of licenses may concurrently hold any other office.

### **Section 2 - Description of Offices**

It shall be the duty of the President to preside at all meetings, appoint any necessary committees and to help further any activities in the interest of the club. The President shall maintain the right to vote and serve ex-officio on all committees. The President has a term of one year after which he/she may be elected to serve again. There are no limits as to the number of terms an individual may hold for any office.

The Vice-President shall preside at a meeting in the absence of the President and shall assist the President whenever necessary in the interests of the club. The Vice-President has a term of one year after which he/she may be elected to serve again. There are no limits as to the number of terms an individual may hold for any office.

The Secretary shall keep minutes of all regular and special meetings, notify all active members by voice, mail, or email, of any regular meetings, special meetings, event or functions to be held by or in the interests of the club. The Secretary shall keep a list of all members and the official copy of the Constitution and By-Laws, as well as other official papers of the club. The Secretary has a term of one year after which he/she may be elected to serve again. There are no limits as to the number of terms an individual may hold for any office.

It shall be the duty of the Treasurer to collect all dues or assessments and keep a record thereof, pay any bills approved by the club, keep a correct account of all money collected or expended by him/her on behalf of the club. The Treasurer shall take any steps deemed necessary by the club to safeguard the funds. The Treasurer has a term of one year after which he/she may be elected to serve again. There are no limits as to the number of terms an individual may hold for any office.

## **ARTICLE III - ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

### **Section 1 – Eligibility for Officer positions**

Only members licensed as amateur radio operators by the Federal Communications Commission shall be eligible for election as President or Vice President. Any member over age 18 may be eligible for election to the office of Secretary or the office of Treasurer.

### **Section 2 - Nominations**

Any member in good standing may make a nomination from the floor, but each nomination must be seconded by another member in good standing. All nominations shall be made at the Annual meeting in January with an election via secret ballot. The current Secretary and President shall then count the secret ballots in front of the membership at the club meeting and then the President shall announce the results to the rest of the Club.

### **Section 3 - Election**

A majority vote of the members at the Annual Meeting shall be required for election providing that a quorum is present. If a quorum is not present, all elected positions shall remain unchanged for the next term period.

### **Section 4 - Term of Office**

Terms of all regularly elected officers shall be for the term of one year with the term of office to start with annual January meeting and continue through to the annual January meeting of the following year. Should a vacancy occur in the office of President, it shall be filled by the Vice President and be for the remainder of the unexpired term. Should a vacancy occur in the office of Vice President, Secretary, or Treasurer, it shall be filled at the next regular meeting and be for the remainder of the unexpired term. There are no limits as to the number of terms an individual may hold for any office. The offices of President and Vice President may not be held by the same individual concurrently. Neither may the President nor Vice President hold the position of Secretary or Treasurer concurrently. Only the offices of Secretary and Treasurer may be held by the same person, and the Trustee of Licenses.

### **Section 5 – Removal of Officers**

Any officer may be removed from office by a three-fourths vote of members at attendance at a special meeting called for this purpose and at which each member has received a notice in writing, either via email or postal mail.

## **ARTICLE IV - MEETINGS**

### **Section 1 – Annual Meeting**

The Annual Meeting shall be held in January of each year. The place and format of the Annual Meeting shall be determined by the membership.

### **Section 2 - Quorum**

One-third of the voting membership of the club shall constitute a quorum for a meeting.

## **ARTICLE V - DUES**

### **Section 1**

All members, other than Charter Members shall be required to pay dues and the dues for various classes of membership shall be in such amounts as the membership shall determine from time to time.

### **Section 2**

The fiscal year of the club shall be the calendar year, January 1st to December 31st. Dues are due by January 31st of each year.

### **Section 3**

Members who failed to pay their dues by April 1st of each year shall be dropped from the membership rolls. However, any past member may be reinstated to active membership by paying dues for the current year during which he/she seeks to be reinstated.

#### **Section 4**

Dues of a new member shall be pro-rated on a semi-annual basis from the time the application is received. January – April – Full 100% May – August – 75% September – December – 50%

#### **ARTICLE VI - MEMBERSHIP ASSISTANCE**

The club, through designated committees on such matters as Interference, Public Relations and Operating will provide technical advice to members concerning equipment design and operation. The goal is to aid members with attaining proper frequencies, having a clean signal, keeping practices of the Ham community uniform and preventing spurious radiation from this Club's member stations.

If any club member needs assistance with antennas, radios or other related equipment it is the obligation of the Club to provide assistance as possible.

#### **ARTICLE VII - AMENDMENTS**

The Secretary shall notify all active members in writing, either via email or postal mail, of any proposed amendment and that said amendment shall be voted on at the next regular meeting. Two-thirds majority of the voting members present at this meeting shall be considered sufficient. Upon passage of a proposed amendment, a new set of By-Laws will be drafted by the Secretary to be submitted to the Membership for passage at the next regular meeting.

#### **ARTICLE VIII - DISSOLUTION OF THE CLUB**

##### **Section 1 – Termination of Operations**

In the event that the Officers vote to dissolve this Club, the motion for dissolution must receive more than two thirds vote of the FULL membership to pass.

##### **Section 2 – Disposition of Assets**

The Officers shall be in charge of the disbursement of all assets of the Club. No member of the Club shall receive benefit from the assets. All equipment will be sold, and the net proceeds will be donated to one or several non-profit organizations. All remaining cash will be donated to a non-profit organization.

**BY-LAWS**  
**Ventura County D-Star Network**  
As established 12/23/2013

**I. MEMBERS**

1. The Membership of the Ventura County D-Star Network (VCDSN) shall be divided into two classes; regular and charter members. All regular member dues shall be paid for the calendar year, January 1st to December 31st. Due are due and payable during the month of January. Charter Members will be exempt from paying dues for the lifetime of their membership. If a Charter Member resigns from the organization, he/she may return at a later date as a regular member, and shall be subject to regular member dues.

**II. VOTING**

1. Voting rights shall be extended to those persons maintaining the status of members.

**III. MEETINGS**

1. Annual meetings shall be held in January, at a time and place to be announced as required in section X.

**IV. DUES**

1. The dues for a regular member shall be fifty dollars (\$50.00) per year. The dues for the second and subsequent regular members in the same household shall be twenty-five dollars (\$25.00) per year.

2. Charter members will never be asked to pay dues. However, if a charter member resigns from the organization and then returns at a later date, he/she will be considered a regular member and expected to pay dues of same.

**V. ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

1. The elected officers of this Association shall be: President, Vice-President, and Secretary-Treasurer. Only a regular or charter member may hold an elected office.

2. Elected officers shall be elected at the regular January meeting each year and shall serve for a period of one year. Election shall be by a majority of votes cast. Nominations for the offices may be made at the time of the January meeting.

3. Vacancies occurring between elections must be filled by special ballot at a special meeting following the announcement of the withdrawal or resignation.

4. Elected officers may be removed by motion upon a three-fourths vote of the regular membership present at any regular meeting, provided that notice of intent to remove the officer shall be given by mail to the regular membership as otherwise provided herein.

## **VI. DUTIES OF OFFICERS**

1. The President shall be the chief executive officer and shall preside at all meetings. He/she shall enforce due observance of this Constitution and By-Laws, decide all questions of order, sign all official documents and perform all customary duties which usually devolve upon such officer. The President may also serve as Trustee of Licenses, but shall only hold one vote.

2. The Vice-President shall, in the absence of the President, assume all the duties of the President. The Vice-President may also serve as Trustee of Licenses, but shall only hold one vote.

3. The Secretary shall keep a record of the proceedings of all meetings, read communications at meetings, and accomplish all correspondence. He/she shall keep the constitution and by-laws of the VCDSN and shall cause all amendments, additions and changes to be duly noted. He/she shall keep an accurate record of the Association membership.

4. The Treasurer shall keep a record of all monies received and expended, and shall maintain a separate accounting of all monies received and expended on behalf of VCDSN association memberships. He/she shall, upon the expiration of his/her term, relinquish all pertinent materials to his/her successor.

## **VII. AMENDMENTS**

These by-laws may be amended by a two-thirds majority of the quorum of regular club members at any regular club meeting provided that all regular members have been notified by mail of the intent to amend these by-laws.

## **VIII. PRINCIPAL OFFICE**

The principal office of this organization shall be at 226 W. Ojai Avenue, Suite 101-449, Ojai California, Ventura County, California 93023.

## **IX. TERM OF OFFICE**

All officers shall assume office at the January meeting of the VCDSA.

## **X. NOTICE**

Notice required under these by-laws, or by the VCDSA Constitution shall be construed to mean written notice, mailed to the record address of each member not later than five (5) days prior to the event of which notice is being given.