

CONSTITUTION OF TEXAS DX SOCIETY

ARTICLE ONE The Texas DX Society

Name The name of this organization is the Texas DX Society.

ARTICLE TWO Objective

Purpose: The primary objective of the Society is to stimulate and pursue the hobby of amateur radio DX and contest activities.

ARTICLE THREE Officers

Section One

Officers: The elected officers of this club shall be President, Vice President – Meetings, Vice President - Membership, and Secretary/Treasurer.

Section Two

Appointed Officers: The appointed officers of this club shall be (1) Communications Chairmen, (2) Contest Chairman, (3) DX Chairmen, (4) Field Day Chairman, (5) Repeater Chairman and (6) Webmaster.

Section Three

Vacancies: Vacancies in an elected office will be filled by the Board of Directors. Vacancies in an appointed office will be filled by the Executive Committee.

Section Four

Term: The term of office shall be one calendar year, January 1, through December 31.

ARTICLE FOUR Directors

Section One

Board of Directors: The Board of Directors shall consist of the four elected officers and the six appointed officers.

Section Two

Meetings: The Board of Directors shall meet when the President deems it necessary upon notice to the board members. Six members will constitute a quorum.

ARTICLE FIVE Executive Committee

Committee: The Executive Committee shall consist of the four elected officers, and shall, by majority vote, appoint the appointed officers.

ARTICLE SIX Election of Officers

Section One

Nominations: Written nominations for each of the four elected officers shall be made to the club Secretary. The nomination period shall begin with the regular September meeting and end with the regular October meeting. Additional nominations shall be accepted from the floor during the regular October meeting.

Section Two

Election: Election of officers shall be by secret ballot at the November meeting unless there is only one candidate for any position, election of that candidate can be by acclamation of Full members present at the November meeting. Notice of the election shall be e-mailed to each Full club member by November 1. Absentee ballots shall be accepted by the club Secretary until twenty-four hours prior to the meeting. The Executive Committee members who are in attendance shall count the ballots. The election results shall be decided by a simple majority vote for each office.

Section Three

Runoff: A runoff election shall be held between the top two candidates for any office in which no candidate receives a majority vote.

Section Four

Office: The elected officers shall be introduced at the regular December meeting and shall officially take office on January 1.

ARTICLE SEVEN Dues

Section One

Amount: The annual dues for each class of membership shall be determined by the Board of Directors each October and presented to the club before voting for approval. Voting for approval shall be at the next scheduled meeting at which a quorum exists following the presentation.

Section Two

Payment: The dues are payable on or before the first regular meeting in January of each year.

Section Three

Nonpayment: Any member, who has not paid his annual dues by midnight, January 31, will be dropped from membership.

Section Four

New members: Any new member voted into membership during the year shall pay pro-rated dues with the amount not to be less than that of an associate member for that year.

Section Five

Amount: Any member, whether full or associate, living within 75 miles of the Club center shall pay full member dues for the year.

Section Six

Honorary: Honorary Members will be non-voting and non-dues paying members of the TDXS.

Section Seven

Reinstatement: Any person who has been elected to membership in the TDXS and who has paid his initial year's dues, but who has not paid the annual dues for one or more previous years, may be reinstated as a full member by the Board of Directors once he attains the minimum meeting requirement.

ARTICLE EIGHT Club Treasury

Section One

Approval: The disposition of club money, with the exception of the Topp DX/Contest Fund (see Section Three) and reoccurring club operating expenses, such as liability insurance as defined in the Secretary/Treasurers annual budget,, shall be decided by a 2/3 favorable vote of the members voting during a regular or special club meeting in which a quorum [see Article 13, Section 3] exists except as outlined in Article Eight, Section 2.

Section Two

Board: The Board of Directors can authorize unbudgeted appropriations not to exceed \$250 (net) at any one time and not to exceed \$1,000 for a yearly period.

Section Three

Topp DX/Contest Fund: The mechanism and proposals for disposition of the Topp DX/Contest Fund will be designed and lead by the DX Chairmen and agreed by the Board of Directors, Full member input, including voting on options, will be provided but final disposition will include courtesy concurrence by the donor, Dave Topp, W5BXX.

Section Four

Fiscal Year: The fiscal year shall be January 1 through December 31.

ARTICLE NINE General Business

All general business shall require a majority vote during a meeting in which a quorum is present.

ARTICLE TEN Constitutional Changes

Section One

Submission: Each proposed constitutional change shall be submitted to the Club Secretary in writing.

Section Two

Reading: Each proposed constitutional change shall be read to the members at the next regular club meeting.

Section Three

Voting: Each constitutional change shall be presented to the full membership. All ballots received by the second meeting after the presentation of an amendment shall constitute the total vote. A favorable vote of this total vote shall constitute the requirement for passage of the amendment.

ARTICLE ELEVEN

Membership

Section One

Qualification: Membership in the Texas DX Society is open to any radio amateur who meets the criteria of membership as stated on the Prospective Membership form. This form can be amended once each year by a majority vote of the full members during a regular meeting.

Section Two

Full Member: A full member is an individual who meets the criteria of Article Eleven, Section One, and attends at least four regular meetings in the prior calendar year or in the current rolling 12 month period or annually petitions for approval by the Board for an exception to the meeting requirement on the basis of significant current and on going contributions to TDXS. A full member is entitled to vote on all issues before the Society, hold office, be a member of the Board of Directors, and be chairman of a committee.

Section Three

Associates: An associate member is an individual who has met the criteria of Article Eleven, Section One, but who has not attained the minimum meeting requirement. An associate member shall automatically be reinstated as a full member -as defined by the Secretary's attendance records, if he/she attains the minimum meeting requirement. An associate member cannot vote on issues before the Society nor hold elected or appointed office.

Section Four

Honorary: The Board of Directors, at its discretion, may appoint Honorary Members to the membership in the Society.

ARTICLE TWELVE
Method of Electing Members

Section One

Application: The name and application of a prospective member, proposed and sponsored by a Full Member, shall be submitted in writing to the Board of Directors through the club Secretary.

Section Two

Board action: The Board of Directors shall consider the eligibility and qualifications of the proposed member, in accordance with Article Eleven, Section One, in closed session. The sponsor will appear before the Board of Directors in support of the prospective members. The board will notify the sponsor of their decision.

Section Three

Introduction: If the decision is favorable, the sponsor shall formally introduce the prospective member at a regular meeting.

Section Four

Ballots: The Secretary shall mail ballots for prospective members to all full members as soon as practical after requirements of Section Two and Three, above, have been met.

Section Five

Election: For admission to membership, the proposed new member must receive a favorable vote of at least 50% of Full Members.

ARTICLE THIRTEEN
Meetings

Section One

Date: Regular meetings shall be held on the second Thursday of each month except as outlined in Article Thirteen, Section Four, at a time and place set forth by the Board of Directors. In the event that the meeting conflicts with another activity of interest to many members, the Board of Directors may designate the preceding or following Thursday as an alternate meeting night.

Section Two

Special meetings: Special meetings that are either in addition to or in place of the regularly scheduled meeting may be called by the President after polling the Board of Directors.

Section Three

Quorum: A quorum for regular and special meetings shall consist of 25% of the Full Member membership and must include the President or Vice President and any three members of the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE FOURTEEN Duties of Officers

Section One

President: The President shall preside at all meetings of the Society and the Board of Directors, shall represent the Society at all times and shall perform all other duties that pertain to the office.

Section Two

Vice President - Membership: The Vice President of Membership shall be in charge of membership (except attendance) and responsible for promoting our meeting in the ham community, greeting visitors, following up with visitors, turning visitors into members, and keeping existing members interested. In the absence of the president, the duties of the President shall be assumed by either the Vice President of Membership or Vice President of Meetings..

Section Three

Vice President - Meetings: The Vice President of Meeting shall be in charge of meeting programs. In the absence of the president, the duties of the President shall be assumed by either the Vice President of Membership or Vice President of Meetings.

Section Four

Secretary/Treasurer: The Secretary shall (1) keep an accurate record of all regular, special, and Board of Directors' meetings, (2) shall keep attendance records for meetings, (3) maintain a detailed (e.g. name, call sign, address, phone, and e-mail) list of qualified Full, Associate and Honorary members in good standing along with resulting quorum requirements, (4) a list of all present and former members, (5) produce, manage and mail ballots for elections, new membership and Constitutional amendments, (6) shall be the historian for the Society and (7) shall keep all records pertaining to this office.

The Treasurer shall (1) be custodian of all funds, (2) shall keep auditable, electronic records with appropriate receipt backup, (3) collect dues, (4) pay all bills as approved by the Society and/or the Board of Directors, (5) responsible for maintaining a club budget, (6) responsible for relationships with cash and investment institutions, the later for the case of special funds or endowments, and (7) shall render a monthly statement and an annual report.

Section Five

Appointed Officers: The appointed officers shall have duties and responsibilities as outlined below or as modified in January of each year by the Executive Committee.

Communications Chairman: The Communications Chairman is responsible for soliciting articles (from each Board Member), writing, publishing and distributing (primarily electronically, but by hard copy when required or requested) a quality, informative monthly newsletter for the Society.

Contest Chairman: The Contest Chairman is responsible for (1) supporting, nurturing and encouraging contesting participation within the membership, (2) maintaining and communicating club results in major contests, (3) participate with the DX Chairmen in the management of the Topp DX/Contest Fund, (4) fostering special efforts such as multi-multi operations or developing a TDXS contest, and (5) seeking, identifying and recommending TDXS plaque sponsorships in major ARRL, CQ or NCJ contests.

DX Chairman: The DX Chairman is responsible for (1) developing the protocols,, time-line, schedule and rules for applying for sponsorship under the annual Topp DX/Contest Fund, (2) seeking, identifying, screening and recommending a set of options for DXpeditions that will be funded under the Topp DX/Contest Fund, (3) developing or maintaining the TDXS DXpedition historical files, (4) alerting the membership of DX operations on the air or DXpedition participation opportunities.

Field Day Chairman: The Field Day Chairman is responsible for (1) developing the current year Field Day location options (for selection at the March meeting), (2) fully organizing the TDXS Field Day effort, (3) executing the plan, (4) post Field Day score submission, assessment, and documentation and (5) developing or maintaining the TDXS Field Day Historical files.

QSL Manager: TDXS allocates a significant portion of their annual budget to paying the expenses related to forwarding member QSL cards. The QSL Manager is responsible for (1) collecting, organizing and mailing member QSL cards to appropriate international bureaus or in some cases, direct and, (2) managing the costs and expenses in a way that balances the service provided within the clubs budgeted resources.

Repeater Chairman: The Repeater Chairman is responsible for (1) the operability and operation of TDXS 2 meter and 440 MHz repeater systems and (2) the operation of packet and DX spotting cluster.

Webmaster: The Webmaster is responsible for (1) maintaining the TDXS web site with current and relevant information that is pertinent to club members; (2) maintaining and managing the TDXS e-mail reflector, and (3) the continued enhancement of the TDXS website to increase usability, information and its current state of the art.

PROSPECTIVE MEMBERSHIP FORM

(As proposed by the 1985 Committee and amended in 1988)

- A. **BRIEF HISTORY OF THE TEXAS DX SOCIETY:** The TDXS is a fraternal organization of amateur radio operators whose primary purpose is to stimulate and pursue the hobby of radio DX and contest activities. Founded in 1970, the TDXS is an ARRL affiliated club with approximately seventy members. Most of the members are also active ARRL members and most hold DXCC and other operating awards. A number of members are on the DXCC Honor Roll.

Club activities include DXpeditions, contests and Field Day, where the club team has place first in its class on nine occasions.

- B. **CRITERIA FOR MEMBERSHIP:** Membership in the Texas DX Society is by invitation, with election by the full membership of the TDXS. Specifically, the prospective member must meet the following criteria:

- (1) Be a licensed radio amateur holding a Technician Class or higher FCC license (or its foreign equivalent);
- (2) Attend at least 4 TDXS meetings in a twelve month period;
- (3) Demonstrate an interest in TDXS through active participation in at least two club related activities;
- (4) Hold or working toward earning DXCC or demonstrate active participation in radio contests;
- (5) Demonstrate appropriate operating habits reflecting positively upon TDXS and in accordance with FCC rules and ARRL Amateur's Code;
- (6) Be acquainted with the TDXS members.

**TEXAS DX SOCIETY
PROPOSAL FOR MEMBERSHIP**

Any interested amateur fulfilling the criteria of Section B, above, can be proposed for membership in TDXS by a full member of the Club. The sponsor and candidate should fill out the information below. The sponsor initiates the procedure by presenting the application to the Board of Directors.

Applications are accepted from sponsors only in February, May, August, and November. Balloting takes place the following month.

C. CANDIDATE'S APPLICATION

Name: _____ Call: _____

Address: _____ Class: _____

Home phone: _____ E-Mail: _____

Work phone: _____

Previous calls held: _____ Year first licensed: _____

2. Describe your principal amateur radio interests:

3. Do you currently have a station on the air? _____

If so, describe your station briefly, indication the bands and modes on which you operate most frequently:

3. Do you now hold DXCC? _____

What is your total ARRL countries worked? _____ Confirmed? _____

4. Do you participate in radio contests regularly? _____

What contests and modes?

5. Are you a member of ARRL? _____

List other radio societies and clubs of which you are a member:

6. Are there other amateur radio operators in your family? _____

If so, please list their names and call signs:

7. Please list any other hobbies or interests you care to divulge:

Applicant's signature: _____

Today's date: _____

D: SPONSOR'S STATEMENT

1. Sponsor's Name: _____ Call: _____

Candidate's Name: _____ Call: _____

2. How long have you known the applicant? _____

3. How do you know the applicant: _____

Only through amateur radio? _____

Personal acquaintance? _____

Business relationship? _____

Family member? _____

4. Criteria checklist:

a. Applicant attended at least four TDXS meetings in the last 12 mo? _____

b. Does applicant hold at least a Technician Class license? _____

c. Has applicant participated in at least two of the following in the past year?

Field Day _____

Reporting DX activity on the packet cluster _____

Contest team member or multi-op member _____

Helped TDXS at ham convention _____

Assistance with antennas or technical items _____

Club activities: DXpeditions, etc. _____

d. Describe any other activities of the applicant in more detail, if appropriate:

e. Does the applicant hold DXCC or regularly participate in contests? _____

- f. Describe whether you believe the applicant’s performance fulfills this requirement in some other way, if appropriate:

- g. Do you believe the applicant’s operating practice would be a positive reflection on the reputation of TDXS?

- h. Has the applicant made an effort to meet the TDXS members? _____

If so, how? _____

In person? _____

On the repeater? _____

- i. Describe below why you feel the applicant will be a good member:

Member’s signature: _____

Today’s date: _____