

# W8LT, The Amateur Radio Club at The Ohio State University

## Student Organization Constitution

### ARTICLE I. NAME OF ORGANIZATION

W8LT, The Amateur Radio Club at The Ohio State University (referred to as “W8LT” herein).

### ARTICLE II. ORGANIZATION PURPOSE

We, the members of W8LT, The Amateur Radio Club at Ohio State University, associate ourselves to:

- A. Advance the art of radio communications by helping members apply classroom theory in all forms of radio communications to practical applications.
- B. Provide a means for members to obtain an amateur radio license.
- C. Provide facilities and equipment for members to conduct communications using amateur radio or short-wave listening equipment.
- D. Provide communication services to The Ohio State University and the community at large to the extent allowed by Federal Communications Commission regulations.

### ARTICLE III. UNIVERSITY REGULATIONS

#### **Section A. Harassment and Discrimination, including Sexual Misconduct**

*W8LT, The Amateur Radio Club at The Ohio State University agrees that it will not engage in sexual misconduct nor any harassment or discrimination on the basis of age, ancestry, color, disability, gender identity or expression, genetic information, HIV/AIDS status, military status, national origin, race, religion, sex, sexual orientation, protected veteran status or any other basis in accordance with the Student Organization Registration Guidelines.*

#### **Section B. Hazing**

*W8LT, The Amateur Radio Club at The Ohio State University agrees to maintain a zero-tolerance policy for hazing, in compliance with Ohio State University and Collin’s Law. All members must conduct themselves in a manner that supports an environment free from hazing. Hazing includes any activity, regardless of consent, that causes or creates a substantial risk of physical, mental, or emotional harm or humiliation to any individual as part of membership or affiliation with the student organization. If found responsible for hazing, members and/or the organization may face disciplinary actions.*

#### **Section C. Bylaws**

*W8LT, The Amateur Radio Club at The Ohio State University retains the right to maintain separate bylaws to outline the day-to-day operations of the organization and to clarify policies and procedures otherwise not included in the previous articles. Bylaws and/or other guiding documents may not take precedence over the requirements set forth by local, state, and federal*

*laws, The Ohio State University's regulations, policies, and procedures, and the Council on Student Affairs (CSA) Student Organization Registration Guidelines. Organizations may make amendments and changes to the bylaws without consulting the Ohio Union & Student Activities department, and changes to bylaws do not require approval. All elements of organizational bylaws shall be consistent with the organization's currently approved constitution on file and CSA constitution requirements.*

## **ARTICLE IV. MEMBERSHIP**

### **Section A. Membership Eligibility**

The voting membership of this organization shall be open to all Ohio State University students, staff, faculty, and alumni. The rights of the members are to:

1. Attend all meetings of the organization to be held in the manner provided by the By-laws.
2. Vote on all matters submitted to a vote of the membership; voting by proxy is not allowed.
3. Vote for the organization's officers and representatives as provided by the By-laws.
4. Vote on any proposed change in the organization.
5. Hold office in the organization as provided in the By-laws and University regulations.
6. Access to all club equipment provided in the By-laws

Associate membership in this organization shall be open to all licensed amateur radio operators.

1. Associate members will have access, according to university regulations, to all club equipment, provided they are a member in "good standing" of the club.
2. Associate members may not vote on organization business, elections, nor can they hold office.
3. Associate members must attend at least 2 regular meetings yearly.

### **Section B. Member Selection**

To become a member of W8LT one must join either the W8LT Discord or GroupMe and attend a meeting. Invitations to the Discord and GroupMe can be provided at W8LT meetings.

### **Section C. Membership Timeline**

Membership is open on a rolling basis. A person can become a member at any time during the academic year, including but not limited to the Student Involvement Fairs and the first meeting of each semester.

### **Section D. Member Removal**

Membership may not be revoked except in cases of harassment or other extensive disruption of the group. Membership may be revoked for willful or negligent destruction of club equipment, willful violation of FCC rules and regulations, engaging in conduct detrimental to advancing the purpose of the organization or violating the Student Code of Conduct.

Officers, in conjunction with advisors, will decide whether it is appropriate to revoke membership. If all officers and advisors unanimously agree that a member should be removed, the member must be given the opportunity to defend themselves in a meeting with the officers and advisors. At the conclusion of that meeting, a unanimous vote of officers and advisors is required to permanently remove the member, or to determine an alternative means for rectifying the behavior in question.

## **ARTICLE V. ADVISOR**

### **Section A. Advisor Duties and Responsibilities**

The advisor shall hold a valid Amateur Radio License issued by the FCC and serve as the FCC License Trustee for W8LT to ensure continued operation of the club station.

### **Section B. Advisor Term**

An advisor is expected to serve a standard term of four years with the opportunity to be reappointed after serving their term.

### **Section C. Advisor Selection**

The advisor to this organization shall be an administrator, faculty, or staff member at The Ohio State University who meets the requirements established by the University. All current officers will be eligible to nominate a potential advisor. Once a potential advisor has been notified and agrees to advising the club, voting members must declare that person to the advisor by a simple majority vote at the next voting meeting.

### **Section D. Advisor Replacement**

In the event that an advisor resigns or is removed from their position, officers must immediately find a new advisor to replace them following the procedure outlined in section C. An advisor may be removed from their position as decided by the current officers of the club. An advisor may be removed by a majority vote of the officers. Grounds for removal include but are not limited to harassment or significant disruption of the group or its members; willful or negligent damage to club equipment; willful violation of FCC rules and regulations; or conduct that is detrimental to advancing the organization's purpose.

## **ARTICLE VI. ORGANIZATION LEADERSHIP**

### **Section A. Officer Positions**

There shall be three (3) student officer positions:

#### **President:**

Manages the operation of the club by conducting club meetings, distributing email communications and announcements, and assuring the club is in good standing in with the university and the members.

#### **Vice President:**

Assists the President in operation of the club. Conducts meetings in the absence of the President.

#### **Treasurer:**

Manages club finances and tracks club spending. Ensure the club remains in good economic standing.

### **Section B. Officer Eligibility**

A member is eligible to serve as President, Vice President, or Treasurer as long as they are currently enrolled as a full-time student at the Ohio State University.

### **Section C. Officer Selection Process**

Officer candidates shall be any voting member who volunteers for the position. Candidates must be attending The Ohio

State Main Campus for the following fall and spring semester. Members will vote on candidates for the following positions by the end of April: President, Vice President, Treasurer A president, treasurer, and at least once vice president must be elected. In the event that one or more non-essential positions are not filled, the president must delegate the duties of those roles amongst officers until a new officer can fill that role.

The method of voting will be in the form of writing the name of their desired candidate on a folded sheet of paper or through a virtual poll. The papers will be collected, and votes will be counted for each of the candidates. In the case of a virtual poll, members will have an allotted time to vote before the poll ends and the candidate is announced. If these methods are not possible, an alternative method will be chosen by the leadership. Whichever candidate receives the highest number of votes is assigned the position of the vote. In the event of a tie between candidates, a second vote will be taken that will only include the top two candidates tied for the position.

#### **Section D. Officer Removal**

Officers shall be removed from their position by the Club Advisor in cases where said member violates the Ohio State University Code of Student Conduct or performs any act which is deemed to degrade the reputation of the club. Additionally, Officers may be removed from their position by two-thirds (2/3) vote of attending membership if members deem said officer to not be performing their stated officer duties. Members should contact the club's advisor with concerns about officers.

### **ARTICLE VII. ORGANIZATION DISSOLUTION**

#### **Section A. Dissolution Requirements**

This organization may be dissolved after dissolution is approved by the officers and by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of voting members, provided that notice of a vote on dissolution is furnished to the members at least sixty (60) days prior to the vote.

#### **Section B. Dissolution Procedures, including Assets and Debts**

Upon the dissolution of the organization, the officers of the organization shall be responsible for overseeing and executing all dissolution procedures. All organizational assets shall first be collected, inventoried, and liquidated as necessary. The proceeds from these assets shall be used to satisfy any outstanding debts and obligations of the organization. Any remaining assets, after all debts have been paid in full, shall be distributed in a manner consistent with the organization's purpose, as determined by a majority vote of the officers, and in accordance with applicable institutional policies. All outstanding debts and financial obligations of the organization shall be settled using available organizational assets. The officers shall be responsible for ensuring that all debts are paid in full. In the event that organizational assets are insufficient to cover all debts, the officers shall work with the appropriate institutional authorities to determine a proper resolution, and no individual member shall be held personally liable unless otherwise required by law or prior agreement.

### **ARTICLE VIII. CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS**

#### **Section A. Amendment Process**

The officers and advisors, by majority vote, in a regular or special meeting called for that purpose, shall have the power to adopt and amend, as may be deemed necessary, amendments to the constitution for the proper governance of the organization.