

Western Country Cousins Constitution and By-Laws

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Constitution:

Article 1 Terminology

- 1.1 Throughout these articles the word **Shall** is intended to express a provision that is binding
- 1.2 The word **May** and **Should** are intended to express general provision
- 1.3 The word **Will** is intended to express a declaration of purpose, or the simple future tense.
- 1.4 The word **Dues** is intended to mean an initial voluntary donation to cover the cost of mailing a reproduction of items listed in Constitution Article 6, paragraph 6.5

Article 2 Name

- 2.1 The name of this amateur radio net shall be “ The Western Country Cousins Net” (Hereinafter called “The Net”)
- 2.2 All rights to the name The Western Country Cousins Net shall remain the property of W7MDM, with the understanding that the net has his permission to use the name, and upon his death, all rights shall revert to the Net.

Article 3 Purpose and Objectives

- 3.1 The Net is for the social benefit of its members.
- 3.2 The Net objectives are as follows
 - A. Odiscussion of matters in which the Net members are interested.
 - B. To promote the net motto “Service and help to mankind when in need call a Country Cousin.”
 - C. To set, by example, good operating procedures while maintaining the purpose of the Net. This shall include cooperation with all other amateur radio nets.

Article 4 Membership

- 4.1 Membership has been open to persons holding valid amateur radio licenses.
- 4.2 Members in the net shall be of two classes: Active and Honorary
- 4.3 Active and honorary membership shall be in accordance with rules outlined in the By-laws
- 4.4 Voting privileges shall be retained by active members only
- 4.5 Membership has be permanent
- 4.6 Membership shall be contingent on prerequisites as outlined in the By-laws

Article 5 Officers

- 5.1 Qualifications: All officers of the net shall be chosen from the active membership only
- 5.2 Elective: The officers of the net shall consist solely of President, Vice-President, and Secretary-Treasurer
- 5.3 Appointive
 - A. Appointive positions may be determined to be necessary by officers of the net
 - B. Appointive positions shall be made by the President from the membership list
 - W7MDM Curly: Founder of the net is a silent key
- 5.4 Elections:

- A. The officers of the net shall be elected by the active membership as prescribed in the By-laws
 - B. The term of office of the officers of the net shall be defined in the By-laws
- 5.5 Recall and or vacancy in office
- A. Recall of any officer(s) of the net shall be by methods as outlined in the By-laws.
 - B. Vacancies shall be filled by the methods outlined in the By-laws.

Article 6 Dues

- 6.1 Dues shall be an amount to be determined by the officers of the net, subject to the approval by a vote of the membership
- 6.2 Full payment of initial dues, and membership prerequisites shall entitle the applicant to the privileges and benefits of membership in the Western Country Cousins net for life
- 6.3 Honorary members shall not be required to pay dues
- 6.4 Any additional funds required by the net may be requested by the President
Donations shall be voluntary
- 6.5 Upon payment of the initial dues applicants meeting membership requirements shall be entitled to receive:
 - A. membership number
 - B. A membership card marked with member number signed by the net Secretary/Treasurer
 - C. A copy of the net constitution and By-laws

Article 7 Regular meetings

- 7.1 The net shall convene daily on a frequency and at a time determined by the officers of the net and approved by the active membership.

Article 8 Mode of communications

- 8.1 Any legal authorized mode of communication will be accepted.

Article 9 Amendments

- 9.1 The constitution may be amended by methods as outlined in the By-laws
By-Laws

Article 1 Membership

- 1.1 Active membership has be defined as follows:
 - A. Applicants must be licensed amateur radio operators general class or higher.
 - B. Applicants must check in to the net on the same night of the week for 4 out of 5 weeks
 - C. Applicants must submit dues, as currently requires, to the Secretary/Treasurer
 - D. Application for membership shall be submitted in writing to the net Secretary/Treasurer
 - E. Application for waiver of any of the above requirements must be made to the net President, who will make determination subject to approval of the other net officers
- 1.2 Honorary membership shall be defined as follows:
 - A. Any active net member may submit, in writing to the net President the name of any individual for honorary membership.

- B. Acceptance of honorary members shall be based upon a vote of the active membership. This voting shall take place during the annual net elections as outlined in these By-laws.

Article 2 Elections

- 2.1 Election of officers shall be held annually.
- 2.2 Notice of election shall be by Presidential announcement each evening for two weeks prior to nominations
 - A. Net control stations may be designated by the President to make the above announcements
- 2.3 Nomination of officers shall take place beginning with the first Sunday in June and continue through the close of the net on the following Saturday.
- 2.4 The net President shall designate three recording stations to record all nominations in the following manner.
 - A. Call sign and membership number nominated
 - B. Call sign of nominee and office of which nominated
 - C. Names of honorary membership nominees.
- 2.5 After each net session the net control shall determine that all recording stations have the same tally
- 2.6 Any active member of the net may place into nomination, for a specific office, the name of any active member of the net
- 2.7 Nominations shall be made, or may be changed, at anytime during the time period noted in paragraph 2.3 above
- 2.8 Nominees may accept or decline nomination at anytime prior to close of net on Saturday or the week following nominations
- 2.9 If nominated for more than one office, the nominee may accept for only one office, and must decline all others
- 2.10 Election of officers shall take place beginning the third Sunday in June of each year and continue through the close of net on the following Saturday
- 2.11 Each active member shall be entitled to one vote for each position being voted upon.
- 2.12 Mail ballots will be accepted from active members if received by the net President not later than the beginning of net on the last day of voting. Mail ballots shall be read on the net and recorded as provided in paragraph 2.4 above
- 2.13 Prior to voting, the President shall appoint three recording stations from active members not running for elective office.
- 2.14 The recording stations and the net control station shall record in the same manner as in paragraphs 2.4 and 2.5 above.
- 2.15 The candidate receiving the highest number of votes in each respective office shall be declared elected.
- 2.16 The net President shall cast the deciding vote in case of a tie.
- 2.17 The installation of the officers shall be on the last day of the annual picnic, and whether they are present or not shall assume their elected office on the day following the annual picnic

Article 3 Vacancies and Questions not controlled by the By-laws

- 3.1 Vacancies

- A. In case of death, recall, or resignation of the net President, the net Vice-President shall assume the office of the President, and serve until the next regular election

3.2 Recall:

- A. Ten or more active members shall submit, in writing to all net officers a request for a recall of the specific officer.
- B. The net President, or next ranking officer, shall serve notice of election within one week following receipt of a recall request
- C. Election or recall shall be in the manner prescribed in paragraphs 2.4, 2.5, 2.6, 2.11, 2.13, 2.14, 2.15, and 2.16 above
- D. With exception of specific dates, normal election time segments will apply.

3.3 Questions not controlled by By-laws:

- A. The net President shall decide all questions not controlled by the By-laws

Article 4 Amendments

- 4.1 These By-laws may be amended as required by members. Any such proposed amendment shall be read on the net for two weeks prior to any voting, Voting shall be recorded as provided in paragraphs 2.4 and 2.5 above. Each member voting shall indicate by a definite yes or no vote that he/she concurs/ does not concur with the amendment. A majority of the members voting shall decide the issue.

Note:

Article 2 election:

Article 2.3, 2.10 and 2.17 were amended by the active membership on Nov 2, 1995 under article4 amendments 4.1