

# CONSTITUTION OF THE BRITISH TOP-BAND DF ASSOCIATION

## **Title of the Association**

The association shall be called the BRITISH TOP-BAND DF ASSOCIATION.

## **Objectives of the Association**

The main objectives shall be to promote the study and practice of the science and art of Radio Direction-Finding on the 160 metre band, to increase the number of active participants in competitive events and to encourage social exchange between its members.

## **Membership**

Membership shall be open to any persons who are interested in the objectives of the association.

## **Subscriptions**

The annual subscription shall be fixed at such a level as the Annual General Meeting shall pass by open vote.

All members whose subscriptions are more than four weeks in arrears shall forfeit their voting rights.

The association may decide to waive the subscriptions of any members it so chooses at a General Meeting.

Subscriptions become due from the time of closure of the Annual General Meeting.

## **Financial Matters**

The association shall operate a bank account; cheques must be signed by two of the officers.

## **Officers of the Association**

The association shall, at every Annual General Meeting, elect from its full membership, the following officers who will serve the association for a twelve month period in an honorary capacity.

- a) A Chairman
- b) A Secretary
- c) A Treasurer

In addition two members will be appointed to act as auditors.

## **Committee**

The management of the association shall be entrusted to a committee, which shall consist of the officers, and a contest manager together with one lay member for each ten (or part of ten) members of the association. The chairman shall have a casting vote at all meetings, and in the absence of the chairman, the committee shall elect from their members a temporary chairman who shall enjoy the same privileges as the chairman. The committee shall have the power to co-opt additional committee members as circumstances permit.

## **Voting**

Voting at meetings shall be by simple majority, and members shall be entitled to vote in person, or in writing or by proxy. Votes on amendments to the constitution require two-thirds majority.

Postal votes, or authorisation of proxy, shall be in the hands of the secretary at least seven days before each meeting.

Each member shall have one vote.

## **Annual General Meeting**

An Annual General Meeting shall be held every year, in January or February, at a date and time to be decided by the committee, due notice of which is to be given in writing to members at least fourteen days before such meetings. The quorum shall be five, or 25% of the members, whichever is greater.

## **Ordinary Meetings**

Ordinary meetings shall be held at such date, time and place as may be decided by the committee.

## **Special General Meetings**

Special General Meetings may be called by a) the Chairman or b) on the requisition in writing, signed by at least 25% of the membership of the association and delivered to the secretary, stating the reason for calling the meeting. Voting at a Special General Meeting shall be by a two thirds majority.

## **Visitors**

Members may introduce visitors to any meeting.

## **Winding Up**

In the event that the association resolves that it should be wound up, the winding up shall be placed in the hands of three members elected as a committee for that purpose by a Special General Meeting.

The winding up committee shall then proceed as follows:

- a) The current holders of the association's trophies shall be determined and those trophies left in the custody of the holders.
- b) The outstanding payable accounts and debts of the association shall be settled out of the association's funds.
- c) All monies due to the association shall be collected and added to the association's funds.
- d) All expenses incurred in connection with the winding up shall be paid out of association funds.
- e) When items b), c) and d) have been completed, the residual cash balance will be donated to such charity (preferably connected with Amateur Radio) as the winding up committee may decide.
- f) If when items b), c) and d) have been completed, a cash deficit results, that deficit shall be made up by a general levy on the members.

## **Non-Liability and Insurance**

The association expressly refutes any liability whatsoever for any injury to its members or visitors or their guests for any loss or damage to their property, persons, or equipment whilst taking part in any of the association's activities. Nevertheless, the association shall maintain a third-party liability insurance policy.

## **Expulsion**

The association can decide at a General Meeting to expel any member for gross misconduct or bringing Top-Band DF into disrepute. An expelled member will be entitled to a return of a proportion of the subscription depending upon the time of expulsion. The association can decide to re-instate an expelled member at a General Meeting.