

The G-QRP CLUB CONSTITUTION

The G-QRP Club is a non-profit organization of radio amateurs / listeners dedicated to increasing worldwide enjoyment of Amateur Radio by promotion and support of QRP by encouraging low power operating and the building of low power equipment.

Legal stuff.

This constitution sets out the rules for the management and operation of the G-QRP Club (referred to hereafter as 'the Club').

The Club is run as an unincorporated association where all members are jointly responsible for its acts and omissions. Liability of members is limited to the value of their annual subscription.

The Committee will run the Club on behalf of the members in accordance with this constitution and the general ethos of the Club.

The Club will indemnify any Club Officer who, through no fault of their own, is left out of pocket due to a failed authorised contract. The Club will not indemnify any Club Officer who suffers loss through any unauthorized contract, or any illegal activity, of their own doing.

The Club shall be affiliated to the Radio Society of Great Britain and will have third party insurance cover as part of that affiliation.

Membership.

Membership is open to any person interested in Low Power Operating, designing or building their own equipment. A membership fee, payable annually will be set by the Committee and posted on the Club website (www.gqrp.com). Membership fees are due on 1 January each year. Members joining part way through a year will not receive a discount.

The Committee reserve the right to reject any applications for membership without giving a reason.

Club Officers.

There will be a Committee of the Club with the overall responsibility of the running of the Club and Club events. Other members may be co-opted to this group as necessary by a simple majority vote of the existing Committee members.

Membership of the Committee shall comprise:

Chairman, who shall have the responsibility to oversee overall management of the Club.

Secretary, who shall be the primary external point of contact for the Club, shall write official external correspondence, shall take minutes of any formal Club meetings and act in place of the Chairman when they are not available.

Treasurer, who shall control all monies of the Club and ensure the safe keeping of same.

Membership Secretary, who shall take charge of all issues regarding membership, ensuring collection of membership fees.

The current post holder names will be published in our journal Sprat at least once a year and will also be found on the Club website.

Meetings of the Committee will normally be carried out via remote conferencing and will take place as frequently as business need dictates. Any member of the Committee may call a meeting, giving reasonable notice. Meetings require at least three of the four Committee members to be present to make it quorate.

The Committee may make and amend by-laws for the internal management and well-being of the Club.

Other (Ex Officio) Officers of the Club are:

- Awards Manager – who will receive, check and process applications for Club Awards
- Technical Advisor(s) – who will respond to requests for advice from Club members
- On-Air Activity Manager – who will co-ordinate QRP activity periods and contests, receive logs and make recommendations for appropriate Club Trophies.
- Club Sales Manager - who will buy and sell books, electronic components and other goods of interest to members.
- Web Site Manager – who will maintain the Club website, official e-mail addresses and the Club E-mail Conference Group.
- VHF Manager – who will promote and report on VHF QRP activity and construction

- QSL manager - who will manage the Club's QSL bureau and QSL cards for the Club callsign, G5LOW.
- Trophy Manager – who will arrange for trophies and badges to be made up and delivered
- SPRAT Editor – who will receive articles from members, collate and arrange proof reading of each edition of SPRAT. Members of the Committee may act as SPRAT sub-editors as required.
- Overseas Reps – who will act as points of contact for the Club in their own country, receiving memberships and attending rallies/conventions on behalf of the Club, as appropriate.
- Regional Reps – who will act as points of contact for the Club in their own area of the UK and attend rallies/conventions on behalf of the Club, as appropriate.

Appointment of Club Officers.

When a vacancy arises for a new member of the Committee, or other Club Officer, a calling notice will be posted in SPRAT, the Club's quarterly journal.

New members of the Committee, or other Club Officers, will be selected by the existing Committee members from those that respond to the calling notice.

In keeping with the Club's desire to keep things simple, no membership-wide elections will take place.

Removal of Club Officers or members.

Any Officer or member of the Club may be removed from office or membership for just cause, by a simple majority vote of the Committee.

If any member considers that a Club Officer should be removed from office, or that a member should be removed from the membership, they shall report the just cause to the Secretary. If the Secretary is the member to be removed, the report shall go to the Chairman.

Any Officer or member of the Club who the Committee agree should be removed from office or membership will be served one month's notice and will have the right to make their case to the Committee before a final decision is made.

Financial Management.

The Club's financial resources are held in a number of bank accounts. Only members of the Committee have access to those accounts. The financial year shall run from 1 April to 31 March

Members of the Committee and other Officers of the Club will be paid expenses for any authorised out of pocket expenditure made on behalf of the Club.

The Club will maintain sufficient cash in reserve to enable the Club to operate for at least one year without further income.

Club accounts will be prepared at the end of the financial year and shall be examined by a competent person who is independent from the Club. A short statement on the financial position will be published in the next available SPRAT.

Insurance.

The Club is an Affiliated Member of the Radio Society of Great Britain. The Club is therefore covered for Public Liability and Product Liability claims by the RSGB's Club Insurance.

Club Journal.

The Club produces a quarterly journal called SPRAT (stands for Small Powered Radio Amateur Transmission) which will be posted to all paid up members. The journal will comprise articles of interest to members, members' news, and appropriate advertisements.

Club Sales.

The Club will buy and sell books, electronic components and other goods of interest to members. Pricing will be in keeping with the not-for-profit status of the Club. Club Sales will generally operate as a mail order service but may also have stalls at radio rallies. Details of Club Sales available to members will be published on the Club website.

Club Awards.

All awards of the Club shall conform to the internationally agreed power levels for the mode used with a signed certificate of conformity by the claimant. Details of awards available to members will be published on the Club website.

Club Trophies.

The Club may award trophies on an annual basis. The decision on who should receive the trophies will be made by the Committee, in consultation with other Club Officials as is necessary. Details of trophies available to members will be published on the Club website. Trophy winners will be announced in the next available SPRAT.

Conventions.

The Committee will organize Club Conventions at least once each year. The Committee may work with other clubs and societies in making the arrangements.

Club Officers may attend conventions and similar gatherings organized by other clubs or societies in order to make presentations or to represent the Club.

Donations.

The Club may make donations to individuals or groups who are engaged in activities deemed to be in line with the aims of the Club.

Dissolution.

Should it become necessary to dissolve the Club, a notice will be sent to every member setting out the reasons and seeking membership agreement.

The Club may only be dissolved by a majority vote of the Membership. At least 40 members must cast votes to make the vote quorate. If the membership should fall below 100, a simple majority from those casting a vote will apply.

In the event of the Club being dissolved then all remaining physical assets of the Club shall be sold. All remaining monies shall be donated in equal shares to one or more charities selected by the Committee in place at the time. The Committee shall select charities that support research into heart disease, Alzheimer's disease and cancer, and/or other charities with objectives that align with those of the Club.

Any proposal to dissolve the Club will be put to a vote of the Membership. Voting may take place using electronic means or by post. Notice of votes will be made in SPRAT at least one month prior to any vote taking place.

Revision of this constitution.

This constitution may be amended, revised, added to, or diminished by a simple majority vote of the Membership. At least 40 members must cast votes to make the vote quorate.

If any member wishes to make a proposal to amend the constitution, the case for amendment shall be made in writing to the Secretary. All such proposals will be considered at the next meeting of the Committee.

Any proposed changes will be put to a vote of the Membership. Voting may take place using electronic means or by post. Notice of votes will be made in SPRAT at least one month prior to any vote taking place.

General Meetings of the Members.

The general ethos of the Club is to keep things simple. As our founder put it “It is vain to do with more what can be done with less.”

This constitution allows for members to influence the running of the Club, to propose changes, and to vote on any proposals for change. With a truly global membership it is also unreasonable to expect members to gather in large numbers. The Club will therefore not hold an Annual General Meeting of the Members.