

The 'Tall Trees Contest Group' Constitution

1. Name

The Group shall be known as the 'Tall Trees Contest Group', (TTCG).

2. Aims

The aims of the TTCG shall be to further the interests of its members in all aspects of amateur radio contesting and directly associated activities in a friendly and supportive manner.

3. Membership

TTCG membership will be by invitation. Prospective members will be members of the RSGB and interested in the aims of the Group. Membership will require unanimous agreement by the committee. Upon agreement, the committee will automatically waive any subscription requirements until the next AGM.

Classes of membership are as follows:

(a) Full members. Full members must be 18 years of age or over or must hold the permission of any competent authority to install and operate an amateur radio station.

(b) Student members. Student members must be under 25 years of age and in full-time formal education.

(c) Honorary members. Honorary Life Membership may be granted to any person, who, in the opinion of the Committee, has rendered outstanding service to the Group, either directly or indirectly. Such membership shall carry the rights of full membership but shall be free from subscriptions.

(d) Guests. Members may invite guests to meetings. No visitor may attend more than three meetings in each year.

All members shall abide by the constitution of the TTCG. The Committee shall have power to expel any member whose conduct, in the opinion of the majority of the full Committee, renders that person unfit to be a member of the Group. No member shall be expelled without first having been given an opportunity to appear before the Committee.

4. Subscriptions

Members are required to pay an annual subscription to continue membership. This will fall due at the first AGM following their membership.

- (a) The annual subscriptions for membership shall be set by the Committee.
- (b) All subscriptions shall be due and payable at the beginning of the TTCG financial year. Members in arrears have no voting rights.
- (c) The financial year shall run from 1st March to 28th February.
- (d) A member shall be deemed to have resigned from the Group, if, by the following 1st March, the subscription has not been paid.
- (e) The Committee shall have the power to waive or reduce subscriptions in special circumstances for a period not exceeding one year at a time.

5. Finance

The TTCG Treasurer will be responsible for administering Group funds.

6. Membership of the Group's Committee

The TTCG's affairs shall be administered by a Committee elected at the Annual General Meeting.

The Committee, in whom the TTCG's property shall be vested, shall consist of :

- (a) A Chairman, who will preside at all meetings at which he is present. No member may hold this position for more than two consecutive years unless his continuance in office is unanimously voted at AGM.
- (b) A Secretary, who will be responsible for:
 - (i) keeping the minutes of all meetings of the Group.
 - (ii) ensuring that all correspondence is correctly handled.
 - (iii) maintaining a master roll of members and honorary members.
 - (iv) maintaining a register of Group equipment and who will act as chairman in the absence of the Chairman.
- (c) A Treasurer, who will be responsible for:
 - (i) keeping the Group's accounts.
 - (ii) advising the Committee on all financial matters including recommending

- subscription levels.
- (iii) preparing the accounts and presenting them at the AGM.
- (e) A Contest Manager, who will be responsible for:
 - (i) agreeing and co-ordinating an annual programme of contests.
 - (ii) setting targets, analysing results and reporting.
- (f) Not more than one co-opted member who has full voting powers, and not more than two who are not permitted to vote.

7. Committee Standing Orders

- (a) The quorum for the Committee shall be three committee members. In the absence of a quorum, business may be dealt with but any decisions taken only become valid after ratification at the next meeting at which a quorum exists.
- (b) Committee meetings may be called by the Chairman, the Secretary, or the Treasurer.

8. Annual General Meeting

- (a) The Annual General Meeting shall normally be held during the March meeting of each year. At least 21 days notice shall be given to each member in writing.
- (b) The quorum for the meeting shall be..The Chairman, The Secretary and the Treasurer.
- (c) The agenda for the meeting shall be
 - (i) Apologies for absence
 - (ii) Minutes of the previous AGM
 - (iii) Chairman's report
 - (iv) Secretary's report
 - (v) Treasurer's report
 - (vi) Election of the new Committee
 - (vii) Other business
- (d) Items (i) to (v) shall be chaired by the out-going Chairman, item (vi) by an acting Chairman who is not standing for election to office, and the remaining business by the newly elected Chairman.
- (e) Nominations for Committee members will only be valid if confirmed by the nominee at the meeting or previously in writing.
- (f) Items to be raised by members under other business must be notified to the Secretary not less than 14 days before the AGM.

9. Extraordinary General Meeting

- (a) Extraordinary General Meetings may be called by the Committee or not less three members of the TTCG, the date of the meeting being the earliest convenient as decided by the Committee. At least 28 days notice in writing must be given to the Secretary, who in turn shall give members at least 14 days notice in writing of the agenda. No other business may be transacted at the EGM.
- (b) The quorum for the EGM shall be 50% of membership + 1.

10. Amendments to the constitution

The constitution may be amended only at an EGM called for that purpose.

11. Winding up of the Society

- (a) The decision to wind up the TTCG may be taken only at an EGM.
- (b) The funds of the TTCG shall, after the sale of all assets and the payment of all outstanding debts, be disposed of as directed by members at the final EGM.

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