

# Constitution of the *Wireless Society of Southern Maine Emergency Communications Team*

## Preamble:

We, the undersigned, wishing to secure for ourselves the benefits of an association of persons commonly interested in Amateur Radio, and more specifically, Amateur Radio Emergency Communications, constitute ourselves the *Wireless Society of Southern Maine Emergency Communications Team (WSSM-ECT)*, a subsidiary of the *Wireless Society of Southern Maine (WSSM)*. It shall be our purpose to serve the *Cumberland County Emergency Management Agency (CCEMA)*, and the community in general, by providing emergency communications assistance, conducting programs and training, promoting radio knowledge, fraternalism, and individual operating efficiency, and to conduct activities as to advance the general interest and welfare of Amateur Radio as a viable and efficient means of communications support.

## Article I.

### Operating Authority

The WSSM-ECT is authorized to operate under the authority of the Cumberland County Emergency Management Agency by a signed Memorandum of Understanding. All actions and procedures relating to communications assistance to CCEMA will be approved in advance by the Managing Director or his/her appointed representative.

## Article II.

### Membership

All licensed Amateur Radio operators who are interested in emergency communications shall be eligible for membership. Membership shall be by application and approved by the WSSM-ECT. Club emphasis will be to further members' skills needed for emergency communications through portable operations, education, and exercises.

WSSM-ECT membership is a separate category from the regular Full and Associate memberships offered by the WSSM; therefore, voting privileges are limited only to WSSM-ECT matters. Full members of the WSSM who are also members of the WSSM-ECT will be eligible to vote in both. WSSM-ECT members are not eligible to hold office unless they are also Full voting members of the WSSM and meet all requirements outlined by the WSSM By-Laws.

## Article III.

### Officers

#### Section 1. Officers

The officers of this club shall be President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer, concurrent with the officers of the *Wireless Society of Southern Maine*, and shall be elected as determined by the Constitution & By-Laws of that organization. The officers of the club shall constitute the Board of Directors of the WSSM-ECT.

Article III.  
Officers' Duties

The duties of officers shall be concurrent with those of the Wireless Society of Southern Maine, with the exception of the following additional responsibilities:

President

The President shall foster good relations with responsible parties at CCEMA and other supported agencies and will act as a liaison between our organizations. The President will also maintain a list of current membership and the training levels of each member. With the club's approval, he/she may appoint a Training Officer for tasks related to scheduling, organizing, and maintaining a specified level of training.

Vice President

The Vice President shall assist the President in any way needed, and additionally is responsible for organizing activities or exercises for the purpose of interoperability with served agencies, familiarity with traffic handling and protocol, and the general improvement of operating skills.

Secretary

The Secretary shall record minutes from WSSM-ECT meetings and present these minutes for approval at the next meeting.

Treasurer

The treasurer is responsible for keeping a ledger of any income or expenses incurred by the WSSM-ECT. This includes obtaining reimbursement or prior funds from CCEMA for the purchase of equipment needed for the station. Changes to the balance will be presented for approval at each meeting. The Treasurer is also responsible for maintaining the bank account, financial documents, etc. If purchases are required, he/she must present the request to the club for prior approval.

Article IV.  
Meetings

The By-Laws of the Wireless Society of Southern Maine shall provide for regular and special meetings. WSSM-ECT business will take place in concurrence with these unless additional meetings are needed or specified.

At meetings, a minimum of one-fourth of the WSSM-ECT membership, and no less than five, shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of WSSM-ECT business. Meetings of the Board of Directors shall require at least 3 officers be present for a quorum.

## Article V.

### Dues

There is no fee for membership in the WSSM-ECT, however it is required that members update their contact information annually or whenever a change occurs. Failure to do so, if it leads to an inability to contact or alert the member for activations, communications exercises, etc., shall be cause for expulsion from the club within discretion of the membership.

## Article VI.

### Membership Assistance

Members are encouraged to welcome newly licensed Radio Amateurs and those who are interested in emergency communications, for the purposes of asking and answering questions, exchanging information, and building friendships. Additionally the club shall promote better radio practices by offering training, participating in portable operations, and maintaining programs to foster and guide public relations.

## Article VII.

### Call sign Trustee

The club may elect to apply for a club call sign as provided by FCC rules Part 97.

The President shall assign trusteeship of the club call sign.

The trustee shall:

- Be a Full member of the Wireless Society of Southern Maine in good standing.
- Hold a valid Amateur Extra class license.
- Not had his/her Radio Amateur license revoked or sanctioned at any time.
- Not be a criminal or fugitive from justice.

## Article VIII.

### Dissolution of the Club

#### Section 1. Termination of Operations

In the event that the Board of Directors votes that the WSSM-ECT should be dissolved, the motion for dissolution must receive more than two-thirds vote of the Full membership to pass.

#### Section 2. Disposition of Assets

- The Board of Directors shall handle the disbursement of all assets of the WSSM-ECT.
- No member or group of members shall receive benefit from the assets.
- All equipment will be sold and net proceeds donated to a non-profit organization.
- All remaining cash will be donated to a non-profit organization.

Article IX.  
Amendments

This constitution may be amended by a two-thirds vote of the total Full membership. Proposals for amendments may be made informally, and be submitted in writing at a regular meeting to be voted on at the next regular meeting, provided all members have been notified of the intent to amend the constitution at said meeting, and that such notification shall have been made at least 30 days prior to being voted on. The Board of Directors shall have the option to allow voting in absentia via mail or email for amendments.

Article X.  
Association

The WSSM-ECT shall adhere to the By-Laws of the Wireless Society of Southern Maine with the exception of those items specifically outlined in this constitution. If there is ever any conflict between this document and the By-Laws of the Wireless Society of Southern Maine, the latter shall take precedence.

Adopted 18 February 2016

This Constitution was adopted unanimously at the first business meeting of the WSSM-ECT, on 18 February 2016, by those founding members present whose names appear below:

The image shows a collection of handwritten signatures in blue ink, arranged in three columns. Each signature is accompanied by a call sign. The signatures are: Thom Watson (W1WWMG), Rick Fickett (K1OT), Ronello Vaughn (KC1AOT), Ryan Michaelson (KB1YTR), David Wood (KB1FGF), Adam Mains (N3AWM), CJ Carlsson (KC1AMT), Charles P. Shepard (W1CPS), Paul Courchene (KJ6JBH), Frank Allen (W1FRA), Patrick Conant (KC1DSP), and Stefania Watson (K1GJY). Peter Warren (KC1DFO) is also listed in the typed list below but his signature is not clearly visible in the image.

Thom Watson, W1WWMG  
Ryan Michaelson, KB1YTR  
CJ Carlsson, KC1AMT  
Frank Allen, W1FRA

Tim Watson, KB1HNZ  
Rick Fickett, K1OT  
David Wood, KB1FGF  
Charles P. Shepard, W1CPS  
Patrick Conant, KC1DSP  
Peter Warren, KC1DFO

Ronello Vaughn KC1AOT  
Adam Mains, N3AWM  
Paul Courchene, KJ6JBH  
Stefania Watson, K1GJY