

Constitution & By-Laws

Greater Milwaukee DX Association

ARTICLE I Origin and Name

The Greater Milwaukee DX Association, hereinafter known as the "Association" came into existence as the result of the efforts of a local group of DX-minded radio amateurs who, through informational discussions, recognized the potential and mutual advantages accruing from such an organization. Preliminary inquiries of interest directed to Dxers in the area brought sufficient response to justify the formation of the Association, designated in brief, GMDXA.

ARTICLE II Purpose and Goals

The principle purpose of this Association shall be to foster a mutual assistance attitude and camaraderie toward the working of DX. Other purposes and goals are as follows:

Section A To bring Dxers together periodically to enable constructive discussions, sharing of experiences, and determining a consensus of views on current topics of interest in amateur radio.

Section B To provide aid to members in working DX by:

- 1) Lending assistance in installation and adjustment of equipment.
- 2) "Spreading the alarm" to other members when a DX station has been worked/heard. This is understood to apply to those to whom the DX station represents a new country, zone, band mode, or prefix.
- 3) Pooling of information sources that are an aid to working DX and QSLing.

Section C To utilize the advantage of "strength in numbers" toward any given controversial topic or resolution affecting DXing.

Section D To maintain communications with other DX organizations and groups for exchange of ideas and for greater unity throughout this country's DX Fraternity and, where indicated, internationally.

Section E To promote and support DXpeditions, wholly or in part to the maximum practicable extent.

Section F To aid foreign Dxers within the limits available time and funds. This may consist of QSL Managership, sponsoring moves toward equipment provision for strategic or rare locations, or other support deemed appropriate by the membership.

ARTICLE III Officers

Section A All officers as well as supplementary offices shall be selected by ballot. The three principle officers shall be full members in good standing. The term of all officers shall be one year for each office. The successful candidate shall receive a plurality (one more than one half of those present) of votes. Succession of office by an incumbent should be discouraged, and in no instance shall there be more than two successive terms of President or Vice President by any one person.

Section B Nominations and elections shall take place at the last regular meeting of the club season, in the month of June. Newly elected officers shall take office at the conclusion of June's meeting.

Section C Replacement of an officer

1. An officer may be removed from office for gross negligence or conduct that reflects poorly on the Association. Removal from office requires

- a. A quorum of 2/3 of the membership and
- b. A 2/3 majority in favor of removing the offending officer.

2. In the event the President resigns, is impeached, or otherwise unable to perform the duties of the office, the Vice President will immediately assume the office of President.

3. A member may be elected to fill the remaining term if the office of Vice President or Secretary is open. Candidates are nominated and voted for as during the normal June meeting.

ARTICLE IV: Duties of Officers

Section A President

1. Presides over meetings.
2. Designates committees.
3. Executes orders of business.
4. Meets and plays host to visitors or designates an alternate.
5. Delegates authority to individuals or groups where advisable.
6. Signs official correspondence, and officially represents the Association at various activities.
7. May break voting ties by abstaining or voting but this is not mandatory.

Section B Vice-President

Acts in the capacity of the President when the latter is away, ill, or for any reason cannot discharge the duties of the office.

Section C Secretary/Treasurer

1. Maintains close working relations and aids editors of local bulletins, etc.
2. Notifies members at least one week in advance of meetings.
3. Completes and maintains records of minutes of meetings.
4. Writes letters and answers correspondence as directed.
5. Discloses letter contents at meetings for further disposition.
6. Keeps records of all members, date of admittance, type of member, address, telephone number, and email address.
7. Provides a roster of all members and contact information annually in print or via email.
8. Maintains a listing of current business topics carried over to each meeting.

ARTICLE V Membership

- Section A Two types of Membership are available
1. Full Member - Possession of the DXCC Certificate is required, or in lieu of, proof of confirmation of QSOs with 25 countries.
 2. Associate Member – Meets the requirements of a Full Member and who live a minimum of sixty miles from downtown Milwaukee. This is a non-voting membership. Regular dues apply. Exceptions to the sixty mile limit can be made (and voted upon) on an individual basis if circumstances warrant.

Section B Following application for membership type, the latter shall be approved by ballot (written unless otherwise specified hereinafter), indicating a majority (2/3) approval by those present.

Other DXers not eligible for membership may attend meetings if sponsored by a full member. Such sponsorship is encouraged to promote future membership of those with a developing interest in DXing.

Section C Membership can be rescinded because of conduct prejudicial or detrimental to the welfare of the Association. A ballot resulting in a two-thirds majority vote against the offender shall be required for removal.

ARTICLE VI Dues

Section A Dues shall be payable on or before the club meeting in September. The amount for dues shall be set in Article I of the By Laws.

ARTICLE VII Responsibilities

Each member shall take it upon his or herself to devote conscientious thought, effort, and conduct toward the support and betterment of the Association and the sport of DXing. Other clubs

and DX groups are, in a sense competing with this Association, not only in DX operation, but in presenting an image of a dedicated group of high level, proficient and skilled radio amateurs, worthy of the admiration of Dxers at large; in short, being a credit to amateur radio.

ARTICLE VIII Meetings

The Association shall meet monthly at a suitable location that is acceptable to the majority. A quorum need not be present to constitute an official meeting, but a quorum shall be present when officers are elected or expenditures voted on.

A quorum to conduct regular business is defined as more than one half of the membership. Passage of regular business requires a minimum of one half the votes of the members present.

In the event of special circumstances that require club action before the next meeting, or expenditures of an extraordinary nature, the President may instruct the Secretary to poll the membership. Such polling can be done by phone, mail, electronic or other means, as deemed appropriate by the Secretary. The Secretary will keep a list of each member voting, as well as the nature (for or against) of each vote. The Secretary shall read the tally of the votes at the next regular meeting.

The business part of each meeting shall be kept short and efficient by the following formal sequence of business:

Section A Call to order (President)

Section B Reading of Minutes of last meeting and the treasurer's report (Secretary)

Section C Announcements of DX worked or heard, up coming contests or results of recent contests, or other time sensitive news relating to DXing.

Section D Committee Reports (respective chairman)

Section E Discussion and disposition of current business (Introduced from the Secretary's list by the President).

Section F Introduction of candidates for new members.

Section G Introduction of new business (by any member).

Section H Introduction of guests or speakers.

Section J Miscellaneous.

Section K Adjournment.

Normal parliamentary procedures shall be followed throughout business meetings to make most effective use of time. Members seeking the floor may be recognized either by standing or by uplifted hand.

ARTICLE IX Expenditures

Expenditures are voted on during regular business meetings. Expenditures require a standard quorum of 1/2 the memberships and minimum of 1/2 of the members voting in favor of the expenditure.

In exceptional cases, the President may call for a vote outside of a regular meeting as outlined in ARTICLE VIII.

ARTICLE X Funds

Money donated for special funds shall be used solely for the specified purpose of these funds. Perpetuation of these funds shall become solely from donations and not from the general fund.

ARTICLE XI Amendments

Section A

This Constitution may be amended by making changes, deletions, or additions of individual articles or the group as a whole. Additional articles may be added as deemed advisable.

Passage of an amendment shall require the following process:

1. Proposed amendments to this Constitution must be submitted in writing to the Principle Officers (President, Vice-President, Secretary) at least 10 days prior to a meeting date.

2. The proposed changes shall be communicated to the membership for study and discussion at the next meeting. The Secretary shall make the text of the proposed changes available to the full membership by mail or electronic means.
3. The amendments shall be voted on at a later meeting designated by the President. Passage requires a) a quorum of at least $2/3$ of the membership, and b) at least $2/3$ of the votes cast for acceptance of the amendment. The vote may be postponed to a future meeting if the required $2/3$ membership is not present.

Section B

By Laws may be amended by making changes, deletions, or additions of individual articles or the group as a whole. Additional articles may be added as deemed advisable.

Changes to By Laws can be made at a meeting when $2/3$ of the membership is present, and a minimum of $1/2$ of the votes cast are in favor of the amendment.

By Laws of the GMDXA

ARTICLE 1 Dues

SECTION A

Dues for Full and Associate Members are \$30 per year. Dues for full time students are \$10 per year. Dues for additional family members of a Full Member are \$10 for each additional member.

SECTION B

Members joining in the second half of the club year will have their dues pro-rated to one half of normal amount.

ARTICLE 2 Hosting Meetings

SECTION A

All Full Members are required to host a monthly GMDXA Meeting at the location of their choice. This rotating Host Meeting List is to be maintained by the Secretary and distributed to the membership each June for the upcoming year.

SECTION B

Two members, by mutual consent, may switch their meeting months provided they notify the Secretary in advance. Members will keep their assigned spot in the rotation as if they hosted the meeting in their assigned month.

SECTION C

New members will be placed in the first position(s) of the meeting rotation following their first full calendar year of membership. A member joining in September will be put in the rotation for the year starting the next September. A member joining any other month will be put in the rotation starting the second September of their membership.

Article 3 Meeting Dates

The club shall meet on the 4th Monday of the month. Meetings will not be held during the months of July, August or December. The scheduled host of a monthly meeting may change the actual meeting day for that month due to the normal date falling on a holiday or if a major Ham Radio event participated by a large percentage of the membership occurred the weekend before the 4th Monday. The Secretary must be notified of date changes far enough in advance to notify the membership.