



## BYLAWS

*Adopted August 25, 2023*

### **Section 1: Name**

The name of this organization shall be the Northern Illinois Rocketry Association, hereinafter "the Association". The Association is chartered Section 117 of the National Association of Rocketry, hereinafter "NAR".

### **Section 2: Purpose**

The purpose of the Association shall be to aid, educate and encourage by all suitable means all people in northern Illinois interested in model rocketry and its related sciences. Specifically, it shall be the purpose of this Association to (a) to operate and maintain a publicly-accessible rocket range in accordance with NAR standards, applicable regulations, and the NAR Safety Code(s); (b) to hold public meetings for the purpose of aiding, educating and encouraging all those interested in rocketry and related sciences; (c) to engage in other scientific, educational, or related model-rocketry-related activities as the Members, the Board of Directors, or NAR may from time to time deem necessary or desirable; and (d) to support the aims and purposes of NAR in promoting safe model rocketry in northern Illinois.

### **Section 3: Membership**

#### **Article A: Membership Classes**

Association membership shall be in three (3) classes: Individual, Family and Honorary. Individual and Family Member dues shall be established at any regularly scheduled business meeting by majority vote of those members present. Honorary Memberships may be offered by nomination of names at any regularly scheduled business meeting, publication in the Association's online message board(s) and web site, and majority vote of those members present at the Association's following regularly scheduled business meeting.

#### **Article B: Discipline**

Association membership shall not be denied for any reason, other than non-payment of dues, commission of a felony, repeated misconduct, conduct detrimental to the Association, or deliberate and willful violations of rocketry Safety Codes. Members accused of any offense other than nonpayment of dues shall have the right to review the allegations against them at a regularly scheduled business meeting and to provide evidence in their own defense. Such hearings must be communicated to the membership in advance of the meeting as part of the agenda. Any expulsion shall be made only after the member has been heard, and only then by 80% vote of all members present and voting.

## **Section 4: Meetings**

Meetings shall be held at monthly intervals. Special meetings may be called by the President or any three members of the Board of Directors on no less than seven (7) days notice. Meeting location (physical, online, or hybrid) shall be published in the Association's online message board(s) and web site at least four (4) weeks before each regularly scheduled meeting, or at least one (1) week before any special meeting. Meeting agendas shall be published in the Association's online message board at least one (1) week before each meeting. The lesser of 50% of all members or ten (10) members shall constitute a quorum. All matters of business not delegated to a Committee or officer are subject to approval at any regularly scheduled business meeting by majority vote of those members present.

## **Section 5: Board of Directors**

The Board of Directors of this Association shall include four (4) officers, consisting of a President, a Vice-President, a Secretary-Treasurer, and a Range Safety Officer, all of whom shall be residents of northern Illinois and members of the Association, the Section and NAR.

### **Article A: Terms of Office**

All officers shall be elected at the first regularly scheduled business meeting of the year and serve a term of one year. Votes may be cast in person at the meeting or by absentee ballot; proxy votes cast by others are not permitted. Terms shall begin at the conclusion of the meeting in which the new officers have been elected. In the case of special elections to complete an unexpired term, the term of office shall be until the next regularly scheduled election.

### **Article B: President**

The President shall preside at all business meetings, shall represent the Association at all official functions and in all official interactions with other organizations, and shall be an ex-officio member of all committees.

### **Article C: Vice President**

The Vice President shall assume the duties of the president when the President indicates he is unable to perform those duties. The Vice President shall execute those duties until the next election can be held, but in no case will a new election be delayed longer than ninety (90) days.

### **Article D: Secretary-Treasurer**

The Secretary-Treasurer shall maintain the Association's mailing list, maintain and balance the Association's financial accounts, and maintain all official correspondence, including any required federal, state or local government reporting.

### **Article E: Range Safety Officer**

The Range Safety Officer shall establish and enforce the Association's range safety and operational procedures, including execution of qualification tests where required by the NAR Safety Code and other rocketry safety codes as applicable. The Range Safety Officer may appoint other members to assist in the execution of these duties. The Range Safety Officer or their designated alternates must possess the appropriate required qualifications to administer any qualification tests.

### **Article F: Removal**

An officer can be removed from office for the same reasons and by the same procedures as defined in Section 3, Article B: Discipline.

## **Section 6: Committees**

There shall be three (3) Standing Committees of the Association, listed in Articles B, C, and D below, plus such additional committees as the Members may from time to time deem necessary or desirable.

### **Article A: Terms of Office**

All committee chairs shall be appointed by the President, ratified at the second regularly scheduled business meeting of the year by majority vote of those members present and serve a term of one year.

In the case of special elections to complete an unexpired term, the term of office shall be until the next regularly scheduled election.

### **Article B: Communications Committee**

The Communications Committee shall manage and maintain the Association's online message board(s), social media sites, and web site.

### **Article C: Equipment Committee**

The Equipment Committee shall create and maintain all material necessary to support the range operations of the Association.

### **Article D: Events Committee**

The Events Committee shall suggest and coordinate the scheduling of the Association's educational and recreational activities.

### **Article E: Special Committees**

At any regularly scheduled meeting, a majority of members present and voting may establish any special committee to further the purpose of the Association.

## **Section 7: Prohibited Activities**

### **Article A: Sharing of Earnings**

No member or officer of the Association, or any person connected with the Association, shall receive at any time any of the net earnings or pecuniary profits from the operation of the Association, provided that this shall not prevent the payment to any such person of reasonable compensation for services rendered to the Association in effecting any of its purposes as shall be approved by the members; and no such person or persons shall be entitled to share in the distribution of any of the assets or property upon dissolution of the Association. All members of the Association shall be deemed to have expressly consented and agreed to such a dissolution or winding up of the affairs of the Association, whether voluntary or involuntary, and the assets and property of the Association then remaining in its hands shall be distributed or turned over to such educational or scientific institutions or organizations, upon such terms and conditions, and in such amounts and proportions, as the members may determine, to be used by the institutions or organizations receiving them for the purposes similar to or kindred to those set forth in these bylaws.

### **Article B: Political Activity**

No substantial part of the activities of the Association shall be the carrying on of propaganda, or otherwise attempting to influence legislation, and the Association shall not participate in,

or intervene in (including the publishing or distribution of statements) any political campaign on behalf of or in opposition to any candidate for public office.

### **Article C: Non-Profit Status**

Notwithstanding any other provision of these articles, the corporation shall not carry on any other activities not permitted to be carried on (a) by a corporation exempt from federal income tax under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or the corresponding section of any future federal tax code, (b) by a corporation, contributions to which are deductible under section 170(c)(2) of the Internal Revenue Code, or the corresponding section of any future federal tax code, or (c) an Illinois Not-For-Profit corporation incorporated under the Illinois General Not-For-Profit Act of 1986, or the corresponding future legislation.

### **Section 8: Amendment**

These By-Laws may be amended by an 80% vote of members present and voting at any regularly scheduled business meeting of the Association, provided that the proposed amendment has been communicated to all members and published in the Association's online message board at least twice in a four (4) week period prior to voting.