



NORTH SHORE AMATEUR ASTRONOMY CLUB

CONSTITUTION

ARTICLE I

This organization shall be known as The North Shore Amateur Astronomy Club.

ARTICLE II

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

The purpose of The North Shore Amateur Astronomy Club, (hence- forth “Club”), is to:

1. Educate members and the general public in the study and practice of observational astronomy; to provide a venue through which members and other interested parties may observe, hear lectures or participate in other related activities; to assist and share knowledge with members and others interested in astronomy, whenever possible, in a structured but friendly atmosphere.
2. Notwithstanding any other provisions of these articles, the Club is organized exclusively for one or more of the purposes as specified in §501C(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954, and shall not carry on any activities not permitted to be carried on by a Club or Association from Federal income tax under IRC §501C(3) or corresponding provisions of any subsequent Federal tax laws.
3. No substantial part of the activities of the Club shall be carrying on propaganda, or otherwise attempting to influence legislation [except as otherwise provided by IRC §501(h)], or participating in, or intervening in (including the publication and distribution of statements), any political campaign on behalf of any candidates for public office.
4. No part of the net earnings of the Club shall inure to the benefit of any member, trustee, director, officer of the Club, or any private individual (except that reasonable compensation may be paid for services rendered to or for the Club), and no member, trustee, officer of the Club, or any private individual shall be entitled to share in the distribution of any of the Club’s assets on dissolution of the Club.

ARTICLE III

MEMBERSHIP

Membership to the Club shall be open to all, regardless of race, color, creed, gender or other irrelevancy. Dues, length and kind of membership and particulars of application shall be followed as provided for in the Bylaws.

ARTICLE IV

OFFICERS

There shall be provisions for the following elected officers: President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, and membership Director, of which the office of the President, Secretary, and Treasurer must be filled. These elected officers shall constitute the Club's Board of Directors, each having just one vote. The Board of Directors may create additional elected offices if deemed necessary for the proper running of the Club. These new officers shall then be incorporated into the Board of Directors. Each Board member has just one vote, regardless of the number of offices they may hold.

ARTICLE V

GOVERNMENT

Officers and directors shall be elected by the general membership as provided in the Club Bylaws. The Bylaws shall not be written in such a way, or provide that a single group of people may self-perpetuate the governance of the Club against the will of the membership.

ARTICLE VI

AMENDMENTS

Amendments and abrogations to this Constitution shall be carried out as provided in the Bylaws, Article VII, Sections 1 through 3.

ARTICLE VII

DISSOLUTION

If through lack of interest, or for other reasons, the membership is unwilling or unable to fill the offices of the Club, or to take the responsibilities of its leadership, a vote of dissolution of the Club may be taken. If, and only if, the above conditions exist, any member in good standing may call such a vote by notifying all members in writing one month in advance of the regular meeting at which the vote is to take place. If it is decided by a two-thirds majority of the members present that there is insufficient interest or willingness to properly discharge the duties and aims of the Club and maintain its assets, the Club may be said to be dissolved.

In the event of dissolution, all assets and property of the Club shall, after necessary expenses thereof, be distributed to another organization exempt under IRC §501©(3), or corresponding provisions of any subsequent Federal tax laws, or to the Federal government, or state or local government for a public purpose, subject to the approval of a Justice of the Supreme Court of the State of New York.

It shall be the responsibility of the Board of Directors to discharge these final duties and their right to appoint members to assist them. No less than three members of the Club shall be jointly responsible for the liquidation and distribution of assets.

ARTICLE VIII

INCORPORATION

Should the Club acquire assets of considerable value or property which may cause the Club and its members to be individually liable for injuries or other obligations, it will be the responsibility of the Board of Directors to pursue the feasibility of incorporation and to make the recommendation to the membership for or against its adoption.

Ratified January 5, 1990

Revised April 3, 1992

Revised August 7, 1992

Revised November 15, 1992

Revised September 7, 2001

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Barrie Sawyer
President, NSAAC

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Richard Bickerton
V. President, NSAAC