

CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS OF
VIRGINIA ASSOCIATION OF JUNIOR VOLUNTEER RESCUE SQUADS

ARTICLE I

Name.

This organization shall be known as the Virginia Association of Junior Volunteer Rescue Squads. (hereafter referred to as the association or VAJVRS)

ARTICLE II

Object.

To promote a better understanding and relationship between the various junior lifesaving, first aid, and rescue squads units in the state of Virginia. Assist member rescue squads in improving pre-hospital emergency care and increase efficiency through education, personal contact, and competition.

ARTICLE III

Members.

Section 1. Any unit that is interested in the object of this organization and serves the citizens of Virginia shall be eligible for consideration as a member. An application, furnished by the VAJVRS, shall be completed in full. A request for membership shall include acceptance of all regulations of the association.

Section 2. A check for one year's dues, \$40.00 per unit, shall accompany the application, refunded if not accepted.

Section 3. Units accepted as members, by a majority vote, shall have one vote, in person, to be cast by a designated governor or alternate. Voting privileges shall include all elected officers of VAJVRS and those governors. This assembly shall be referred to as the Board of Governors and shall have authority over all affairs of the VAJVRS.

Section 4. Each member unit shall notify the secretary of the Association, in writing, by March 1st of each year the designated governor and alternates.

Section 5. Any Junior Squad competing at the Annual Convention will be eligible for a trophy only if their Board of Governor signs in at each meeting during the Convention.

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ARTICLE IV

Officers.

Section 1. The officers of this association shall be a President, a Vice-President, a Secretary/Treasurer, a Historian, a Chaplain, and District Vice-Presidents. These officers, with the exception of the District Vice-Presidents, shall be elected, by a majority ballot, during the final session of the convention, and shall hold office for one (1) year or until their successors are elected. The District Vice-Presidents shall be elected by majority ballot by their respective districts at the last district meeting prior to the convention and be ratified by the BOGs present during the final session at convention.

Section 2. Any individual that is interested in holding an office should notify the nominating committee in writing by August 1st. During the first business meeting of the BOGs at convention, the nominating committee will make nominations for each office. Nominations of all officers, excluding the District Vice-Presidents, can be from the floor, as well, during the first business session of the convention and closed during the same session. All nominees must be from units in good standing of the association and should be willing to speak on their behalf during the nominating process. No member shall be eligible for nomination if they will become twenty one (21) years prior to January 1st of the upcoming year.

Section 3. A vacancy occurring in an office, other than President, shall be filled until the next convention by the President. In the event the office of President becomes vacant a new President shall be elected by the BOGs at its next regular or special meeting.

Section 4. No member may hold more than one office at any one time, and no officer shall be eligible to more than two consecutive terms in the same office.

ARTICLE V

Meetings.

Section 1. The Board of Governors shall meet regularly in the months of April and September at such time, place, and date as specified in writing thirty (30) days prior to the meeting. These meetings shall be held at the same time and in the same city as VAVRS, but in a separate place.

Section 2. The April meeting, Spring Board, is for the purpose of receiving and reviewing officers and committee reports and to transact any business of the association.

Section 3. The September meeting, Convention, is to elect the ensuing year's officers, to officially receive and review officers and committee reports and to transact any business of the association. Both the Spring Board and Convention contest shall be governed by the Convention Committee of VAVRS.

Section 4. Special meetings may be called by the President and shall be called upon written request of ten (10) members of the Board of Governors, at such time, date and place as designated by the President or those members requesting the meeting.

Section 5. A quorum shall consist of those members registered at the meeting.

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ARTICLE VI

Executive Committee.

Section 1. The elected officers of the association shall constitute the Executive Committee.

Section 2. The Executive Committee shall have the general supervision of the affairs of the association between its business meetings, fix the hour and place of meetings, and perform such other duties as are specified in these bylaws and shall endeavor to strengthen the VAJVRS by building membership, proposing projects and programs to attain its objectives. It is subject to the orders of VAJVRS, and none of its acts shall conflict with action taken by the association.

Section 3. The President shall serve as Chairman of the Executive Committee. A quorum shall be a majority of the committee membership.

Section 4. Any unit may be suspended from the association by the Executive Committee for any of the following: (i) The unit has ceased to function or reached a condition rendering it unfit to give the service it claims to offer. (ii) Judged guilty, by the Executive Committee of behavior unsuitable to the association. (iii) Failure to comply with the Constitution and bylaws of VAJVRS. (iiii) Becomes delinquent in payment of dues.

Section 5. Any unit suspended under Article VI, Sec. 4 shall be notified in writing and brought before the Board of Governors for action. Any unit requesting a hearing shall make it known in writing at least thirty (30) days prior to the meeting. A decision of the board is final.

ARTICLE VII

Committees.

Section 1. The Membership Committee of three, of whom the Vice-President shall be the chair, shall be appointed annually by the President. It shall be the duty of this committee to be charged with all membership activities, including seeking potential member squads, making recommendations concerning applicants to the BOGs, and such investigations concerning membership as directed.

Section 2. The Resolution Committee of three shall be appointed by the President. It shall be the duty of this committee to review resolutions proposed by member units, to make recommendations to the Board of Governors concerning action to be taken.

Section 3. The Nominating Committee of three shall receive nominations for each office; speak with each nominee and their squad. They shall seek as much information possible about each nominee and then return to the BOGs at the first business meeting at convention with a nomination for each state office. This committee shall consist of one (1) Jr. Advisor, a retiring office (if applicable), and one additional seat. Each of these seats is to be appointed by the highest officer who is not seeking re-election or who is retiring.

Section 4. Such other committees, standing or special, shall be appointed by the President as authorized by VAJVRS.

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ARTICLE VIII

Districts.

Section 1. The association shall be divided into geographic districts as the Board of Governors direct.

Section 2. Each district shall be governed by a District Vice-President and shall have a Junior Advisor appointed by the Senior District Vice President of the VAVRS District.

Section 3. Each district shall have a minimum of two (2) district meetings, not including the Spring Board and Convention. The junior district meetings will be held in conjunction with their respective senior districts meetings.

Section 4. The junior association will provide three (3) trophies for the District EMT contest, judged by the District Vice-President or his designee. Cross district competition is allowed and encouraged, but there has to be a representative at the meeting to be eligible for a trophy.

ARTICLE IX

Finance.

Section 1. Dues shall be assessed annually and shall be payable prior to the opening of the first business session of the Spring Board. Such dues shall be set by the Board of Governors. Notice of dues payable shall be mailed by the VAVRS office to member units not less than thirty (30) days prior to the first business session of the Spring Board.

Section 2. Dues for squads joining shall be \$40.00 per unit. Current squads who are in good standing yearly dues shall be \$20.00 per unit and failure to pay prior to the first business session of the Spring Board will result in suspension. Reinstatement will occur when dues are paid and will be \$40.00. Any squad who has not submitted their dues payment by the 1st meeting of the Board of Governors meeting in September will be dismissed from the organization.

Section 3. The following expenses shall be paid for the President, Vice-President, Secretary/Treasurer, Historian and Chaplain upon presentation of receipts. Mileage to and from meetings. (ii) Phone calls and mailing for VAJVRs business. (iii) Meals, one day Spring Board and three (3) days at convention if the Executive meeting on Thursday is attended. (iiii) at convention unless paid by your senior squad. The expenses reimbursed would be at the same rates as the VAVRS. Other expenses may be paid at the discretion of the Junior Advisors and Junior President.

Section 4. Expenses shall be reviewed by the Junior Advisors and forwarded to the Junior President for final approval.

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ARTICLE X

Parliamentary Authority.

The rules contained in "Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised" shall govern the VAJVRs in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with these bylaws.

ARTICLE XI

Amendment to Bylaws.

Section 1. Any member unit may propose an amendment to the bylaws to the Board of Governors.

Section 2. Proposed amendments shall be in the hands of the Secretary not less than sixty (60) days prior to a meeting of the Board of Governors.

Section 3. The Secretary must forward copies of the proposed changes to the Bylaws Committee and the Board of Governors at least thirty (30) days prior to a meeting of the Board of Governors.

Section 4. Any proposed amendment must be approved by a two-thirds (2/3) affirmative vote of the Board of Governors registered.

Section 5. Notification of change shall be made to each member organization.

ARTICLE XII

Dissolution.

In the event of dissolution of this organization, the assets remaining after payment of all cost and expenses of such dissolution shall be transferred or conveyed to one or more domestic societies engaged in Charitable, Religious, Educational or similar activities, non-profit EMS Agencies.

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