

**OLYMPIC MOUNTAIN RESCUE
BYLAWS
approved by the membership Jan 8, 2008**

**ARTICLE I
FUNCTION & PURPOSE**

- SECTION I: Olympic Mountain Rescue (OMR) is a non-profit corporation in the State of Washington. The purposes of OMR shall be: to provide search and rescue services, mountain rescue service, and general civil volunteer service; to promote mountain and wilderness safety education; to promote rescue techniques and procedures; to distribute mountain rescue and wilderness safety equipment; and to engage in further non-profit activities as shall from time to time become of interest to this corporation.
- SECTION II: Olympic Mountain Rescue, when called upon, shall provide coordination and cooperation with the Olympic College outdoor courses and other organized outdoor activity groups.
- SECTION III: Olympic Mountain Rescue is to be composed of volunteers. In the course of providing OMR-sponsored services, no member shall request remuneration for such services; members shall forward any and all donations given for such services to the OMR treasury. Members shall not request special privileges due to membership in this organization, except those pre-approved by the Board of Directors as a benefit to all participating OMR members.
- SECTION IV: This Corporation is organized exclusively for charitable purposes within the meaning of Section 501(c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code.
- SECTION V: Notwithstanding any other provision of these articles, this corporation shall not carry on any other activities not permitted to be carried on by an organization exempt from Federal income tax under Section 501(c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Codes.

**ARTICLE II
MEMBERSHIP**

- SECTION I: There shall be four classes of active membership: Support, Rescue, Administrative Support, and Sustaining members. Additional details regarding the classes of membership shall be described in the OMR Policies and Guidelines.
- SECTION II: New members are generally designated as Support members until such time as they meet requirements for Rescue membership.
- SECTION III: Rescue members must fulfill the qualifications of experience and training as established by the Board of Directors.
- SECTION IV: Administrative Support members are non-climbers who have expertise in skills needed to support unit operations. They shall not be taken on missions beyond base operations (an example of this category of membership is a member skilled in radio communications.)
- SECTION V: A Sustaining member is one who contributes monetarily to the organization annually, but does not participate in rescues.
- SECTION VI: It is the prerogative of the Board of Directors to declare a member inactive (per OMR Policy & Guidelines, No. 3) when the member has failed to participate in unit functions, and the member has been notified in writing of inactive status.

**ARTICLE III
GOVERNMENT AND ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

- SECTION I: The management and government of this corporation shall be vested in the members of Olympic Mountain Rescue by and through its Board of Directors. The minimum of six members of the Board shall be elected by the general membership.
- SECTION II: Two Board members shall be elected for a three (3) year term by and from the membership each year.

ARTICLE III, continued:

- SECTION III: Board members shall hold office until their successors have been elected and installed.
- SECTION IV: The election of Board members shall be held by secret ballot, and they shall be elected by a majority of the members present.
- SECTION V: Election of Board members shall take place in the December meeting. Installation of Board members shall take place in the January meeting. Every other year after the December election, and prior to convening the January regular OMR meeting, the entire newly elected Board shall meet and, by majority vote, elect the Chairperson from the Board. The Chairperson shall serve a two-year term, except if he/she shall have only one year left in their elected term as Board member, then he/she shall be elected to serve a one-year term as Chairperson, and another election held for Chairperson the following year, in the same manner.
- SECTION VI: There is no limit to the total number of terms or years any member may serve on the Board or in any office while a member of OMR.
- SECTION VII: The Board shall have the power to fill any vacancies on the Board that occur within six months of the expiration of the vacant member's term. All other vacancies shall be filled by special election.

**ARTICLE IV
OFFICERS**

- SECTION I: The Board shall be made up of the following officers: a Chairperson, a Vice-Chairperson, a Secretary and a Treasurer and other members at large.
- SECTION II: The Chairperson shall perform the duties usually assigned to this office. The Chairperson shall appoint from the Board, a Vice-Chairperson, a Secretary, and a Treasurer. The Chairperson may make other appointments as necessary from the Board or general membership.
- SECTION III: The Vice-Chairperson shall act in place of the Chairperson in his/her absence and shall have all his/her powers and duties while so acting.

ARTICLE IV, continued:

- SECTION IV: The Secretary shall perform the duties normally assigned to this office.
- SECTION V: The Treasurer shall perform the duties usually assigned to this office. Funds shall be deposited in banks and/or other financial institutions designated by the Board. Amounts of \$100.00 or less may be paid on approval of two of the following three: Chairperson, Vice Chairperson, and Treasurer. Amounts up to \$1000.00 may be paid on approval of four Board members. Any amounts greater than \$1000.00 shall be paid out only by approval of the Membership. The Treasurer shall report all current income and expenditures at each monthly meeting.
- SECTION VI: Any Board member may at any time be removed from office by a vote of at least two-thirds of the votes cast by the members present at a general membership meeting by secret ballot.

ARTICLE V MEETINGS

- SECTION I: A minimum of one Board meeting shall be held quarterly. The date, location and time is dictated by the Chairperson and announced to the general membership.
- SECTION II: A regular meeting of OMR shall be held on the second Tuesday of every month with the exception of August, unless the Board requests special meetings in writing two weeks in advance.
- SECTION III: The regular meeting shall be held at the Westgate Firehall in Bremerton, Washington. The meetings begin at 8:00 p.m. and are normally preceded by a training session at 7:00 p.m. unless otherwise announced.
- SECTION IV: A regular meeting may be canceled with minimal notice if required due to an active mission in progress or just completed or due to extreme weather conditions.

**ARTICLE VI
DUES**

SECTION I: The annual dues paid by each member, the amount to be determined by the Board of Directors each year, shall be payable on or before the March meeting to the Treasurer.

**ARTICLE VII
RULES OF ORDER**

SECTION I: Robert's Rules of Order shall govern in all parliamentary matters.

**ARTICLE VIII
BY-LAWS**

SECTION I: By-laws of this corporation may be amended by: (1) submitting the proposed draft amendment in writing at a regular meeting; (2) having the secretary provide a copy of the proposed final amendment and notify all members in writing two weeks prior to the next regular meeting that the amendment will be voted on, that the amendment will be voted on at the next regular meeting; and (3) securing a favorable majority of the members present at the specified regular meeting.

**ARTICLE IX
POLICY RECORD**

SECTION I: The Secretary shall keep a record of items of unit Policy and Guidelines created and from time to time modified by the Board. These shall be separate from the minutes and kept up to date and available for reference. Cross-reference to applicable minutes shall be included.

SECTION II: OMR shall provide a copy of the By-Laws and Unit Policy and Guidelines to each new member. Unit By-Laws and Unit Policy shall be provided to each member whenever these By-Laws or Unit Policy and Guidelines undergo a change.

Note: The only change made to the by laws on January 8, 2008, was the deletion of two sentences relating to term limits in Article III Section VI, from the last version of the by-laws dated 2003.

This Copy of the By-laws reviewed and posted by Rick Lorenz 22 Feb 2008.