



Randall's Adventure & Training Search and Rescue (RAT-SAR) •
P.O. Box 105 • Gallant, AL 35972 • www.ratsar.org

Randall's Adventure & Training Search and Rescue (RAT-SAR) Constitution

Article I

Section 1: The name of the organization shall be: "Randall's Adventure & Training Search and Rescue (RAT-SAR)" and shall hereinafter be referred to as "RAT-SAR".

Article II

Section 1: The objectives of RAT-SAR shall be as follows:

- 1) To provide trained search and rescue volunteers working under an incident command system for the purpose of technical rescue, search, and recovery operations in wilderness, high angle and/or natural subterranean environments, and to assist in search and rescue and recovery efforts during natural disasters.
- 2) To provide search and rescue training to Search and Rescue (SAR) personnel operating in wilderness, high angle and/or natural subterranean environments.
- 3) To further the science, knowledge and practice of technical search and rescue in remote wilderness, natural subterranean, and other austere environments.

Article III

Section 1: Membership in RAT-SAR shall be open to any individual supporting and sustaining the objectives set forth in Article II of this Constitution and conforming to the requirements hereinafter set forth in any By-Laws and Membership Guidelines document(s).

Section 2: Application for membership in RAT-SAR shall be made in writing on the regular application form provided by RAT-SAR. Approval of applicants for membership shall be by majority vote of the Executive Board.

Article IV

Section 1: The elected Directors of RAT-SAR shall be: Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Secretary, and Treasurer.

Section 2: The Board of Directors, hereinafter referred to as the Executive Board shall consist of the Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Secretary, and Treasurer. The Executive Board may add



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positions, temporary or otherwise, to the Executive Board as deemed appropriate by a majority vote of the Executive Board.

Section 3: All directors of the Executive Board shall be elected by ballot each year by the Regular Members of RAT-SAR per the procedures set forth in RAT-SAR By-Laws Article VI.

Section 4: The Executive Board shall meet periodically (in-person or via electronic means) at a place and time chosen by a majority vote of the Executive Board.

Article V

Section 1: Proposed amendments to this Constitution must be submitted in writing by a RAT-SAR member through its Executive Board. The Executive Board will distribute the proposal to the membership via electronic or other means. A voting majority of the Regular Membership shall be required for the adoption of an amendment to this Constitution.



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Randall's Adventure & Training Search and Rescue (RAT-SAR) By-Laws

Article I Duties of Elected Directors

Section 1: The Chairman of RAT-SAR (a) shall preside at all meetings of the Executive Board when present; (b) shall be directly responsible for the performance of the work entrusted to the Vice-Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer, and any other director or officers; (c) shall have the power to require written reports of officers and committees as deemed necessary to accomplish his or her respective duties; (d) shall report inactive members, officers, and committees to the Executive Board; (e) shall have the authority to call any emergency board meeting deemed necessary; and (f) shall help organize and promote rescue work and assist in the coordination of rescue missions.

Section 2: The Vice-Chairman of RAT-SAR (a) shall, in the absence of the Chairman, assume the duties listed in Article I Section 1.

Section 3: The Secretary of RAT-SAR (a) shall record all board meeting minutes and submit to the RAT-SAR record, and (b) shall help organize and promote rescue work and assist in the coordination of rescue missions.

Section 4: The Treasurer of RAT-SAR (a) shall handle all office correspondence related to RAT-SAR and preserve/coordinate all necessary records pertaining to the operation of RAT-SAR as directed by the Chairman and/or Secretary; (b) shall be responsible for the funds of RAT-SAR and act as the treasurer within the policies as established by the Executive Board; (c) shall work with RAT-SAR accountants to record all financial transactions as required and to file with the Internal Revenue Service as required by law; (d) shall be responsible for the deposit of all funds in a bank whose deposits are guaranteed by the Federal Deposit Insurance Cooperation, and pay all bills for RAT-SAR; (e) shall submit a financial report to the Executive Board annually or at any time requested by the Executive Board; and (f) shall help organize and promote rescue work and assist in the coordination of rescue missions.

Article II Organization

Section 1: The Executive Directors shall hold office for a period of two years. All Directors shall be eligible for re-election.

The Executive Board shall have charge of the interest and all affairs of RAT-SAR. They shall have the power, authority, rights, and privileges to do any and all acts pertaining to the affairs of



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RAT-SAR, except those affairs that require a vote of the full Regular Membership. Special board meetings may be held when called for by the Chairman or upon written demand of any Director of the Executive Board. The time, date and place will be designated by the Chairman and/or member(s) calling for the meeting.

At every such meeting, each Director shall be entitled to cast one vote on each matter of business. A majority of the members of the Executive Board present at all regular or called special board meetings shall constitute a quorum. No person shall serve on the Executive Board of RAT-SAR unless they are a Regular Member, in good standing of RAT-SAR.

Section 2: The RAT-SAR name shall not be used by any member for personal gain, nor in any other manner, except as specifically approved by the Executive Board.

Article III Membership

Section 1: Application for membership in RAT-SAR shall be received by and under the supervision of the Executive Board or a designated membership officer or committee.

Section 2: Regular Membership: The regular membership of RAT-SAR shall consist of those actively engaged in search, rescue, lifesaving, first aid, and emergency services work who have successfully completed all training and membership requirements as set forth in the Membership Guidelines.

Section 3: Support Membership: The support membership of RAT-SAR shall consist of those new members who are working towards Regular Membership as set forth in the Membership Guidelines. Support members may act and participate in activities under the direction of a Director or Officer.

Section 4: The requirements for membership in RAT-SAR shall be as follows: 18 years of age and older who, (a) provides all necessary documentation, (b) successfully meets minimum training and physical fitness requirements, and (c) is approved by a majority vote of the Executive Board. All specific requirements for membership are set forth in the Membership Guidelines.

Article IV Finance / Accounting

Section 1: Membership Dues: RAT-SAR members are required to pay thirty-eight dollars (\$38.00) membership dues for membership in RAT-SAR. RAT-SAR may adjust membership dues at a future time by a majority vote of the Executive Board.



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Section 2: All expenditures of RAT-SAR made from RAT-SAR accounts shall have the prior approval of the Executive Board.

Section 3: All financial records and accounting will be performed with computer software by RAT-SAR member(s) appointed and approved by the Executive Board. All IRS filings will be performed by a Certified Public Accountant (CPA).

Article V Committees

Section 1: Committees and their duties: When so decided by the Executive Board, committees and officers may be established from the membership to perform specific duties for RAT-SAR. All committees and officers will report directly to the Executive Board.

Article VI Elections

Section 1: A Notice of Director Elections will be sent via electronic means to all Regular Members of RAT-SAR during the November business meeting. This Notice shall include a nomination form for all Director positions open for election. The form shall be completed by any Regular Member wishing to make a nomination and returned to the Executive Board via regular mail or electronic mail by the December business meeting. The Notice shall also include a time and place for a general meeting in January of the following year for the election of Executive Board Directors.

Section 2: All nominations for Executive Board Directors will be disseminated to the Regular Membership no later than the December Business meeting via electronic means.

Section 3: The full Regular Membership of RAT-SAR shall meet in-person or via electronic means in January at the date, time and location set forth in the Notice of Director Elections. A ballot with all nominees shall be given to each Regular Member present. Each Director shall be elected by a majority of the voting members.

Article VII General Meetings

Section 1: General Meetings of all RAT-SAR members may be held to promote the organization in any manner desired.



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Section 2: General Meetings shall be directed and conducted by currently elected Executive Board Directors.

Article VIII Amendments

Section 1: Any RAT-SAR Regular Member shall have the right to propose to the Executive Board an amendment to any Article or Section of the RAT-SAR By-laws. Proposed amendments to the By-laws must be submitted in writing by a RAT-SAR member through the Executive Board. The Executive Board will distribute the proposal to the membership via electronic or other means. A voting majority of the Regular Membership shall be required for the adoption of an amendment to these By-laws. Amendments shall become effective immediately upon approval of the membership.