



BYLAWS of Summit to Sound Search and Rescue, Inc.

1. NAME AND PURPOSE

- 1.1. **Name.** The name of the Corporation shall be Summit to Sound Search and Rescue, hereinafter referred to as “The Corporation” or “StS SAR.” It is a private, non-government, and nonprofit corporation incorporated under the laws of the State of Washington.
- 1.2. **Purpose.** StS SAR is dedicated to preparing, planning, responding, searching, evacuating, and recovering during situations of missing persons. StS SAR shall work in affiliation with state and local emergency management agencies utilizing the principles of the Incident Command System (ICS). StS SAR shall be comprised of a network of trained and certified individual volunteers.
- 1.3. **Objectives.**
 - Work with other counties, other states, and national organizations to address common goals of search and rescue (SAR) activities.
 - Work with the Whatcom County Sheriff’s Office, the county Division of Emergency Management (DEM), the State Office of Emergency Management, and other appropriate governmental agencies in an effort to maintain and improve search and rescue.
 - Train search and rescue volunteers according to Chapter 118-04 WAC Emergency Worker Program and standards designated by the Whatcom County Sheriff’s Office.
 - Be instrumental in developing and delivering training opportunities for agencies and individual volunteers to facilitate a safe, environmentally sound, and efficient response to SAR emergencies on local, county, tribal, state, and federal levels.
 - Encourage collaborative partnerships in national, state, regional, and local SAR emergencies and decision making.
 - Actively participate in the projects and activities of other agencies and corporations to communicate and further StS SAR objectives.

- Work to ensure that StS SAR acquires or has access to necessary equipment and resources. Funding sources such as fundraising events, grants, etc., or cooperative agreements between agencies for such acquisitions shall be explored.
- Fulfill a public education role for informed decision making by researching and publishing factual information and hosting public meetings with invited guest speakers to talk about current affairs and topics of interest in SAR.
- Organize projects, events, and activities for purposes such as fund-raising and education.

2. MEMBERS

- 2.1. **Membership.** The initial Board of Directors (the Board) of the Corporation shall be the Members of the Corporation until the first meeting of the members and until their successors shall have been duly elected and qualified, or until their earlier death, resignation, or removal in accordance with the Bylaws. Beginning with the first meeting of the members, the members of the Corporation shall consist of any person who has been accepted for membership under the terms and conditions of the Corporation's Membership Policy Guide (MPG).
- 2.1.1. Membership shall be open to any person who is at least 18 years old, who has an interest in promoting the objectives of SAR, and who meets the requisite standards set forth in the MPG.
- 2.1.2. StS SAR shall not discriminate on the basis of sex, race, color, national origin, religious affiliation, age, sexual orientation, or on the basis of any other protected class under applicable federal, state, county, or local law.
- 2.1.3. All members are subject to the Corporation Bylaws, the Corporation's Membership Policy Guide, the Corporation's standards, and any other local, county, state, or federal regulations deemed appropriate by the Board.
- 2.1.4. Application for and acceptance of membership is deemed acknowledgement of an agreement to the Corporation Bylaws, the Corporation's Membership Policy Guide, the Corporation's standards, and any other local, county, state, or federal regulations.
- 2.1.5. Membership Categories.
- 2.1.5.1. All members are required to pass a criminal background check, provide verification of their driver's license and auto insurance coverage (as applicable), complete the training requirements established by the Board, meet the requirements for continuing education as outlined in the MPG, and be current in their financial obligations to the Corporation.
- 2.1.5.2. Active members are eligible to respond to missions based on their training level as outlined in the MPG.
- 2.1.5.3 Probationary members are members who are active but are not allowed to wear StS logos, are not allowed to obtain a new DEM badge, are not allowed to

vote in general membership votes, and are not allowed to hold an officer position of the Board or Executive Board.

- 2.1.5.4. Members on a leave of absence, as defined in the MPG are inactive. They do not vote. If a member wishing to take a leave of absence is a Board member, they must vacate the the Board position.
- 2.1.5.5. Auxiliary members are those members who wish to be involved with the Corporation on a more limited basis and who do not respond to mission call outs. They are eligible to be on the Board in a specialty capacity, e.g., Treasurer, and are eligible to be on committees. They may function as advisors to the Board, and, when requested, provide technical or administrative assistance to the Board or assist with information dissemination, etc. Auxiliary members are not required to participate in any training curriculum established by the Board. However, they must continue to meet the minimum yearly hours required for the active members.

Auxiliary members pay dues, vote, and participate in trainings. They do not respond to mission call-outs and shall be removed from the mission call-out system.

- 2.1.5.6 Legacy members are those members that have been active members for at least 10 years, but are no longer able to participate as active members. An active member can submit a request to the Board seeking legacy member status. Legacy members can retain their DEM card if permissible by the DEM and provided they continue to pass required background checks.

If invited, legacy members would be allowed to attend general or business meetings, assist with trainings within their skill set, assist with public fundraising events, and participate in StS SAR social gatherings. If a legacy member no longer has a valid DEM card but is able to participate in any of the activities laid out in this paragraph, then the legacy member must first sign a liability waiver before each participation.

Legacy members do not pay dues, vote, or respond to mission call-outs and shall be removed from the callout system.

- 2.1.6. The amount required for annual dues and for any other required services, such as callout services, shall be as determined by the Board and confirmed by vote of the membership. Continued membership is contingent upon being current on membership dues and fees and entitles each member to be a voting member of the corporation. Dues are payable no later than the January general meeting each year. A membership year is a calendar year beginning on January 1st of each year. Membership dues for new members paid after October 1st will apply to the current and following year. Application fees paid by academy members in the months prior to the beginning of the academy shall cover dues for the year of the academy. Members whose dues are not paid by the January general

meeting deadline shall be removed from the callout system and if not paid by January 31 and will have their membership terminated.

- 2.1.7. A member can have their membership terminated by a majority vote by the Board per the MPG. Membership dues and fees for a member whose membership is terminated shall not be refunded.

2.2. **Rights and Duties of Members.**

- 2.2.1. Each member of the Corporation shall have the right to cast one vote on all actions for which members shall have a right to vote except probationary, legacy, and members on a leave of absence. The right of a member to vote and all their rights, title, and interest in or to the Corporation shall cease on the termination of their membership.
- 2.2.2. Other rights and duties of each member shall be as specified in the Corporation's Membership Policy Guide.
- 2.2.3. Members shall outfit themselves with personally owned equipment and consumables as outlined in the Membership Policy Guide. This equipment shall be the sole responsibility of the member.
- 2.2.4. No member shall be entitled to share in the distribution of the Corporation assets upon the dissolution of the Corporation.

2.3. **Monthly Business, Training, and Special Meetings.**

- 2.3.1. The monthly business meeting will be held on the Monday prior to the 3rd Tuesday of every month and is open to all StS members or specifically invited guests.
- 2.3.2. Monthly membership meetings shall be held on the third Tuesday of every month. Membership meetings will include business meeting review, voting, training, and information dissemination, etc.
- 2.3.3. Special meetings of the members shall be called at any time by the Secretary of the Corporation (or designee) upon request of the President or no less than one-quarter of the active & auxiliary members or upon the resolution of the Board of Directors.
 - 2.3.3.1. **Notice of Meetings.** Notice of special meetings shall state the purpose or purposes for which the meeting is called, and the notice of any meeting shall state the time when and the place where it is to be held.
 - 2.3.3.2. **Agenda.** Special meetings shall be general meetings that are open for the transaction of any business within the powers of the Corporation without special notice of such business except in any case where special notice is required by law, by the Articles of Incorporation, or by the Bylaws.

- 2.4. **Place of Meetings.** All meetings of the members shall be held at such places within the State of Washington or on a virtual platform and shall be specified in the respective notices of such meetings or waivers thereof.
- 2.5. **Open/Closed Meetings.** Except those discussions regarding sensitive mission information, personnel, or disciplinary issues, all meetings, or portions of meetings, are open to all members. Non-SAR members may attend up to two general meetings, unless they are explicitly invited by a Board member.
- 2.6. **Quorum.** At all monthly or special meetings of the members, the presence in person of one-third of the active and auxiliary members shall be necessary and sufficient to constitute a quorum, and, except as otherwise provided by law or by the Bylaws, the act of a majority of the members present shall be the act of the members.
- 2.7. **Voting.** At all meetings of the members, all matters shall be decided by the vote of a simple majority of the active and auxiliary members present.
- 2.8. **Resignation and Removal of Members.**
 - 2.8.1. Any member may resign at any time. Resignations must be presented in writing to a Corporation officer. Any member may be removed at any time under the procedures set forth in the MPG.
 - 2.8.2. Members are expected to be courteous, thoughtful, alert to danger, respectful of other persons and property, and must be physically and mentally fit for duty. Members not acting in the best interests of the Corporation may have their case brought before the Board for a review of membership eligibility as defined in the MPG.
- 2.9. **Compensation.** The Board may authorize reimbursement for expenses incurred by members in connection with the performance of their duties, provided, however, that nothing herein contained shall be construed to preclude any member from serving the Corporation in any other capacity or receiving compensation for any such services.

3. BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- 3.1. **Management.**
 - 3.1.1. The Board of Directors (sometimes referred to as the Board) shall manage the affairs and the property of the Corporation. The Directors shall act only as a Board, and individual Directors shall have no power as such.
 - 3.1.2. The Executive Board shall consist of President, Vice-President, Secretary, and the Treasurer.
 - 3.1.3. The Board is comprised of the Executive Board, elected officers, and the individual special operations group leaders.

- 3.2. **Monthly Meeting.** The monthly business meeting shall be held on the Monday prior to the third Tuesday of every month.
- 3.3. **Special Meetings.** The Secretary (or designee) upon the request of the President or any one of the Directors shall call special meetings of the Board at any time.
- 3.4. **Place of Meetings.** All meetings of the Board shall be held at such places within the State of Washington or on a virtual platform and shall be specified in the respective notices of such meetings or waivers thereof.
- 3.5. **Quorum.** At all meetings of the Board, the presence of one-third of the Directors (but not less than two) shall be necessary and sufficient to constitute a quorum, and, except as otherwise provided by law or by the Bylaws, the act of a majority of the Directors present shall be the act of the Board.
- 3.6. **Voting.** At all meetings of the Board, or of any committee thereof, all matters shall be decided by the vote of a majority of a quorum of the Board cast in person. Any Director may participate in a meeting by means of a conference telephone or similar communications equipment by means of which all persons participating in the meeting can hear each other at the same time. Participation by such means shall constitute presence in person at the meeting.
- 3.7. **Number of Directors.** The Directors named by the Incorporators in the Articles of Incorporation shall be the Directors of the Corporation until the first meeting of the Members or until their successors shall have been duly elected and qualified, and until their earlier death, resignation, or removal in accordance with the Bylaws.
- 3.8. **Compensation.** The Directors shall not receive compensation for their services as such but the Board may authorize reimbursement for expenses incurred by Directors in connection with the performance of their duties; provided, however, that nothing herein contained shall be construed to preclude any Director from serving the Corporation in any other capacity or receiving compensation for any such services.
- 3.9. **Indemnification.** Any person made a party to any action, suit, or proceeding by reason of the fact that he is or was a Director, Officer, or employee of the Corporation, or of any corporation for which he served as a Director or Officer at the request of the Corporation, shall be indemnified by the Corporation against the reasonable expenses, including attorney's fees, actually and necessarily incurred by him, in connection with the defense of such action, suit, or proceeding, or in connection with any appeal therein, except in relation to matters as to which it shall be adjudged in such action, suit, or proceeding that such person is liable for willful misconduct or recklessness in the performance of their duties. The foregoing right of indemnification shall be deemed exclusive of any other rights to which any such Director, Officer, or employee may be entitled as a matter of law.

4. OFFICERS

- 4.1. **Officers.** The officers of the Corporation shall be a President, a Vice President, a Secretary, a Treasurer, a Training Officer, a Safety Officer, a Membership Officer, and an Equipment Officer.

Summit to Sound Search & Rescue

Revised March 2026

Page 6 of 14

One person may hold only one of the previously mentioned offices at any one time unless that position would otherwise be vacant or filled by an unqualified person, with Board approval. Officers are also Directors of the Corporation. Officers shall attend a minimum of 75% of the scheduled business meetings. Terms for office for officers are two years. With Board permission, an officer may utilize a designated assistant to take on specifics to their role. Assistants hold no additional powers, duties, or privileges including voting rights as a Board member.

- 4.2. **Election of Officers.** The officers shall be elected at the regularly scheduled November meeting by a plurality of the votes cast by active and auxiliary members present, and begin their term the next January 1st. Officers may succeed themselves in office. Ballots will be written and secret, either on paper or through an anonymous electronic voting tool. Absentee voting is not permitted.
- 4.2.1. Terms for the President, Treasurer, Safety Officer, and Training Officer shall start in even numbered years; terms for the Vice President, Equipment Officer, Membership Officer, and Secretary shall start in odd numbered years.
- 4.2.2. Nomination for officer positions may be made at any time prior to the vote.
- 4.2.3. The President shall appoint two individuals (excluding current officers or nominees for office) to count the ballots. The ballots shall be counted by each of these individuals, independently, in the presence of the members attending, immediately after being cast. The results shall be tabulated in writing, and the results reported to the members. In the event of electronic voting, one person may be responsible for tabulating results. The tally shall be printed and kept on record.
- 4.2.4. Each person elected an officer shall be automatically deemed elected a Director and shall continue in office until their successor shall have been duly elected and qualified, or until their death, resignation, or removal in accordance with the Bylaws.
- 4.2.5. Vacancies of officers caused by death, resignation, or removal may be filled by a plurality vote of the members at a special meeting called for that purpose or at any regular meeting. The new officer will fill the position for the remainder of the term.
- 4.3. **Resignation of Officers.** Any officer may resign at any time.
- 4.4. **Removal of Officers.** Officers who become negligent in their officer duties, unable, or unwilling to perform the duties of their office may be removed from office.
- 4.4.1. The procedure for removal of officers is as follows.
- 4.4.1.1. The President shall appoint a panel consisting of at least three active and/or auxiliary members, none of whom are officers. If the President is under consideration for removal, the Vice-President shall appoint the panel.
- 4.4.1.2. The panel shall investigate any allegations and report to the Board with a recommendation.

- 4.4.1.3. At a closed session meeting, the officer in question will hear the panel's findings and have an opportunity to respond to the panel and the Board.
- 4.4.1.4. The panel's and Board's recommendation shall then be presented to the members at any regular or special meeting. A majority vote of the active members shall be required to remove the officer from their post.
- 4.4.1.5. The President (or Vice-President, in the event of the removal of the President) shall be responsible for the duties of the removed officer until a replacement is elected. A special election shall be held within two months to fill the position for the remainder of the term. The special election shall be conducted according to the procedures for the election of officers at the annual meeting.
- 4.4.1.6. Any officer removed from their position shall be automatically removed from their position as Director.

4.5. **Duties and Responsibilities of Officers.**

4.5.1. Duties are defined in the Membership Policy Guidelines.

4.5.2. **Officer responsibilities.**

- **President.** The President shall be the chief executive officer of the Corporation, shall have general supervision over the affairs and property of the Corporation and over its officers, and shall do and perform all acts incident to the office of President. The President shall preside at all meetings of the members and of the Board and shall have such other powers and duties as may be assigned to them from time to time by the members or as prescribed by these Bylaws or by the MPG. When authorized by the Board, the President may execute in the name of the Corporation, deeds, mortgages, bonds, contracts, or other instruments authorized by the Board, except in cases where the execution thereof shall be expressly delegated by the Board or by these Bylaws to some other officer or agent of the Corporation.
- **Vice-President.** The Vice President shall perform all the duties of the President at their request or in their absence or disability. When so acting, a Vice President shall have all the powers of and be subject to all the restrictions upon, the President. When authorized by the Board, the Vice President may also sign and execute, in the name of the Corporation, deeds, mortgages, bonds, contracts, or other instruments authorized by the Board, except in cases where the signing and execution thereof shall be expressly delegated by the Board or by these Bylaws to some other officer or agent of the Corporation. The Vice President shall perform such other duties as from time to time may be assigned to him by the Board, by the President, or by the members through the MPG. Duties include, but are not limited to, the collection of issued ID and unit equipment for members that have resigned or been terminated.
- **Treasurer.** The Treasurer shall have charge and custody of, and be responsible for, all the funds of the Corporation and shall keep, or cause to be kept, and shall be responsible for the keeping of, accurate and adequate records of the assets, liabilities,

and transactions of the Corporation. When authorized by the Board, the Treasurer may also sign and execute, in the name of the Corporation, deeds, mortgages, bonds, contracts or other instruments authorized by the Board, except in cases where the signing and execution thereof shall be expressly delegated by the Board or by these Bylaws to some other officer or agent of the Corporation. They shall deposit all money and other valuable effects of the Corporation in the name of and to the credit of the Corporation in such banks, trust companies, or other depositaries as may be designated. They shall disburse the funds of the Corporation based upon proper vouchers for such disbursements. They shall perform all the duties normally incident to the office of Treasurer and such other duties as may from time to time be assigned to him by the Board, the President, or the members. If required by the Board, the Treasurer shall give a bond forth faithful discharge of their duties in such sum and with such surety or sureties as the Board shall determine. The Corporation shall pay the expense of such bond.

- **Secretary.** The Secretary shall act as secretary of and keep the minutes of all meetings of the Board and of the members in one or more books provided for that purpose, and whenever required by the President, they shall perform like duties for any committee; provided that in the absence of the Secretary, the majority of the members or Directors present at any meeting thereof may designate any person to act as Secretary for such meeting. The Secretary shall see that all notices are duly given in accordance with these Bylaws and as required by law; they shall have charge of the books, records, and papers of the Corporation relating to its organization as a Corporation and shall see that all reports, statements, and other documents required by law are properly kept or filed, except to the extent that the same are to be kept or filed by the Treasurer. They shall perform all the duties normally incident to the office of Secretary and such other duties incident to the office of Secretary and such other duties as may from time to time be assigned to him by the Board or by the President.
- **Training Officer.** The Training Officer shall act under the supervision of the Board and shall have charge of and be responsible for, all the training of the members and shall keep, or cause to be kept, and shall be responsible for the keeping of, accurate and adequate records of the training and qualifications of the members. The Training Officer can choose to appoint, with Board approval, an assistant training officer to assist with training duties.
- **Equipment Officer.** The Equipment Officer shall act under the supervision of the Board and will coordinate the maintenance, repairs, and use logs of unit equipment. The Equipment Officer will report to the Board on unit equipment status and needs. The Equipment Officer is responsible for maintaining a list of issued equipment and making that list available to the Board. The equipment list must be available to the Whatcom County SAR Council Chair for insurance coverage purposes.
- **Safety Officer.** The Safety Officer shall act under the supervision of the Board and will develop and support safety-related policies and programs for members, facilities, and equipment. The Safety Officer will monitor for compliance and, in conjunction with the

President, shall respond to reports of safety violations. The Safety Officer will also work alongside the Training Officer to ensure members are meeting safety standards.

- **Membership Officer.** The Membership Officer shall act under the supervision of the Board and shall be responsible for onboarding new members, membership tracking, offboarding leaving members, assisting members in meeting unit or group requirements, and working with the Training Officer to monitor member training status.

5. SPECIALTY GROUP LEADERS

- 5.1. Duties are defined in the Membership Policy Guidelines.
- 5.2. **Specialty Group Leaders.** The group leader is responsible for coordinating the training of a special operations group through the Training Officer and for keeping members in compliance with group requirements. Specialty group leaders are also Directors of the Corporation and shall attend a minimum of 75% of the scheduled business meetings. Each specialty group will vote annually or biannually for a group lead, dependent on group SOGs. A member may only be a group leader for a maximum of two consecutive years, unless consecutive terms are approved by the Board. The member may be a group leader again after a period of one year. Group leaders who fail to appropriately fulfill the responsibilities of their position may be subject to review and action by the Board.

6. CONFLICT OF INTEREST

- 6.1. **General Principles.**
- i. Neither Board members nor their relatives shall be compensated in any manner beyond the value of actual expenses incurred.
 - ii. Primary responsibility for making all decisions related to a conflict of interest, or possible conflict of interest, shall rest with the Executive Board. The Executive Board may delegate decisions subject to this Article to a committee composed of individual Board members unrelated to, and not subject to the control of, the person or persons involved in the proposed transaction.
 - iii. In matters of compensation, no Board member or officer may receive compensation from StS SAR for services rendered to the Corporation. Member-owned businesses may be hired with approval of the Board.
 - iv. In any other transaction, no Board member or officer may receive economic benefits from StS SAR that exceed the consideration provided for such transaction.
 - v. Deliberation, decision-making, and written documentation of all arrangements subject to this Article shall take place before StS SAR makes payments of any kind.

- 6.2. **Basis for Decision-making.** In making decisions subject to this Article, the Board or decision-making committee, shall, to the best of its ability, obtain and rely upon appropriate data as to comparability, such as:
- information about compensation paid by similarly situated corporations for similar goods or services;
 - current compensation surveys compiled by independent firms; or
 - actual written offers from similarly situated corporations.
- 6.3. **Conflict of Interest.**
- 6.3.1. No Board member may vote upon a matter in which they have a direct financial interest. No Board member may vote upon a matter in which they have a business or family relationship with anyone who has a direct financial interest.
- 6.3.2. Immediately upon becoming aware that such a conflict may exist, a Board member must disclose the existence of the potential conflict to the remaining Board members. If, by vote of the remaining Board members, a conflict of interest is found to exist, the Board member with the conflict shall withdraw from further deliberation and refrain from voting on the matter.
- 6.4. **Recordkeeping.** The basis for each decision subject to this Article shall be fully documented, including:
- the terms of the approved transaction and the date approved;
 - the members of the decision-making body who were present during debate on the transaction;
 - the comparability data that was relied on by the decision-making body and how the data was obtained; and
 - any actions by a member of the decision-making body having a conflict of interest.

7. COMMITTEES

- 7.1. **Miscellaneous Committees.** A committee may be formed either by appointment of the Board or with Board approval. Board approval is sought by request at a business meeting. A majority of the members present at a committee meeting may constitute other committees of Directors, Officers, employees, members, or non-members, with such functions, powers, and duties as the members shall determine. Unless the MPG shall provide otherwise, each such committee shall enact rules and regulations for its government. Board-appointed committees shall give monthly reports at the business meetings. All other committees shall have the opportunity to report at the business meetings or shall submit a report to the business meeting at the request of the Board.

8. MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

- 8.1. **Fiscal Year.** Each year the fiscal year of the Corporation shall begin on January 1 and end on December 31.
- 8.2. **Execution of Contracts or Legal Documents.** The President, acting with the approval of the Board, may enter into any contract or execute any contract or other instrument in the name and on behalf of the Corporation. The Board may authorize any officer, member, or agent, in the name of and on behalf of the Corporation, to enter into any contract or execute and deliver any instrument, and such authority may be general or confined to specific instances. Unless so authorized by these Bylaws or by the Board, no officer, member, or agent shall have any power to bind the Corporation by any contract or engagement or to pledge its credit or to render it liable pecuniarily for any purpose or in any amount.
- 8.3. **Commercial Paper.** All checks, drafts, and other orders for the payment of money out of the funds of the Corporation, and all notes or evidences of indebtedness of the Corporation, shall be executed on behalf of the Corporation by such officer or officers, or member or members, as the Board may, by resolution, from time to time determine.
- 8.4. **Deposits.** All funds of the Corporation not otherwise employed shall be deposited from time to time to the credit of the Corporation in such banks, trust companies, or other depositories as the Board may from time to time select or as may be selected by any officer or member of the Corporation to whom such power may from time to time be delegated by the Board; and for the purpose of such deposit, any officer, or any member to whom such power may be delegated by the Board, may endorse, assign, and deliver checks, drafts, and other orders for the payment of money which are payable to the order of the Corporation. The Treasurer has primary responsibility for deposits, transfers, and signing checks. In the event that the Treasurer is not available, that responsibility may be delegated by the President.
- 8.5. **Notices.** Except as may otherwise be required by law, any notice required to be given under these Bylaws shall be in writing and signed by the President or the Secretary; and any notice so required shall be deemed to be sufficient if given by depositing the same to a post office address, email address, or via the callout system. Such notice shall be deemed to have been given on the day of such mailing. Any notices required to be given under these Bylaws may be waived by the person entitled thereto in writing, whether before or after the meeting or other matter in respect of which such notice is to be given, and in such event such notice need not be given to such person.
- 8.6. **Membership Policy Guide; Supremacy of Bylaws.** At a regular or special meeting of the membership, the members shall adopt a Corporate Membership Policy Guide (MPG) to provide additional rules and regulations for the conduct of the business of the Corporation. The terms and provisions of the MPG shall be binding on the Directors, Officers, and members of the Corporation. However, in the event of a conflict between these Bylaws and the MPG, the provisions of these Bylaws shall prevail over the provisions of the MPG.

- 8.7. **Grants.** Any member may apply for a grant. The President and the Treasurer must be notified of all applications before they are submitted. A copy of all grant materials must be turned into the Board at the next regularly scheduled business meeting.
- 8.8. **Fundraising.** Any fundraising or solicitations using the 501(c)(3) must be reported to the Board as defined in the policies.
- 8.9. The official address of StS SAR is 1041 W. Smith Rd., Bellingham, WA 98226. All official correspondence shall use this address. All business accounts shall be set up with this address. Special exceptions may be made with Board approval on a case-by-case basis.
- 8.10. All StS SAR hardcopy documents, forms, manuals, etc., that are required to be kept as hard copies, must be stored at the SAR building at 1041 W. Smith Rd., Bellingham, WA. Special exceptions may be made with Board approval on a case-by-case basis.
- 8.11. All electronic documents must be stored in the unit approved platform and domain.
- 8.12. All accounts and software for the unit need to be owned by StS SAR and in StS SAR's name or WCSAR Council and in WCSAR Council's name. Exceptions must be approved by the Board.
- 8.13. Account logons and passwords related to StS SAR operations must be made available to the President and/or their designee with 30 days of creation or change.

9. AMENDMENT OF BYLAWS

- 9.1. The Board shall schedule a meeting to be held in January of each year, to review and revise these bylaws as needed. The Board shall ensure StS SAR members are advised at least seven days prior to the meeting that a bylaws revision is to be discussed. The meeting shall be open to all StS SAR members.
- 9.2. The Board shall review all proposed revisions and shall create a proposed revision approved by the Board. The Board shall present the approved, revised bylaws to members at the next regularly scheduled general membership meeting.
- 9.3. The proposed, revised bylaws may be approved by a simple majority of members present at the regularly scheduled meeting. Bylaws passed or amended by the members shall not be subject to amendment by the Board.
- 9.4. In the event the proposed, revised bylaws are not approved by the members present, the President shall schedule another meeting for the following month to repeat the process. In the event a proposed revision again fails to be approved, bylaw revision shall be tabled until the next calendar year. The only exception is an amendment for legal reasons or for conformance with Whatcom County SAR Council or other government agency. In that case, the amendment shall be drafted by the Board and shall be presented to the members for approval at the next regularly scheduled meeting.

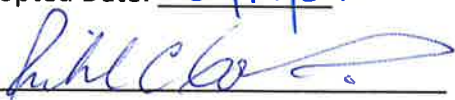
10. DISSOLUTION OF THE CORPORATION AND ASSETS

In the event the corporation is dissolved, it shall be the responsibility of the Board at the time of dissolution to ensure that all of its assets remaining after the payment of its outstanding debts shall be distributed to the Whatcom County SAR Council. In no event shall the remaining assets of the corporation be distributed to or for its members or used for any purpose other than exclusively for charitable and educational purposes as permitted by corporations which are exempt from federal Income Tax under the provisions of Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986.

11. ADOPTION OF BYLAWS

The Board of Directors of the Corporation has duly adopted the foregoing Bylaws.

Adopted Date: 2/17/26

By: 
Richard Goldsmith, President

By: 
Stephanie Webster, Secretary