

RECOMMENDATION FOR BY-LAWS REVISION

? Circa 1995

The following proposal is submitted on the basis that Article III, Section 3.1 and 3.2 of the ASRC By-Laws provides requirements for development of ASRC Affiliate groups.

It is understood that occasionally groups entering the ASRC group certification process enter that process as "probationary affiliate groups," and move from that stage to a "probationary certified group" status.

This proposal for By-Laws revision redefines the ASRC Affiliate group membership category. Accordingly, recommendations are made to revise existing ASRC By-Laws.

PROPOSAL: That the following be considered as requirements for established ground search and rescue groups to become **ASRC Affiliate Members**.

It is further proposed that on an immediate 6-month trial basis, pending decisions on recommended changes to the ASRC By-Laws, efforts be made to identify and recruit ground search and rescue resources to become ASRC Affiliate Members

PROPOSED ADDITION TO THE ASRC BY-LAWS.

Article III

- 3.1 To become a probationary Affiliate Group, an organization must meet all requirements for a Probationary Certified Group, except that:
- a. *REVISED Probationary Affiliate Group membership must consist of eight (8) Active Members, including a minimum of two (2) ASRC Field Team Leader certified members, or equivalent, and a minimum of three (3) ASRC Field Team Member certified members as determined by the sponsoring Group's Training Officer, and as defined in the ASRC Training Standards.*
 - b. A Probationary Affiliate Group may select one non-voting delegate to the ASRC Board of Directors.
 - c. The Group must possess minimum Affiliate Group equipment as set forth in the ASRC Operations Manual.
 - d. *REVISED The probationary period for Probationary Affiliate Groups is a minimum period of eighteen (18) months. Thereafter, subject to requirements the Group may apply for ASRC Certified Affiliate Group status.*

NEW SECTIONS (e-m) or substantially revised

- e. *At application, the application organization must obtain a letter of sponsorship from a Certified ASRC Group. Note: A Certified Group may only sponsor one Probationary Affiliate Group applicant unit at a time.*
- f. *At application, agreeing in writing to use and implement published ASRC training standards in all of its ground search and rescue operations.*
- g. *At application, agreeing in writing, that when working with other ASRC certified groups where the ASRC is a participating ground search and rescue organization in an ongoing operation, the ASRC Affiliate group will follow established operational protocols and requirements of the ASRC as specified in the Articles of Incorporation, Bylaws, the ASRC Administrative Manual and its annexes, and the ASRC Operations Manual and its annexes.*
- h. *At application have IRS 501(c)(3) tax exempt status; be affiliated as a member unit with a non-profit organization with IRS 501(c)(3) status; be deemed by the sponsoring ASRC group to not be a commercial for profit organization and/or an organization that conducts lobbying or political activities; or be an established unit of a local, county or state government program.*
- i. *At application, have written and published Group By-Laws, and published or accepted by reference, group training standards and operational protocols.*
- j. *At application, have written and published group call-out procedures pertaining to the group.*
- k. *At application, select a Group Training Officer (GTO), with a minimum ASRC FTL rating, who is confirmed, at the recommendation of the ASRC Training Officer, by the ASRC Board of Directors.*
- l. *At application, pay established ASRC Group annual dues, and provide evidence the Group has a bank account in the Group's name with a minimum balance of \$100.00.*
- m. *Before being presented to the ASRC Board of Directors for Probationary Affiliate Group status where a majority vote of ASRC delegates present is required, the applicant group will successfully pass a comprehensive Group Equipment Review for Probationary ASRC Affiliate Groups as defined in Annex A of the ASRC Operations Manual.*
- n. *During the Probationary Affiliate Group period, the Group, working with the ASRC Dispatching Coordinator, will plan, design and establish a lost person search and rescue dispatching capability that provides, when necessary, for day or night full-time dispatching services to supplant or*

conduct ASRC dispatching operations. This dispatching capability will become effective when the Group becomes a certified ASRC Affiliate Group.

3.1.1 NEW SECTION Affiliate Group Membership Requirements

- A. *NEW SECTION For established ground search and rescue units, active membership of at least eight (8) members including two (2) persons with ASRC FTL or higher certification and a minimum of three (3) persons with ASRC FTM or higher certification, as determined by the ASRC sponsoring Group's training officer in cooperation with the applicant group's training officer, as defined in the ASRC Training Standards, and determined by successful passing of established ASRC written and practical evaluations for designated ASRC training categories.*
- B. *NEW SECTION For established dog handler groups, ASRC Affiliate membership requirements for search dog handler groups will require the group to have a minimum of one (1) person with ASRC Senior Dog Handler certification, and one (1) person with, at the minimum, ASRC Dog Handler Certification where the dogs are deemed to be operational on the basis of existing Virginia DES standards, and standards established by the ASRC Dog Training Subcommittee of the ASRC Training Committee and approved by the ASRC Board of Directors.*
- C. *NEW SECTION For other established lost person search and rescue assets, including but not limited to, tracking teams, bike search units, etc., ASRC Affiliate membership requirements will require the unit to have a minimum of one (1) person with ASRC Field Team Leader certification, and one (1) person with, at the minimum, basic accreditation in the ground search and rescue operational area of the unit, similar to and/or including ASRC Field Team Member certification.*

3.1.2 *NEW SECTION Other requirements for Applicant and Probationary ASRC Affiliate teams are contained in appropriate sections of the ASRC Administrative Manual and ASRC Operations Manual.*

3.2 To receive a Charter as an Affiliate Group, a Probationary Affiliate Group must: *(Revised or new sections in italics)*

- a. Have met all the requirements to become a Probationary Affiliate Group, and completed 18 months as a Probationary Affiliate Group, during which period at least five Group members have attended each of ~~six~~ (6) conference events.
- b. Have at least *eight (8)* active ASRC members, including *two (2)* with ASRC FTL certification and *four (4)* with ASRC FTM certification as defined in the ASRC Training Standards.

- c. Pass a comprehensive Certified Group review, as specified in the ASRC Operations Manual.
- d. *Petition for a full Affiliate Group Charter with an accompanying written recommendation from the sponsoring Certified Group.*
- e. Select a group Training Officer who must be *recommended by the ASRC Training Officer and confirmed by the Board of Directors.*
- f. Obtain an affirmative vote of two-thirds of the Active Members voting on the question in an ASRC membership meeting.

Further provisions

If a negative vote for certified Affiliate Group membership results, the Conference Secretary will prepare, within thirty days, a letter advising the applicant group of the reasons for failure and what may be done to rectify the situation(s).

Appeals - All applicant groups or ASRC member groups have the right to appeal any decision made by the Board of Directors regarding their group's status. To make an appeal the group in question shall provide written notification to the Board of Directors within thirty days of the notification of the Board's decision in question. At that time, the Board of Directors will choose two Active Members, at random, from all ASRC Groups, except the Group in question. The panel shall hear all evidence regarding the decision and return an opinion to the Board of Directors within sixty days of being convened.

PROPOSED ADDITION TO ANNEX-D, ASRC ADMINISTRATIVE MANUAL – NEW LANGUAGE

- D.5.4.5 *Uniform requirements for ASRC personnel are specific. For example, the uniform shirt on the figure below, specifies the only places and locations of approved ASRC, other patches, and insignia. No other patches or insignia are authorized for uniforms for members of probationary certified or certified ASRC groups. Uniform requirements for ASRC Affiliate Groups are different as detailed in D.5.4.6 below.*
- D.5.4.6 *Members of ASRC Affiliate Groups may wear their regular group's patch or insignia in their traditional location on their regular long-sleeve uniform shirt. A small two inch ASRC patch, provided by the ASRC at a nominal cost, shall be displayed above the front right pocket of uniform shift.*

**APPLICATION OF ASRC OPERATIONS MANUAL PROVISIONS FOR ASRC
AFFILIATE GROUP MEMBERS – NEW LANGUAGE**

ASRC Affiliate Groups shall follow the conditions and requirements outlined in the following sections of the ASRC Operations Manual when the ASRC has specifically requested the assistance of the ASRC Affiliate Group in an ongoing search and rescue incident, or where the ASRC Affiliate Group requests the assistance of the ASRC in an ongoing operation in their operational area.

Section 2.2	Administration of ASRC Incident Policy
Section 2.3	Restraining Action
Section 2.4	ASRC Board of Directors Intervention
Section 3	Group Non-Incident Operational Policies
Section 4	ASRC Alerting and Dispatching Policies
Section 5	ASRC Incident Operational Policies
Sections 6.1 - 6.2	Group Incident Operational Policies
Section 7	Membership Operational Policies