

ROVERING 4 LIFE ASSOCIATION (R4LA) BYLAWS

(A FULL MEMBER CHAPTER OF INTERNATIONAL SCOUT FELLOWSHIP, ISF)

R4LA MISSION STATEMENT

Via the vehicle of Scouting for adults for a lifetime, and dedicated in supportive community to living a life guided by the Scout Promise & Law, to provide support to independent Rover Crews throughout the world--by the way of information, consultation, mentoring, historical and training resources, recommended guidelines and Bylaws, a recommended advancement/development program for Rovers, etc.—to provide their members continued personal growth, great fellowship, exciting outdoor adventures, and meaningful service projects for those who are looking to commit themselves to a higher purpose in life.

R4LA OBJECTIVES

1. To Promote Outdoor Adventures & Scoutcraft for Adults
2. To Promote Personal Growth & Development for Adults, Throughout the Lifespan
3. To Promote Service to Scouting & The Community--Locally, Nationally, and Worldwide
4. To Promote Camaraderie with Brother & Sister Adults Internationally, Living By the Scout Promise & Law

ISF AIMS & OBJECTIVES & PRINCIPLES FOR ITS ROVERS

- A. To personally keep alive the spirit of the Scout Promise and Law as lay down by Lord Baden-Powell, the Founder of the Scouting Movement.
- B. To bring that spirit into the communities in which they live and work.
- C. To actively support Independent Scouting in these communities, in their countries and worldwide.
- D. To establish liaison and cooperation between its member organizations.
- E. To encourage the founding of Independent Scouting associations in countries where they do not exist.
- F. To promote friendship amongst its members throughout the world.
- G. Respect human life and rights.
- H. Work for justice and peace to create a happier world.
- I. Contribute to understanding, especially through friendship, tolerance, and respect for others.

R4LA IMPRESSUM

R4LA is affiliated with the World Federation of Independent Scouts (WFIS) as a prospective member chapter of the International Scout Fellowship (ISF). It is a voluntary and non-political organization. R4LA was founded in 2020 by Ken Pataky, Chief Rover Scout. R4LA is guided by a Roundtable which meets virtually every quarter and includes the Chief Rover Scout and 5 Deputy Chief Rover Scouts: for Communications (Sarah Bailey), Membership (Pat Curley), Program (Neil McNeill), Training (Peggy Scott), and Wellness (Tie Pataky). The organization collects no dues or fees, provides all services free of cost, and receives no monies from any other organization. R4LA is designed to freely support the establishment of independent Rovering for Life worldwide. R4LA does not have a physical office but rather maintains its online presence currently at <http://www.rovering4life.org>, and its Facebook page at <http://www.facebook.com/rovering4life> and group at <http://www.facebook.com/groups/rovering4life>.

PART I - ORGANIZATION AND ADMINISTRATION

ARTICLE 1 - It shall be the policy of R4LA to abide by all of its own Bylaws and the Constitution of ISF.

ARTICLE 2 - The Bylaws of R4LA may be amended, added to or deleted by its officers. If the Bylaws are amended, the change will be published to all members.

ARTICLE 3 – The minimum officers shall be the Chief Rover Scout and Deputy Chief Rover Scouts for Communications, Membership, Program, Training, and Wellness.

ARTICLE 4 – The term of office for officers is indefinite, unless they choose to resign. A replacement volunteer officer will be culled from current membership at that time.

ARTICLE 5 - Upon consideration of joining the Deep River Rovers and thereby R4LA, or upon any other potential member approaching R4LA for membership, each prospective member shall be asked to read and agree to the Bylaws, the Scout Promise & Law.

ARTICLE 6 – R4LA business will be conducted under the principles outlined in Robert's Rules of Order. Voting on all issues will be by simple majority, with the exception of changes or amendment to the Bylaws as described in Part I, Article 2.

PART II -- MEMBERSHIP

ARTICLE 1 -- Membership in R4LA and ISF is automatic and assumed for any adult members who join the organization's first sponsored Crew, Deep River Rovers, also newly created by Ken Pataky in 2020. No prospective member shall be disqualified because of race, color, creed, gender, sexual, religious, or political orientation, or Scouting background. Adult members of all ages who are passionate about Roving are also invited from all over the world.

ARTICLE 2 -- R4LA, following the Constitution of ISF, is open to:

- A. former members of WFIS,
- B. to adults who, because of work, cannot commit to the Rover Section of a traditional Scouting Group (as Scouters working with youth),
- C. to adults who did not get the opportunity to be Scouts at an early age, and
- D. to adults who wish to contribute to independent Scouting, regardless of their Scouting backgrounds.

PART III – RESOURCES PROVIDED

ARTICLE 1 – Free training materials are available for those who want to learn the history of Roving, the status of Roving worldwide, the purposes of Roving, how to learn and teach Scoutcraft, and how to develop an independent Rover Crew, including an advancement / progression program.

ARTICLE 2 – A free online forum is provided to communicate about these ideas, make friendships, and receive support.

PART IV – MEETINGS

ARTICLE 1 – R4LA planning / evaluation meetings will be held annually, to include virtual online meetings.

ARTICLE 2 – All officers are expected to attend the meetings.

ARTICLE 3 – Meetings will include a discussion of the current state of Roving worldwide, needs for growth and change in R4LA to adapt to the needs of independent Roving, and any need to revisit the Bylaws, at which time they may be changed and republished.

PART V – FINANCES

ARTICLE 1 – Per the example set by ISF, there are no membership dues. Further, there are currently no monies received from outside organizations.

ARTICLE 2 – If in the future, R4LA decides to receive donation monies or participate in any kind of fundraisers for the purpose of supporting independent Scouting, the Chief Rover Scout will manage said monies. Monies earned will not be for the benefit of officers or for the profit of any person, but only for the Scouting needs of members and independent Scouting organizations in need.

ARTICLE 3 – Further, R4LA may from time to time collect voluntary donations from members for the ISF Brotherhood Fund, to assist WFIS members with disaster relief, emergency funds for forming new associations, as well as training aids and materials for same. The R4LA Chief Rover Scout will submit these funds to the Brotherhood Fund per ISF instructions. Alternatively, members may make donations to this fund directly per their means.

PART VI – UNIFORM

ARTICLE 1 – Members of R4LA will wear a traditional Scouting uniform appropriate to their local Crew and this Association, with the yellow ISF badge on their left sleeve, centered between their shoulder and elbow and an optional ISF necker. Those who are also members of a WFIS association directly serving youth Scouts will also wear the green WFIS badge centered on their right chest pocket.

ARTICLE 2 – Members who are also Rovers, will also wear badges, epaulets, and shoulder knots appropriate to their Crew and this Association, position, and awards achieved.

ARTICLE 3 – Rovers should generally not wear their Rover uniforms where they are not appropriate; for example, in situations where they are representing their own individual views and not those of their Crew or Association (such as at political events, rallies, protests, community religious events that are political in nature or where the Rover is also the presider/worship leader, etc.). No Rover should ever wear a uniform to these events that would identify or imply support from either their Crew or this Association. If Rovers are interviewed by the press or arrested due to participation in events such as these, they are not authorized to speak on behalf of this Association.

PART VII – ACTIVITIES

ARTICLE 1 – Regular members are normally Rover Scouts, either Scouting as Lone Rovers or with a Crew. As Rovers, they will perform activities that typical Rovers do (personal development, outdoor activities, Scoutcraft, meetings, service projects, etc.), while respecting these Bylaws, their Crew Bylaws, and in the spirit of ISF and WFIS, supporting independent Scouting worldwide.

ARTICLE 2 – Officers are also normally Rovers, but in addition have the duties of maintaining the web presence, updating the Bylaws periodically, meeting at least quarterly with each other, communicating with ISF and WFIS, distributing ISF patches and neckers when appropriate, guiding their own Rover Crews, organizing & sponsoring an annual R4LA Moot, and providing support to other R4LA members not in their Crews, typically online.

ARTICLE 3 – In addition to typical Rovering activities, members of R4LA/ISF-sponsored Crews may conduct any of the following activities in support of worldwide independent Scouting:

- A. Assistance to adults at Moots, Trainings, and Camps for WFIS Associations or Groups in various capacities (organization, communication, program delivery, logistics, etc.) at every level.
- B. Fundraising for the Brotherhood Fund or to assist specific WFIS Associations or Groups or Rover Crews directly to attend special functions or with emergency or disaster relief.
- C. Service to adults in WFIS Associations and Groups as Commissioners, Committee Members, Activity Chairs, Trainers, Badge Examiners, Speakers/Experts, Sponsors, Mentors.
- D. Maintenance support for properties and equipment used by Scouting.

ARTICLE 4 – R4LA Rovers are not required to have criminal background checks or youth protection training UNLESS they join a WFIS association directly serving youth or plan to attend WFIS events where youth are present. When appropriate, they will complete such procedures and training before having direct contact with youth Scouts.