

SOUTH SHORE VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

Constitution

August 4, 1981

Revision 1: March 12, 2002

Revision 2: May 17, 2010

Revision 3: May 12, 2014

Subject to the Municipalities Act 1980, and responsible to the Town Council there shall be a Volunteer Fire Department.

ARTICLE 1

Name: The name of the fire department is the South Shore Volunteer Fire Department.

ARTICLE 2

Membership:

Members of this organization shall be as follow:

- (1) Both Male and Female.
- (2) Must reside in the town covered by the Council for 6 months.
 - (a) Existing member relocating to adjacent community (Mount Moriah, York Harbour, or Lark Harbour) may remain an active member.
 - (b) No more than 3 Active members to reside outside town's jurisdiction.
- (3) Must be 18 years of age or over.
- (4) Must be in good physical and mental health.
- (5) Must make application and be responded to before attending any meetings.
 - (a) Application to include driver's abstract and code of conduct.
- (6) There will be a 3 month (90 day) probationary period for all new applicants.
- (7) New applicants shall not perform Offensive firefighting duties until deemed an active member following a vote by the majority of the department.
- (8) Any member who misses 4 consecutive regular meetings without due cause, like sickness, or work shall be deemed as disinterested and may cease to be a member. Communication after 4 meetings will be made to determine member's status.
- (9) Member must also attend 12 regular meetings to qualify for that year of service.
 - (a) Circumstances such as work commitments, illness, or personal obligations where a member cannot attend up to 12 regular meetings; but where the member keeps in frequent contact with the department through social media, department web page, participation in departmental events and or debriefings with active members; will qualify for that year of service, as decided by the majority of the entire executive.
- (10) Any member requiring a leave of absents from meetings, sessions or drills shall apply in writing or in person to the department.
 - (a) No more than 3 active members to be granted a leave of absence at any given time.
 - (b) After 12 months leave of absence member shall make application to the fire department for reinstatement as an active member.
 - (c) Former member requesting to rejoin the department, after an extended leave (12 months or more) will be reviewed by executive to determine if a new probationary period is required.
- (11) A maximum of 30 members before applicants are put on a waiting list.

ARTICLE 3

Objectives:

The object of this organization will be as follows:

- (1) The protection of persons and property in emergency situations.
- (2) The prevention of fire within the town through:
 - (a) Educational instruction.
 - (b) Inspection.
 - (c) Co-operation with the town council in forming emergency safety regulations.

ARTICLE 4

Officers:

- (1) Officers shall be elected by active members.
 - (a) Elected Officers shall serve a term of Two Years.
- (2) The Election of Officers meeting shall be held on the availability of fire fighters with a representative from town council present.
- (3) Volunteers shall be notified of election process at previous meeting(s).
- (4) All active members may accept nominations for position of executive.

ARTICLE 5

Executive:

- (1) The executive shall be the elected officers.

ARTICLE 6

Meetings:

- (1) Regular meetings shall be held in the fire hall once weekly on Monday night at 7 p.m.
- (2) A special meeting may be called when the Chief or 4 executive members have a valid reason. Meeting to require 24 hour notice.

ARTICLE 7

Amendments:

Discussion at 2 consecutive meetings, one which shall be a regular meeting, shall be required before a motion of amendment to this constitution shall be in order.

ARTICLE 8

Driving of Fire Trucks & Training:

- (1) Two members per vehicle may take trucks for training but not before contacting at least one officer on emergency call list, this training shall not include anything that would delay response to an emergency. This distance shall not exceed the town jurisdiction.
 - (a) The above does not apply when vehicle is in route for maintenance.
- (2) All drivers shall have applicable Newfoundland license for department vehicle(s).
- (3) Any training outside town jurisdiction involving fire fighting equipment requires volunteer fire fighters to be given 24 hours notice. The same notice to be given to 911 and back up fire department. Before any training outside of town jurisdiction can take place, there must be at least 3 members certified for medical response calls available to respond until the fire fighting equipment is returned to town.

ARTICLE 9

Abuse of Equipment and Regulations:

- (1) Any member found abusing fire department equipment will be disciplined by executive in conjunction with town council.
- (2) Any member found speeding while traveling to an emergency will be disciplined by executive in conjunction with town council. Zero Tolerance.

ARTICLE 10

Return of Equipment:

- (1) Members are responsible to return all fire department equipment upon request from the executive.
- (2) Pagers, communication devices, and charging equipment to be returned to the fire department immediately upon a member ceasing to be an active member.

ARTICLE 11

Ratification and Approval:

This constitution is hereby ratified by the South Shore Fire Department and approved by the town council as indicated by the signatures of the presiding officers.

TOWN COUNCIL:

SOUTH SHORE VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT:

Arch Mitchell, Mayor

Brad Gallant, Fire Chief

Mary Humber, Deputy Mayor

Tim Gallant, Deputy Chief

Marion Evoy, Town Clerk / Manager

Randy Hackett, Deputy Chief

Date

Date

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I _____

(Firefighter Print Name Here)

have read this Constitution of the South Shore Volunteer Fire Department in its entirety. By signing below I hereby agree with the changes made and understand the purpose of this constitution.

Firefighters Signature: _____

Date: _____