



ARIES MEMBER HANDBOOK



The U.S.S. Aries is a science fiction fan club located in Johnson City, Tennessee, U.S.A. Find us on Facebook: U.S.S. Aries. Contact us by email at:

The U.S.S. Aries is an affiliate of Starfleet International, which is the largest Star Trek Fan club in the world. Membership in Starfleet is not required to join the U.S.S. Aries, but it will enhance your fandom experience by connecting you to Star Trek fans all over the world. Find them on the internet: SFI.org

Membership with the U.S.S. Aries is simple. Join our group on Facebook, watch for meetings and join us at one!

This handbook was put together in order to answer some frequently asked questions, provide information about the structure of our club, and outline the simple rules of conduct. I have also included some information about our point system, which will allow you to advance in (fictional) rank as you attend events and contribute to the group as a whole.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

1. Do I have to be a member of Starfleet International to be a member of the Aries?

The answer is “No.” While we encourage members to join in the fun of Starfleet International, it is not a requirement.

2. Does it cost me to be a member of The Aries?

We do not currently require dues for membership.

3. How often does The Aries meet?

We meet once monthly. Some meetings are more business and some are just for fun events.

4. What is expected of me as a member of The Aries?

Familiarize yourself with the handbook, including the code of conduct. Further questions can be addressed to the chief of your department or the Executive Officer.

5. Do I have to be a Star Trek fan to join?

No. It is, however, helpful if you have an interest in science fiction in general.

HOW OUR CLUB WORKS

As stated in previous sections, our club is an affiliate of Starfleet International, a Star Trek fan club. As such, we follow a structure which is similar to a Starship in the Federation. We have the following divisions:

Command

Computer Operations

Morale

Communications

Engineering

Security

Starfleet Marines

Medical

Sciences

Each division has many positions which are included within their division. Outlined below are the divisions and their responsibilities.

COMMAND

This division includes all command staff such as commanding officer (CO) (Captain), the executive officer (Commander) (XO) and the second officer. The operations division falls under the Command division as well. The Operations division includes tactical, helmsman, navigation, etc. Along with the fictional functions of the above offices, there are real-world duties. The CO reports directly to Starfleet (SFI) on a monthly basis by filing a monthly status report. On the Aries, the XO is responsible for relaying information to the CO for all crew members, as well as handling the day-to-day operation of the club. Other officers perform functions as delegated by the XO, which is approved by the Commander.

The Commanding Officer can be elected, but is currently Mike Wilson. The positions of XO, Second Officer and JAG Officer are appointed positions.

MORALE

The Morale division is responsible for maintaining good morale for all hands. This includes communicating with the XO and Communications Chief when other members have birthdays or other events which need recognition. They can serve as liaison with charities. The Morale Officer continually has their fingers on the pulse of the crew and how they are functioning.

COMMUNICATIONS

The communications division is responsible for communicating upcoming events with the crew, keeping the Facebook page updated and a monthly newsletter. They are also responsible for meeting announcements and Fanzine publication. They also serve as a liaison for recruiting events.

ENGINEERING

The engineering division is responsible for maintaining the ship, to keep it in good working condition at all times. They are also responsible for arranging physical meeting spaces as needed.

SECURITY

Security division is responsible for the safety of the ship and crew members, this includes helping with transportation emergencies, such as the need for jumper cables. Security division members may also help with security at public events.

STARFLEET MARINES

The marines in Starfleet are responsible for aiding security in keeping all hands safe. They may be called upon during any conflicts to utilize weaponry to defend the ship and all hands. They are also responsible for presentation of “colors” (flags e.g.: The American Flag, The Starfleet Flag, etc.) at events.

MEDICAL

The medical division is responsible for seeing to the health of all hands. This division includes the Counselor Division. Medical division is responsible for assuring there is a first aid kit available and providing first aid at events.

Under the medical Division is the Chief Counselor, who is responsible for diplomatic issues. They serve in an advisory position with Command.

SCIENCE

The science division is responsible for providing information needed for missions. It is important for the Science officer to keep abreast of current events in science research, as in NASA. At events, the science division is responsible for providing site information to members. This may include maps, or directions and requirements for entry.

COMPUTER OPERATIONS

Computer operations division is responsible for maintaining the computer operations of the ship. The division is responsible for creating and maintaining the website for The Aries and other web tools, as well as providing support at events.

Promotions

Promotions and awards can be earned. A member can petition for such once yearly, based upon the point system listed below:

<u>Activity</u>	<u>points</u>
Starfleet International Membership	100
Completion of Officers' Training School	50
Completion of Officers' Command College	50
Meeting Attendance	1
Convention Attendance	2
Recruiting Table at Conventions	10-15
Movie attendance/other activities	1
Fan Film Participation	25-30
Getting a uniform	25-30
Charity Participation	25-30
Completing other Starfleet academy classes (unless in your division)	1
Participation in the Newsletter	15
Participation in the Fanzine	5-10

You need to accumulate 100-150 points prior to petitioning for promotion. You can petition for awards/ribbons after accumulating 50 points.

Yearly crew evaluations will be completed by the XO and the Second Officer. This will include the individual petition for awards/promotions and verification of activities. These petitions can be done as points are reached in addition to the yearly evaluations.