Conditions of participation of the Flensburg Fjord Research Association -*“fjord - research”*

1. Introduction

Many of us are interested in gaining knowledge about the Flensburg Fjord and its coasts. Interests and existing knowledge can vary greatly. Whether archaeology, biology, history, geology, or environmental protection, it often turns out that certain research topics can be interdisciplinary or can only be satisfactorily investigated by involving different disciplines. Those interested in archaeology occasionally need the knowledge of geologists. Conversely, the technology used in archaeology can also be helpful to geologists in their work (sonarography). And those interested in environmental protection can potentially draw on the knowledge of biologists. This allows everyone to contribute their knowledge and skills to the community. This can enable researchers to work much more efficiently. This is a modern and proven approach in research.

2. Objectives of the Community

The points mentioned in the introduction already outline the goals of the community to be established:
- Collecting insights from all participating disciplines

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- Rapid access to knowledge from other disciplines
- Exchange of ideas and discussions with other contributors
- Joint public relations efforts lead to greater visibility
- Open to anyone interested, whether academically educated or layperson

3. Form der Gemeinschaft

There is no legal form, such as an association. Rather, it is intended to be a pool of interested people who register on a list so that they can contact other interested parties. Participation is not binding, and there is expressly no financial interest. Since we are not an association, there is no membership fee. There is an application form that interested parties can use to apply for membership. In principle, anyone who is seriously concerned with a topic related to the Flensburg Fjord can participate. A committee decides on admission to the community. Minors require the consent of a parent or guardian. To leave the community, an informal, written notification is sufficient. All activities carried out within the community are voluntary. There is no entitlement to remuneration. Likewise, each participant conducts their research at their own risk. There is no protection, e.g., through accident insurance.

4. Organization of the community

Every contributor to the community agrees to the sharing of their personal data with other contributors. This includes, among other things, their name, telephone number, and email address, as well as their areas of interest. Every contributor can submit project ideas. However, if the contributor is unable to complete the project alone, they can request someone from the pool of contributors who could be of assistance with their knowledge or equipment. This is also the reason for the limited sharing of personal data. There is a project ranking. This allows a contributor to present their project, e.g., a theory that should be explored or a concrete project that has already been developed. The committee then decides how important the project is overall and where it will be placed in the project list. This is intended to ensure the smooth flow of projects.

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5. Publication and copyright

Publication is, of course, also a key aspect of research. This can be done in written form, images, or as a film, for example, through a press release, announcements on our website, or other social media. High-quality video documentation is particularly effective and sustainable. Research conducted jointly with other contributors should also be published jointly upon publication. Each contributor can decide for themselves whether their independently collected findings should be published via the community platform or independently, as usual.

5.1 Forms of publications

The community provides a website and a YouTube channel for the publication of contributions (research results). A publication relating to a project by several people should also be published jointly. A submitted contribution will be published promptly on the website if it is suitable (reviewed by the committee). If a video documentation is to be submitted, it can be submitted fully edited. To maintain the channel's quality, the documentation should be of high quality in terms of image, sound, and editing. Anyone unsure about creating a high-quality video documentation can submit their existing video material to the community. There, an experienced contributor will edit the material and produce it ready for broadcast. As a general rule, all documentaries uploaded to the community's YouTube channel will be marked with the "Förde Video" logo. The names of the authors (researchers, project submitters) will be published in the documentation.

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