

CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS
HUNTSVILLE FFA

Revised September 27

HUNTSVILLE HIGH SCHOOL
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURAL SCIENCE

Article I - NAME AND PURPOSE

Section A: The name of this organization shall be the "Huntsville Chapter of The FFA." The letters "FFA" may be used to designate the chapter, its activities, or members thereof.

Section B: The purposes for which this chapter has been formed are as follows:

1. To develop competent, aggressive agricultural leaders.
2. To develop an awareness of the global importance of agriculture and its contribution to our well-being.
3. To strengthen the confidences of agriculture students in themselves and their work.
4. To promote the intelligent choice and establishment of an Agriculture career.
5. To stimulate development and encourage achievement in individual agricultural experience programs.
6. To improve the economic, environmental, recreational and human resources to the community.
7. To develop competencies in communications, human relations and social abilities.
8. To develop character, train for useful citizenship, and foster patriotism.
9. To build cooperative attitudes among agricultural students.
10. To encourage wise management of resources.
11. To encourage improvement in scholarship.
12. To provide organized recreational activities for agricultural students.

Article II - ORGANIZATION

Section A: The Huntsville Chapter of FFA is a chartered local unit of The Texas FFA Association which is chartered by the National FFA Organization.

Section B: This chapter accepts in full the provisions in the constitution and by-laws of the Texas Association of FFA as well as those of the National FFA Organization.

Article III - MEMBERSHIP

Section A: Membership in the chapter shall be of three kinds: (1) Active, (2) Alumni, and (3) Honorary, as defined by the National FFA Constitution.

Section B: The regular work of this chapter shall be carried on by the active membership.

Section C: Honorary membership in this chapter shall be limited to the Honorary Chapter FFA Degree.

Section D: Active members in good standing may vote on all business brought before the chapter. An active member shall be considered in good standing if they:

1. Attend local Chapter meetings with reasonable regularity.
2. They show an interest in and take part in the affairs of the chapter.
3. Pay their dues regularly.
4. Abide by the FFA Code of Ethics.

Article IV - EMBLEMS

Section A: The emblem of the FFA shall be the emblem for the Chapter.

Section B: Emblems used by the members shall be uniform and those obtained from concerns officially designated by the national FFA Organization.

Article V - ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP DEGREES AND PRIVILEGES

Section A: There shall be four degrees of active membership in the Chapter. These degrees are (1) The Greenhand FFA Degree, (2) The Chapter FFA Degree, (3) Lone Star FFA Degree, and (4) American FFA Degree. All Greenhands are entitled to wear the regulation bronze emblem pin. Chapter FFA wears the Silver emblem degree pin, Lone Star - gold charm, and American - gold key.

Section B: GREENHAND: MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS FOR ELECTION

1. Be regularly enrolled in a class in Agricultural Education class, and have satisfactory plans for a supervised experiences program.
2. Learn and explain the FFA creed, motto, and FFA Mission Statement.
3. Describe and explain the meaning of the FFA emblem and colors.
4. Demonstrate knowledge of the FFA Code of Ethics and explain proper use of the FFA Jacket.
5. Demonstrate a knowledge of the history of the organization, the chapter constitution and bylaws and the chapter program of activities.
6. Personally own or have access to Official FFA Manual.
7. Submit a written application.

Section C: CHAPTER FFA: MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS FOR ELECTION

1. Must have received the Greenhand FFA Degree.
2. Must have satisfactorily completed at least 180 hours of systematic instruction in Agricultural Education at or above the ninth grade level, and have in operation an approved supervised agricultural experience program and be enrolled in an agricultural science program.
3. Have participated in the planning and conducting of at least 3 official functions in the chapter Program of Activities.
4. Have earned and productively invested at least \$150 by the members own efforts or worked at least forty five hours in excess of scheduled class time, or combination thereof, and have developed plans for continued growth and improvement.
5. Have effectively lead a group discussion for 15 minutes.
6. Have demonstrated five procedures of parliamentary law.

7. Show progress toward individual achievement in the FFA Award Program.
8. Have a satisfactory scholastic record.
9. Submit a written application for the Chapter FFA Degree.

Section D: STATE FFA DEGREE – Qualifications for the State FFA Degree are those set forth in the Constitution of the State Association.

Section E: AMERICAN FFA DEGREE - Qualifications for the American FFA Degree are those set forth in the Constitution of the National FFA Association.

Article VI - OFFICERS

Section A: The officers of the chapter shall be as follows: President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, Reporter, and Sentinel. The offices of Student Advisor, Chaplain, Parliamentarian, and Historian will be added according to the needs of the chapter. The advisor shall be the teachers of Agricultural Science in the school where the chapter is located. Officers shall perform the usual duties of the respective officers as listed in the Official FFA Manual.

Section B: Officers shall be elected annually. The following process will be followed for officer selection:

1. Popular vote and speech: 10% of total score
2. Quiz: 30% of total score
3. Application: 20% of total score
4. Interview: 40% of total score

Section C: The officers of the chapter together with the chairmen in charge of the major sections of the annual program of activities shall constitute the Chapter Executive Committee. The Executive Committee shall have full power to act as necessary for the Chapter in accordance with actions taken at chapter meetings and various regulations or by-laws adopted from time to time.

Section D: Honorary members shall not vote nor shall they hold any office in the chapter.

Section E: Chapter officers must hold the degree of the Chapter Farmer and have satisfactory scholastic standing and a commendable citizenship and conduct record.

Article VII - MEETINGS AND CONVENTIONS

Section A: Regular Chapter meetings shall be held at least once a month during the school year at such time and place as is designated by the Chapter Executive Committee, and the Chapter may hold at least one regular meeting during the summer. Special meetings may be called at any time.

Section B: Standard meeting paraphernalia shall be used at each meeting. All regular meetings shall open and close with the official ceremonies. Parliamentary procedure shall be used in transacting all business at each meeting.

Section C: Delegates, as specified by the state constitution, shall be elected annually from active membership to represent the chapter at the state convention. Other delegates may be named as

necessary in order to have proper representation at various other FFA meetings within the state.

Section D: A majority of active members listed on the secretary's membership roll shall constitute a quorum, and a quorum must be present at any meetings at which business is transacted or a vote taken committing the chapter to any proposal or action.

Article VIII - AMENDMENTS

Section A: This constitution may be amended or changed at any regular chapter meeting by a two-thirds vote of the active membership present providing it is not in conflict with the State Association Constitution or that of the National Organization.

Section B: By-laws may be adopted to fill the needs of the chapter at any regular chapter meeting, by a two-thirds vote of the active members present providing such by-laws conflict in no way with the constitution and by-laws of either the State Association or the National Organization.

BY-LAWS TO LOCAL CONSTITUTION

I. OFFICER ELECTIONS

- A. The chapter officers will be composed of a minimum of six (6) and up to ten (10) active members and will carry out the official business of the chapter.*
- B. Chapter officers must apply for the office they seek. The applications must be submitted by stated date.*
- C. Officers will be interviewed by a committee and ranked.*
- D. Officers will take a written test over the FFA and Parliamentary Procedure.*
- E. Officers will deliver a written speech then be voted upon by the members attending the specially held meeting.*

II. OFFICER QUALIFICATIONS

- A. All officer candidates are to know and agree to abide by the FFA Code of Ethics.*
- B. All officer candidates are to have knowledge of The Mission and Strategies of the FFA Organization.*
- C. All officer candidates are to have commendable citizenship and conduct records.*
- D. All officer candidates shall have their official FFA dues paid.*
- E. Officer candidates shall meet the following respective scholastic requirements:
 - (a) Chapter officer candidates must have an average of "B" or better in past Agricultural Science courses and have an overall average of "B" or better in courses taken the semester immediately preceding officer elections.**
- F. All officer candidates are to have a sincere desire to carry out the duties of the office to which they are elected.*
- G. All officers must agree to abide by the FFA Officer Rules as created each year by the Chapter Executive Committee and sign a statement agreeing to abide by them.*

III. Officers are to carry out their duties as outlined in the official FFA Manual, and as assigned by the President and approved by the Advisors.

IV. TERM OF OFFICE

- A. The terms of office shall be for one year, ending after the newly elected officers are installed during the annual banquet.*

V. REMOVAL FROM OFFICE

A. *Officers may be removed from office for failing to meet the qualifications stated in the constitution.*

- *Failing more than 1 class in a grading period or one class in more than 1 grading period*
- *Cannot participate in illegal activities*
- *Cannot miss more than 2 officer events*

B. *Officers must meet the same qualifications for holding office the second school semester as they did when elected, otherwise their term of office will expire.*

C. *An officer will be entitled to a full and impartial review and hearing by the executive committee, which will consist of the other active officers and the advisors. They may be temporarily or permanently dismissed from office. A decision will be based upon the facts.*

VI. GENERAL PROVISIONS CONCERNING OFFICERS AND MEMBERS

A. Membership may be temporarily or permanently denied for failure to abide by the Texas FFA code of Ethics.

VII. OFFICIAL FFA CLOTHING AND ACCESSORIES

A. Each individual member takes upon themselves the responsibility of wearing official clothing and accessories with dignity and pride so as not to reflect any bad criticism upon himself, the school, the FFA Organization, or the Local chapter.

VIII. OFFICIAL FFA AND SCHOOL EQUIPMENT

A. All members will show pride in the FFA Organization in his/her school by properly caring for and using the facility, its equipment, and official paraphernalia in a proper, dignified manner.

IX. PUBLIC RELATIONS BY INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS

Each individual FFA member is to realize that they are a personal representative of their school and FFA Chapter. The image of their school and chapter are reflected through and by them as an individual. Aim for and achieve excellence.



HUNTSVILLE FFA OFFICER CONTRACT

I agree to abide by the Constitution and by-laws of the Huntsville FFA Chapter, the Huntsville FFA Officer Contract, and the respective Constitution of the Texas FFA Association & the National FFA Organization.

As an officer in the Huntsville FFA Chapter I understand the importance of participation and plan on doing my share of the work to make things happen. As an elected leader, I understand that I am a role model to others. Members of the Huntsville FFA Chapter look up to me so I must fulfill my duties and responsibilities.

The following obligations are now mine to uphold by attending and/or participating in:

- All Chapter functions, including but not limited to –
 - Monthly FFA meetings, monthly officer meeting, summer planning meetings
 - Participation in fundraisers
- Community Service Projects
- Chapter Planning Meetings and Officer Workdays
- Freshman Orientation
- Course Selection Night (ex. Welcome to the Hive)
- Area IX Leadership Camp
- Country Christmas, Huntsville Ag Booster Prospect Show, Sweet Heart Dinner / Dessert Auction
- District & Area Conventions
- State Conventions (If District Permits Travel)
- Follow Huntsville FFA Officer Standards
- Responsibility, respect, maturity, communications and moral standards both in and out of the Huntsville FFA chapter, no matter where you are, including social media, is the success in being a good officer.

I understand that I am to inform an FFA Advisor of a need to be excused for an official FFA activity and that at least a 24 hour notice should be given, except in extenuating circumstances. I also understand that after two absences, I can be removed from the officer team. I also completely understand that as a role model for the Huntsville FFA Chapter, if I get involved in any major discipline problems at CHS, repetitive discipline problem of any kind, or if I cause any problems at an FFA event, I will be removed. Also, if my academics are disrupted due to FFA or other activities and I am not able to maintain my eligibility, I will be expected to step down from my office or I may face the possibly of removal by my officer teammates

Printed Name of Huntsville FFA Officer

Signature of Officer

Date

As the parent/guardian of the above named officer, I understand and support the above-mentioned duties and responsibilities of being an officer in the Huntsville FFA Chapter. I also understand that expenses for state convention and leadership camp will be our responsibility and that our student will need my support.

I also understand that my FFA member's participation is essential for a successful FFA chapter. If he/she cannot fully commit to the FFA officer team, after three major difficulties, infractions, etc. they will be removed from the officer team. However, removal from the officer team does not remove them from FFA membership in the Huntsville FFA Chapter.

Signature of Parent or Guardian

Date



HUNTSVILLE FFA OFFICER AGREEMENT

DEMERITS

Name: _____

By signing below I acknowledge that I have received a demerit for the following reason:

I also realized that I have _____ more demerits before my removal of office. This document will be kept in my personal file until the end of the year. The Demerit System is as follows:

Total of **5 demerits** upon removal of office at officer teams discretion.

1 Demerit: Tardy Write-Ups, Minor Offenses

2 Demerits: ISS

2.5 Demerits: 1 Missed Officer Events

3 Demerits: Disrespect, Threats, Vandalism, Fighting

5 Demerits: DAEP, JJDAEP, Expulsion, Suspension and any violation of TX FFA Code of Ethics

Advisor

Advisor

Officer