

# **Red River FFA Association**

## **Constitution & Bylaws**

**Article 1** Section A: The name and purpose of the organization shall be the Red River FFA Association. Recognized units of the organization may officially use the letters “FFA” and / or the words “Future Farmers of America” to designate the organization, its writs, and / or members thereof. Section B: The purpose of the Red River FFA Association is the same as outlined in Article II of the State FFA Constitution.

**Article II Organization** Section A: The Red River FFA Association of the Texas FFA Association is the district organization of students of Agricultural Science. It shall consist of local chapters in Red River District of Area IV chartered by the state and national associations. Section B: Members of new Agricultural Science departments shall meet, organize, and adopt a Constitution and By-Laws.

### **Article III Procedure for Determining Standing of Chapters and Members**

Section A: This procedure shall be the same as outlined in Article IV of the State Constitution.

**Article IV Membership** Section A: This membership in this organization shall be of three kinds-Active, Alumni, and Honorary. Active will be defined by Article V, Section C of the State Constitution; Alumni by Article V, Section D; and Honorary by Article V, Section F of the State Constitution.

**Article V Active Membership, Degrees, and Privileges** Section A: This will be the same as Article VI sections A, B, C, D, and E of the State FFA Constitution.

**Article VI District Degree Check** Section A: Applicants for these awards will submit to their district FFA organization for checking and approval at the spring meeting designated for this purpose. The application, when approved by the district, will then be submitted to the area association at the time of the awards and degree check meeting. The area committee will evaluate and select the number of applications to be sent to state.

Section B: The chairman of the Lone Star FFA Degree Checking Committee in each district will submit all applications from the district on the date of the area awards and degree check meeting to the area committee chairperson. All applications must have been checked by the district committee prior to the area meeting. The area committee will review all applications from districts.

Section C: Applications must be prepared neatly on forms supplied by the state and national associations.

Section D: If you receive two applications for one award and one application is complete and one is not complete, except for the signatures, the one that is complete advances. In the event that there is more than one complete application then they must be judged. If we receive two applications that are incomplete it

will be left up to the judges' discretion.

Section E: All books and applications for any award must be present at the district degree check to be considered for an award. **Article VII Emblem** Section A: This article is the same as the state constitution Article VII, Section A, B, C, and D.

**Article VIII Officers** Section A: The officers of the Red River FFA Association shall be a President, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President and 6 Vice Presidents. A signed district officer agreement is required to be considered for any office. The Red River FFA President and other officers shall be elected at the District meeting by a majority vote of the delegates. Speeches by the candidates will only be given once and will be limited to 3 minutes. No props shall be used. Candidates will be elected by a combined score consisting of test score, interview and total of popular votes. The test will account for 30% of the candidates score, the interview will count for 30%, and the vote will account for 40%. The top 8 candidates giving speeches on stage will be determined after the tally of the test and interview scores. Section B: Two candidates from each school may run for a district office. There can be two candidates from each school that can be voted into any level of office. Section C: The officers shall be elected annually and can serve no more than one full term. Section D: Red River officers must hold at least the chapter FFA Degree and must have been active in their local chapter. They must be in high school during the year in which they serve as District Officer. Section E: The Red River FFA Officers shall be installed at the District Convention. Section F: State and Area officer nominees will follow state and area guidelines.

**Article IX Procedure for Election of Student Officers** Section A: If for any reason a student office becomes vacant, officers will be moved up in rank based on their election ranking. Section B: Voting delegates are required to sign in and sit in the appropriate delegate section. Section C: Voting will be completed by ballot. Section D: If a voting delegate does not vote how they are instructed to do so, that ballot will be inadmissible. Section E: All candidates are required to wear official dress according to the Texas FFA Standards and be in compliance before the start of the election process or be disqualified.

**Article X Meetings and Conventions** Section A: A District Convention (Meeting) shall be held annually except in case of extreme emergency as declared by the governing body. Section B: Each local chapter is entitled to send delegates from its active chapter membership to the District Convention (Meeting) based upon the current Texas FFA State Delegates Counts:

**Article XI Committees** Section A: The President and /or Advisor of the Red River FFA shall appoint the various committees that are necessary in carrying out the total program of work for the District Association.

**Article XII Adult/Teacher Executive Committee** Section A: The District Executive Committee shall be composed of the District President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer and Advisor(s) of the District Student President. Section B: The District Executive Committee shall review decisions and proposals of the FFA Association and the Texas Education Agency final authority in all matters pertaining to the District Association within the policies of the State FFA Association and the Texas

Education Agency. Section C: The District Executive Committee shall meet at least once a year at time and place designated by the President. Section D: The Committee may designate the Chairperson and two members of the Executive Committee as a governing committee, when the Committee is not in session, shall have and exercise the powers of the Committee subject to its confirmation. Section E: The Executive Committee shall have the power to suspend a rule in extenuating circumstance.

**Article XIII Dues** Section A: Annual membership dues in the District organization shall be fixed by a majority vote of the Ag Teachers present at a district meeting. The FFA membership year shall follow Texas FFA State guidelines.

**Article XIV Amendments** Section A: Proposed amendments to the District Constitution and By-Laws must be submitted in writing to District President at least ten days prior to any district convention. These proposed changes must be submitted in writing to the local chapters of the district at least fifteen days prior to the next succeeding area convention. Amendments may be adopted and / or revisions made to the Area Constitution and By-Laws at any area convention by a two –thirds vote of the official delegates present.

**Article XV Parliamentary Procedure** Section A: The most recent addition of Jarrell D. Gary’s “Parliamentary Guide for the FFA” shall be used as the Final authority governing actions of all District meetings. Section B: The acting Parliamentarian for all District meetings shall be the District FFA Teacher President.

**Article XVI Talent** Section A: Each chapter may enter one talent team at the district talent contest. Texas FFA talent guidelines will be followed. Each contestant will be responsible for their own equipment.

#### **Article XVII District Advisor**

##### **Duties**

The teacher of the district president will serve as the district advisor. The advisor will be responsible for hosting and planning the district banquet, and scheduling district officer meetings.

**Article XVII District Contests** Section A: Contest rules (a) All contests will be conducted using the rules and guidelines of the Texas FFA Association with the exception of the following: (1) Spring Speaking Contests – A chapter may enter no more than 1 member per event, per category.

Section B: District Sweepstakes (a) A district sweepstakes award will be awarded in the fall and in the spring. The fall sweepstakes shall be known as the LDE Sweepstakes and be awarded based on the cumulative results of all Fall Leadership Development Events. The spring sweepstakes shall be known as the CDE Sweepstakes and be awarded based on the cumulative results of all of the state sanctioned spring career development events. (b) Sweepstakes points will be awarded to the top four teams in each contest based on the following scale: 1 st Place – 4 Points 2 nd Place – 3 Points 3 rd Place – 2 Points 4 th Place – 1 Point (c) For contests which there is no district event, scores from the next highest event (area or state

level) will be used to determine district placing and sweepstakes scores.

Section C: Judge Selection (a) Judges for district events will be selected by the District Ag Teachers Association President. (b) The advisor for 3<sup>rd</sup> place finishing teams will be required to judge or provide a quality judge for that LDE event at the Area level. (c) Chapters that enter a speaker in any public speaking contest must provide at least one judge at the district contest.