



NATIONAL FFA ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

BYLAWS

Adopted October 29, 2004
Amended October 25, 2005

**BYLAWS
OF THE NATIONAL FFA ALUMNI ASSOCIATION**

ARTICLE I

Name/Emblem

- Section I.** The name of this National FFA Organization affiliate shall be the National FFA Alumni Association.
- Section II.** The emblem of the National FFA Alumni Association is a triangular shield with an FFA emblem and the word "Alumni" below it. (Refer to the emblem found on the cover page of this document.)

ARTICLE II

Purpose

- Section I.** The purpose of the National FFA Alumni Association shall be:
- A. To support and promote FFA activities and agricultural education on local, state and national levels.
 - B. To provide a tie to and assist FFA and agricultural education personnel to involve former members, supporters and volunteers in worthy activities.
 - C. To promote greater knowledge of the agricultural industry and support education in agriculture.
 - D. To cooperate with the National FFA Board of Directors and the National FFA Foundation.
 - E. To promote and maintain an appreciation of the American free enterprise system.
 - F. To promote the personal development of the FFA and FFA alumni members and volunteers.

ARTICLE III

Organization

- Section I.** The National FFA Alumni Association is an affiliate of the National FFA Organization.
- Section II.** The National FFA Alumni Association consists of chartered State Associations, local affiliates and members-at-large, which operate in harmony with the National FFA Organization. Any group using the name "FFA Alumni" must affiliate and charter with the State, if a State Association exists, as well as the National Association. They must also pay National dues for each member.

Section III. *State Alumni Associations*

State Associations shall be eligible to become chartered when:

- A. It is organized with at least 50 charter members who paid National FFA Alumni dues.
- B. It has bylaws and/or constitution in harmony with the National FFA Alumni Bylaws.
- C. It has an executive group with officers.

Section IV. *Local affiliates*

Local affiliates shall be eligible to become chartered when:

- A. It has at least 10 charter members who have paid state and national dues. Local affiliates may affiliate directly with the National FFA Alumni Association when no State Association exists.
- B. Its bylaws and/or constitution are in harmony with the National FFA Alumni Association.
- C. It has an executive group with officers.

Section V. *Membership-at-Large*

Membership-at-Large is designated for a member that does not have a local affiliate nor State Association and pays dues directly to the National Association.

Section VI. The State Associations or local affiliates are eligible to maintain affiliation status provided the requirements stated in this article continue to be met.

Section VII. *Reports and Audits*

- A. Books and records of the National FFA Alumni Association may be inspected by any member or his agent at any reasonable time.
- B. There shall be an annual audit of the National FFA Alumni Association.
- C. The fiscal year and reporting year are from September 1 to August 31.

ARTICLE IV

Membership

Section I. Membership shall be open to anyone interested in supporting FFA, Agricultural Education, or volunteerism. Membership in the FFA Alumni includes many rights, benefits, and privileges, however, no level of membership entitles any member to act for and/or on behalf of any local, state or the National FFA Alumni Association regarding any policy or position unless granted by and through these bylaws and/or is otherwise granted specifically, in writing, by the National FFA Alumni Association.

Section II. *Types of Membership*

A. Annual Membership

- 1. All annual members have equal class and privileges; there are no associate, honorary, privileged or lesser class of membership.
- 2. Is a 12-month period beginning September 1 and ending August 31.
- 3. Annual membership dues of the National FFA Alumni Association shall be recommended by the National FFA Alumni Council and

fixed by a majority vote of the delegates present at the annual meeting.

4. State Associations and local affiliates may establish their own membership dues for annual membership in addition to the national dues.
5. Membership renewal procedures are conducted by a roster system. State Associations are to return member rosters to the National FFA Alumni office on an annual basis. If no State Association exists, then rosters will be sent directly to the national office.

B. Life Membership

1. Has established dues at \$150 as of November 1, 1993.
2. The life membership amount is deposited in an investment fund. The interest earned is returned to the operating fund.
3. Upon the death of a life member, whose life membership began before January 1, 1997 an amount equal to the amount of their life membership will be presented in their name as a scholarship as designated.
4. State Associations and local affiliates may establish their own life membership category and set dues for life members.

C. Corporate Membership

1. Is a 12-month period beginning September 1 and ending August 31.
2. Corporate dues and benefits of the National FFA Alumni Association shall be recommended by the National FFA Alumni Council and fixed by majority vote of the delegates present at the annual meeting.

ARTICLE V

Officers

Section I. The officers of the National FFA Alumni Association will be the President, President-Elect and the immediate Past-President.

Section II. *Duties/qualifications of officers*

A. President

1. The President will be an individual who has served as the President-Elect the previous year.
2. The President will be the principal officer of the Association.
3. It will be the President's duty to preside at all meetings of the National FFA Alumni Council, the Executive Committee and the Association and to carry out the general mission and objectives of the Association.
4. The President will be an ex officio member of all committees, except for the nominating committee.

- B. President-Elect
 1. The President-Elect, at the direction of the President, will act in the President's behalf, and perform such duties as are usual and customary of a vice president.
 2. Any candidate for the office of President-Elect must first have been elected by the delegates to any other elected position on the Council and served at least one year in that position.
 3. Likewise, the Past President or other retired council members may not be a candidate for President-Elect without first being elected again and serving one year on the Council.
- C. Past President
 1. Is the immediate Past President of the Association.
 2. Should the President-Elect not be able or available to perform the assigned duties of that office, the immediate Past President will assume the duties of that office until such time as the President-Elect is able to resume such duties or until the National FFA Alumni Council appoints a person to complete the unexpired term of office of the President-Elect.

Section III. *Nomination and Selection*

- A. President
 1. The President of the association will be the previous year's President-Elect unless 2/3 of the delegates vote to remove the President-Elect from office.
 2. If the President-Elect is removed from office, the position of President will be filled via nominations by the delegates from qualified Council members.
 3. Once removed from office that individual may never again serve on the National FFA Alumni Council.
- B. President-Elect
Candidates for President-Elect will be selected from qualified Council members by a five (5) member nominating committee who are members of the Council and appointed by the Council President.
- C. Past President
The retiring President will serve as the immediate Past President.

Section IV. *Terms of Office*

All officers will serve for one year or until the successor is elected or appointed to that office.

ARTICLE VI

Executive Board

Section I. The executive body of the National FFA Alumni Association shall be the National FFA Alumni Council, henceforth known as the *Council*, which is subordinate to the National FFA Board of Directors.

Section II. The *Council* shall consist of the following:

- A. Six individuals elected by the membership; four regional representatives and two at-large members – three (3) year term each.

- B. One representative each from the American Association of Agricultural Educators (AAAE), the National Association of Agricultural Educators (NAAE), and the National Association of Supervisors of Agricultural Education (NASAE) – three (3) year term each.
- C. Two National FFA representatives, one appointed each year – two (2) year term each.
- D. Two past National FFA officers; one appointed each year – two (2) year term each.
- E. National FFA Alumni President, President-Elect, and Past President – one (1) year term each

Section III. The National FFA Advisor, or a designated representative, and the Executive Director of the National FFA Alumni Association shall serve as ex officio non-voting members. The National FFA representative and the past National FFA officer in their first year of service to the *Council* will serve as non-voting members.

Section IV. The convention delegates shall elect the National FFA Alumni President-Elect during the National FFA Alumni Convention.

Section V. *FFA Alumni Consultants to the National FFA Board of Directors*
The FFA Alumni President, President-Elect and Past President will serve as consultants on the National FFA Board of Directors.

Section VI. *Procedure for Selection of members of the Council*

A. Elected Members

1. Four regional representatives, to represent the membership in each region as defined in the manual, shall be elected during the National FFA Alumni Convention by the convention delegates from their respective regions. Each regional representative must live within their respective region during their entire term of service. All convention delegates shall elect the two member-at-large positions.
2. Any member in good standing is eligible to run for the *Council*. All candidates will be screened by a five-member nominating committee who are members of the *Council* and appointed by the *Council* President. *Council* members who are a candidate for any *Council* position are not eligible to serve on the nominating committee. The committee will establish the nomination procedure. The committee will attempt to select two qualified candidates for each position; however, they can nominate one if two qualified candidates are not available. If no eligible candidates are presented by the committee, the position will be filled at the national convention by taking nominations from the floor, and then proceeding with the usual election process for that position. If no person accepts a nomination from the floor, the *Council* will appoint a person to fill that position.
3. All elections will be conducted by ballot and election results will be announced at the national convention.
4. Terms shall start with the conclusion of the national convention.
5. Members of the *Council* serving in **elected positions** will serve no more than one three-year term.

Any individual appointed to fill a vacancy of an **elected representative** will serve until the next national convention, at which time an election will be held to fulfill the remainder of that term. That person may run for a full term for that position. The maximum number of consecutive years a person may serve on the *Council* is eight years. One year as an initial appointee to fill one year of another person's term. One year elected to finish that term. Three years of their own term as an elected representative. One year as President-Elect, one year as President, and one year as Past President. Any *Council* member who completes their own three-year term, and is not elected President-Elect must retire. Any elected member leaving the *Council* must wait three years before returning to the *Council*.

B. Non-Elected Members

1. The American Association of Agricultural Educators (AAAE), The National Association of Agricultural Educators (NAAE), and The National Association of Supervisors of Agricultural Education (NASAE) shall each designate a representative.
2. An immediate past National FFA officer shall be designated by the past National FFA officer team.
3. A National FFA representative shall be appointed by the Executive Committee from the most recent year's National FFA officer candidates who are interested in serving on the *Council*.

E. Each individual of the *Council* must be a member in good standing of the National FFA Alumni Association.

F. Members of the *Council* appointed to **non-elected positions** will serve no more than one three-year term. However, they may serve for a maximum of five years consecutively if they are initially appointed to fulfill a person's remaining term of two years or less. A person who fulfills their appointed term to a **non-elected position** must wait a minimum of three years before being appointed to the *Council* again, or before being a candidate for an **elected position**.

Section VII. *Duties of the Council*

A. To direct the operation of the association in accordance with its bylaws.

B. The *Council* and National FFA Board of Directors, at their respective meetings, shall approve a National FFA Alumni program of activities and budget for the period starting each September 1. The program shall deal with those activities and objectives to be accomplished by the National FFA Alumni Association.

C. If a *Council* member misses two consecutive meetings the *Council*, by a majority vote, may remove that individual from the *Council*. The vacancy shall be filled as specified in Article VI, Section IX, of these bylaws.

D. Any *Council* member may be removed from the *Council* for just cause by a 2/3 vote of the *Council*. Once removed from office, that *Council* member may never again serve on the *Council*.

E. Should the President be removed from office, the current President-Elect will assume the Presidency and complete the term of the removed President as well as serving their own one-year term. In such case, the

current Past President may remain on the *Council*. If the Past President chooses not to remain on the *Council*, the position will remain unfilled, until the current President completes their term and becomes Past President.

- F. Except for the office of President, any vacancy on the *Council* as the result of the removal of a Council member shall be filled by the Executive Committee.

Section VIII. *Reimbursements*

- A. Members of the *Council* shall not be paid a salary for their work as a member of the council.
- B. The National FFA Alumni Association shall pay travel expenses for the *Council* members consistent with the National FFA Organization Operating Policies.
- C. Travel expenses for activities of the *Council* members will not be reimbursed in excess of the budgeted amount approved by the National FFA Alumni Association.
- D. Receipts for travel (hotel and airplane) are required. If travel is by private car, the amount paid shall not exceed the cost of travel by common carrier (airplane).
- E. All requests for travel reimbursements must be on FFA travel vouchers.
- F. The National FFA Alumni Association will pay travel expenses for one *Council* member per state visit per year. The inviting state will pay for lodging and meals while the council member is in their state.

Section IX. *Vacancies*

- A. Whenever a vacancy of an elected member occurs, other than from expiration of the term of office, the *Council* Executive Committee will appoint a person to fill that position until the next election.
- B. Whenever a vacancy of a non-elected member occurs, the leadership of the organization that the member represents shall appoint a person to fill the unexpired term of office.
- C. If the Past National FFA Officer and/or National FFA Representative does not complete his/her term, the voting privileges will be transferred to the other appointed representative(s) of that organization and the vacant position(s) will remain open until filled.

Section X. *Meetings*

The *Council* shall meet at least twice per year. Additional meetings may be called by the President or by a majority of the *Council* members upon petition to the Executive Director.

ARTICLE VII

Executive Committee

Section I. *Composition*

The Executive Committee will consist of the President, President-Elect and the immediate Past President.

Section II. *Duties/Responsibilities*

The Executive Committee will perform the duties as prescribed by these bylaws and those that are delegated to them by the *Council*.

ARTICLE VIII

Meetings

Section I. There shall be an annual meeting of the membership of the National FFA Alumni Association that will be held concurrently with the National FFA Convention. Additional membership meetings may be called by the President or by a majority of the *Council* members in a petition to the Executive Director.

Section II. *Delegates*

- A. Representation for the purpose of voting at the annual meeting shall be by States in proportion to their membership and each State Association in good standing shall be entitled to send at least one delegate from its active FFA Alumni membership.
- B. The number of delegates is based on one for every 200 active alumni members with a minimum of one delegate for State Associations in good standing, with less than 200 active members.
- C. The Executive Director shall designate, at least 30 days prior to the annual meeting, an additional number of voting delegates from each State Association based upon a specific proportion or percentage of FFA Alumni membership.
- D. Each State Association will be required to register delegates prior to the delegate meeting at the annual convention. Only FFA Alumni members properly registered will be allowed to serve as voting delegates.
- E. Council members are not eligible to be delegates.

Section III. Time of the annual meeting and any other necessary meetings of the National FFA Alumni Association shall be held at such place and time as prescribed by the *Council*.

Section IV. A quorum will consist of 50 percent of the registered delegates.

Section V. The minutes of the previous annual meeting will be published and presented to the delegates when they register and thus will not need to be read at the annual meeting.

Section VI. A summarized audit report will be presented at the annual meeting.

ARTICLE IX

Committees

Section I. The National FFA Alumni Association shall have the following standing committees:

- A. Finance
- B. Awards
- C. Membership/Member Services/Volunteerism
- D. Public Relations/Marketing

- E. Resolutions and Bylaws
 - F. Program of Activities
(See the National FFA Alumni Manual for a description of duties and responsibilities of each committee.)
- Section II.** These committees shall be served by a chairperson from the *Council* appointed by the *Council* President.
- Section III.** These standing committees must report on their activities at each *Council* meeting.
- Section IV.** The *Council* President has the authority to create special committees and appoint FFA Alumni members to those committees.

ARTICLE X

Administrative Staff

- Section I.** The Executive Director of the National FFA Alumni Association shall be recommended by the *Council* for confirmation by the National FFA Board of Directors.
- Section II.** The Executive Director shall:
- A. Serve as *ex-officio*, non-voting member of the *Council*
 - B. Be responsible for *Council* meeting minutes
- Section III.** Title and position description of the Executive Director shall be approved by the *Council* and maintained by the Executive Director.
- Section IV.** The pay grade level for the Executive Director shall be recommended to the National FFA Board by the Executive Committee.
- Section V.** The National FFA Alumni staff shall follow the policies of the National FFA Organization.

ARTICLE XI

Parliamentary Authority

The rules contained in the current edition of Robert Rules of Order Newly Revised shall govern the association in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with these bylaws and any special rules of order the association may adopt.

ARTICLE XII

Amendments

- Section I.** Proposed amendments to the National FFA Alumni Association bylaws may be submitted by the *Council*, State Associations, local affiliates, or by any active member; any of which must be in good standing. Proposed amendments must be in writing and received by the Executive Director 90 days prior to the opening of the annual meeting.
- Section II.** Proposed amendments will be reviewed by the *Council* and sent to the delegate body with one of the following three recommendations:

- a) Recommend adoption
- b) No recommendation
- c) Do not recommend adoption

The amendments shall be submitted to the membership at least 60 days prior to the opening date of the annual meeting.

Section III. If the proposed amendment is unclear or incomplete the council will return it to the party making the proposal for clarification and/or perfection prior to being decided on by the *Council*.

Section IV. Affirmation by 2/3 of the delegates voting shall be necessary to adopt an amendment.