

The Constitution & By-Laws of the Piney Woods District FFA Association

ARTICLE I- NAME AND PURPOSES

Section A. The name of this organization shall be the “Piney Woods District FFA Association.” Members are hereinafter referred to as “FFA Members”

Section B.

To accomplish this mission, FFA:

1. Develops competent and assertive agricultural leadership.
2. Increases awareness of the global and technological importance of agriculture and its contribution to our well-being.
3. Strengthens agriculture students’ confidence in themselves and their work.
4. Promotes the intelligent choice and establishment of an agriculture career.
5. Encourages achievement in Supervised Agriculture Experience Programs (SAEP’s).
6. Encourages wise management of the community’s economic, environmental and human resources.
7. Develops interpersonal skills in teamwork, communications, human relations and social interaction.
8. Builds character and promotes citizenship, volunteerism and patriotism.
9. Promotes cooperation and cooperative attitudes among all people.
10. Promotes healthy lifestyles.
11. Encourages excellence in scholarship.

ARTICLE II- ORGANIZATION

Section A. The Piney Woods District FFA Association is a subdivision of the Area IX Association which is a recognized administrative subdivision of the Texas and National FFA Association.

Section B. This Association accepts in full the provisions of the constitution and by-Laws of the Area IX FFA Association as well as those of the Texas and National FFA Association.

ARTICLE III- MEMBERSHIP

Section A. Membership in this Association shall be of four kinds: (1) Active; (2) Alumni; (3) Honorary; (4) Collegiate as defined by the National FFA Constitution

Section B. Each local chapter is entitled to send one delegate from its active membership to the district meetings. Chapters with an active membership in excess of 50 are entitled to send delegates to the district meetings as outlined in the formula below:

<u>Active Membership</u>	<u>Number of Delegates</u>
1-50	1
51-100	2
101-150	3
151-200	4
201-250	5
251-300	6

With one additional district delegate per each 50 members.

Section C. Honorary membership shall be limited only to those who have received Honorary Degrees in their local chapters.

Section D. All Chapters in good standing are members of the Piney Woods District Association.

ARTICLE IV- EMBLEMS

Section A. The emblem of the FFA shall be the emblem of the Association.

Section B. Emblems used by the Members shall be uniform and those obtained from concerns officially designated by the National Organization of the FFA.

ARTICLE V- MEMBERSHIP DEGREES AND PRIVILEGES

Section A. The qualifications for the four grades of the active membership shall be in accord with Area, State and National Constitutions.

ARTICLE VI- OFFICERS

Section A. There shall be one District Officer Candidate elected by each FFA local chapter within the District.

Section B. The officers of the Piney Woods District shall be as follows: President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Reporter, Sentinel, Second Vice-President, Third Vice-President and their respected Advisors. The Advisors shall be the local chapter Advisors of the District Officers.

Section C. The Officers shall be elected annually at the designated District Meeting by following Piney Woods District's Election Guidelines.

- Section D.** The officers of the District Association shall constitute the District Executive Committee. This Executive Committee shall have full power to act as necessary for the District Association in accordance with actions taken at District Meetings and various regulation or by-laws adopted from time-to-time.
- Section E.** All District, elections shall follow Piney Woods District Officer Election Guidelines. The District will follow the Area's and State's elections policy for Area and State officers.
- Section F.** The District Officer Election process will consist of three sections. These sections and their percentages will be as follows:
- 40% - Popular Vote
 - 30% - Test
 - 30% - Interview Process (Interview 15%, Officer Application 10%, & Writing Prompt 5%)
 - o The interview will use questions that are in line with the Texas FFA Officer selection questions (Hot Topic & Behavioral Questions)
 - o Persons conducting interview should be highly qualified.
- Section G.** Honorary Members shall not vote nor shall they hold any office in the Association except that of Advisor.
- Section H.** District Officers must hold the Chapter FFA Degree and be either a Sophomore or Junior in high school at the time of election.
- Section I.** A Member who has been an Area Officer or District Officer cannot run for District Office.

ARTICLE VII- MEETINGS

- Section A.** Regular District Association meetings shall be determined by the District President, District Advisor, and Voting Delegates as to time and place.

ARTICLE VIII- DUES

- Section A.** District Association dues shall be set annually by the delegates.
- Section B.** No Chapter shall be considered active and in good standing unless they pay full District, Area, State and National FFA Dues.

ARTICLE IX- LEADERSHIP

- Section A.** One team from each local chapter in each event or contest is eligible to compete in the District Leadership Event, provided that the school is in good standing with the District.
- Section B.** District Career Development Speaking Event (CDSE) shall be held annually at the designated District Meeting preceding the Area Convention. State Rules will be followed.
- Section C.** Candidates for Area Officers shall be elected at the designated District Meeting preceding the Area Convention.

ARTICLE X- AMENDMENTS

Proposed amendments to the District Constitution or By-Laws must be submitted in writing to the District VATAT President and Advisor at least (60) days prior to any District Meeting. These proposed changes must in turn be submitted to the local chapters of the District at least thirty days prior to the next meeting, and submitted by the District Officers to the delegates in the District Constitution at any District meeting by two-thirds (2/3) vote of the official Delegates present.

*******BY-LAWS*******

ARTICLE I

Two winners from each District for Area Officer Election, Public Speaking Contest, and Talent Contest may be elected to represent the District at the Area Convention.

ARTICLE II

District candidates for talent Activity at the District Meetings will follow State rules. District candidates for Public Speaking and Soil Stewardship will follow the State and National Rules.

ARTICLE III - OFFICERS

If for any reason a student office becomes vacant, the executive committee may fill the office with a qualified member to fulfill the unexpired term of office. If for any reason the office of president should become vacant, the student officer who received the next highest score in the election for president shall become president. An officer who transfers to another chapter within the district may retain his or her office, but should an officer transfer to a chapter outside of the district or no longer be in good standing with a chapter within the district, his or her office shall be declared vacated.

ARTICLE IV – TEACHER OFFICERS

The district's teacher activities, fiduciary oversight and other functions related to the agriculture, food and natural resources teaching profession shall be led by teacher officers.

ARTICLE V – GRIEVANCE AND APPEALS

The district shall adopt grievance policies and procedures consistent with the policies of the Texas FFA Association. Appeals related to competitive events and awards programs shall be resolved in accordance to the Texas FFA Association Conflict Resolution Policy in the respective competitive event or program policies.

April 28, 1958 – Adopted

September 1970 – Amended

April 14, 1980 – Amended

August 1996 – Amended

April 2011- Amended

November 2014 – Amended

April 2019 - Amended