

THE CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS

OF THE AREA IX FFA ASSOCIATION OF THE NATIONAL FFA ORGANIZATION

ARTICLE I – NAME AND PURPOSES

Section A. The name of this organization shall be “The Area IX FFA Association of the National FFA Organization.” Members are herein after referred to as “FFA Members”, and the letters “FFA” may be used to designate the Association, its activities, or members thereof.

Section B. The purposes for which this association is formed are as follows:

- ❖ Develop competent and assertive agriculture leadership.
- ❖ Increase awareness of the global and technological importance of agriculture and its contribution to our well-being.
- ❖ Strengthens agriculture students’ confidence in themselves and their work.
- ❖ Promotes the intelligent choice and establishment of an agricultural career.
- ❖ Encourages achievement in supervised agricultural experience programs.
- ❖ Encourages wise management of the community’s economic, environmental and human resources.
- ❖ Develops interpersonal skills in teamwork, communication, human relations, and social interaction.
- ❖ Builds character and promotes citizenship, volunteerism, and patriotism.
- ❖ Promotes cooperation and cooperative attitudes among all people.
- ❖ Promotes healthy lifestyles.
- ❖ Encourages excellence in scholarship.

ARTICLE II-ORGANIZATION

- Section A. The Area IX Association of the FFA is a chartered area unit of the Texas Association of the FFA which is chartered by the National FFA Organization.
- Section B. The association accepts in full the provisions in the constitution and by-laws of the Texas Associations of the FFA as well as those of the National FFA Organization
- Section C. The Executive Committee shall contain up to nine members consisting of the Area IX: Coordinator, Assistant Coordinator, VATAT President, VATAT Vice President, VATAT Secretary, and the VATAT District Presidents or District designee. The Area IX VATAT Treasurer will serve as Ex Officio. The Executive Committee shall have full power to act and interpret this Constitution as necessary for the Area IX Association.

ARTICLE III-MEMBERSHIP

- Section A. Membership in this association shall be of four kinds; (1) Active; (2) Alumni; (3) Collegiate; and (4) Honorary, as defined by the National FFA Constitution
- Section B. Each local chapter is entitled to send one delegate from its active membership to the Area Convention. Chapters with an active membership in excess of 50 members are entitled to send one delegate per 50 members to the Area Convention as outlined on the table below.

Active Membership Number of Delegates

1-50	1
51-100	2
101-150	3
151-200	4
201-250	5
251-300	6
301-350	7
351-400	8

- 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 Area IX 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 FFA Organization.

ARTICLE V-MEMBERSHIP DEGREES AND PRIVELGES

- Section A. There shall be four grades of active membership in the Area IX Association: (1) Greenhand; (2) Chapter FFA; (3) State FFA; and (4) American FFA.
- Section B. The qualifications for the four degrees of active membership shall be in accordance with the State and National Constitutions.

ARTICLE VI-OFFICERS

- Section A. There shall be two Area Officers elected by each FFA District.
- Section B. The officers of the Area IX Association shall be as follows: President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Reporter, and Sentinel. Other officers may be elected as deemed necessary by the Area Association. The advisors shall be the local chapter advisor of the Area President and the Area Vice President, the Area IX Assistant Coordinator, and the Area IX Coordinator. If an officer cannot fulfill their duties, a replacement may be determined by the Executive Committee.
- Section C. The Area Officers shall be elected annually at the designated area meeting. Area Officers representing Area IX shall be elected following the guidelines set by Area IX Association in accordance with the Area IX Association.
- Section D. Honorary members shall not vote nor shall they hold any office in the Association except that of advisor.
- Section E. Area Officer candidates must be juniors in high school and must hold the Chapter Degree. State Officer Candidates must be at least Seniors, no more than one year removed from high school, and hold the Lone Star FFA Degree at the time of election at the State Convention.

Section F. The Area 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%)

The interview will include 4 Advisors representing each District. (Ideally the District VATAT Presidents)

If an Area Officer Candidate has an advisor or FFA member from their FFA chapter that will serve on the interview panel then that panel member recuses them self from the panel and the next ranking officer will take their place.

The interview will consist of 8 questions, two from each member of the panel and will use questions that are in line with the Texas FFA Officer selection questions (Hot Topic & Behavioral Questions)

The Area IX State Officer Selection Committee Representative will act as a proctor for the interview panel. If this representative has a candidate that is running for a position they will recuse them self and the Area IX VATAT President will serve as the proctor. If the Area IX President has a candidate the next ranking officer who doesn't have a candidate will take their place. The proctor will only ask the questions for the panel and their opinion will not have any bearing on the outcome of the interview process.

Section G. The Area Officer runoffs will include 40% of the officers running. The ranking of the runoff candidates will be tabulated using the Test and Interview Process percentages used in the Area Officer Election process.

Section H. The State Officer Election process will be completed by the Texas FFA Association. The two members of the State Officer nominating committee that the Area IX Association will be responsible for providing will be selected by the interview panel used for the Area Officer elections. The members of the State nominating committee must be at least seniors, no more than one year removed from high school and have no plans to run for a State FFA Officer position.

ARTICLE VII – MEETINGS

Section A. Area IX Association meetings shall be determined by the Area Advisors.

Section B. The “Parliamentary Guide for FFA” by Jarrell D. Gray shall be used as the final authority in governing the actions of all Area Meetings.

ARTICLE VIII – DUES

Section A. Area IX Association dues shall be paid annually per member in each local chapter. The amount shall be set at the VATAT Conference by a two-thirds vote of a quorum of Area IX teachers.

Section B. No chapter shall be considered as active and in good standing until they pay full District, Area, State, and National FFA dues.

ARTICLE IX-LEADERSHIP

Section A. Two teams from each district are eligible to compete in the Area Leadership Contest, provided that these schools are in good standing with the Area Association rules.

Section B. Area FFA Leadership Contest Fees:

Every team participating in the Area IX FFA Leadership Contest must pay a \$15.00 entry fee.

Section C. The Area Speaking Events shall be held annually at a designated meeting.

Section D. Judging rules are to be set up by teacher judging committees.

ARTICLE XI – AMENDMENTS

Section A. Proposed amendments to the Area Constitution or By-Laws must be submitted in writing to the Area Coordinator at least 60 days prior to voting. These proposed changes must, in turn, be submitted in writing to the local chapters of the Area at least 30 days prior to voting and submitted to the delegates in the area with recommendations.

Section B. Amendments may be adopted or revisions made in the Area Constitution at any area meeting by a two-thirds vote of the official delegates present.

Section C. In case of an extenuating circumstance, items of business including but not limited to meetings and voting may be carried out by an alternative method as deemed appropriate by the Executive Committee with full power to act as needed to assure the business of the Area IX Association is carried out.

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

ARTICLE I

Two candidates from each district may participate in the Area Officer election, Public Speaking Contest, or Talent Contest at the Area IX FFA Convention.

ARTICLE II

Area contestants for the Talent Contest at the Area Convention will follow the rules for the State FFA Talent Contest. Area contestants for the Public Speaking Contest will follow the rules for the National Public Speaking Contest.

8/21/1958 Adopted
5/30/1970 Amended
5/3/1980 Amended
5/30/1991 Revised
7/15/1992 Revised
5/7/1996 Amended
8/1/2000 Amended
11/18/2009 Amended
7/2010 Amended
2/2014 Amended