



# Horatio FFA Constitution and Bylaws

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## **Article I: Name and Purposes**

**Section A:** The name of this organization shall be the Horatio FFA Chapter of the National FFA Organization. Members are hereinafter referred to as FFA members and the letters FFA, may be used to designate the chapter, at its activities, or members thereof.

**Section B:** The purpose for which this chapter is formed are as follows:

1. To develop competent and aggressive agricultural leadership.
2. To create and nurture a love for agricultural life.
3. To strengthen the confidence of students of vocational agriculture in their work.
4. To create more interest in intelligent choice of agricultural occupations.
5. To encourage members to improve the home and its surroundings.
6. To encourage members in the development of individual occupational careers.
7. To participate in worthy undertakings for the improvement of the agricultural industry.
8. To develop character train for useful citizens and foster patriotism.
9. To encourage and practice thrift.
10. To participate in cooperative effort.
11. To encourage improvement in scholarship.

12. To provide and encourage the development of organized recreational activities.

## **Article II: Organization**

**Section A:** The Horatio Chapter of the FFA is a chartered local unit of the Arkansas Association of the FFA, which is chartered by the National FFA Organization.

**Section B:** This chapter accepts in full the provisions in the constitution and bylaws of the Arkansas Association of FFA as well as those of the National FFA Organization.

## **Article III: Membership**

**Section A:** Membership in this chapter shall be of three kinds:

1. Active
2. Alumni
3. Honorary

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

**Section C:** Active members in good standing may vote on all business brought before the chapter. An active member shall be considered in good standing when he or she:

1. Attends local chapter meetings 75% of the time.
2. Shows an interest in and takes part in all the affairs of the chapter.
3. Pays the dues regularly.
4. Meet minimum fundraising requirement designated by the chapter.
5. Every member should take advantage of the variety of activities that the FFA has to offer. We will recognize those members of the FFA who have actively participated in the many activities offered. Participation and

attendance at these activities is important and is also required in order to qualify for awards. Some possible activities are listed below.

**Activities:**

- Chapter meetings
- Fundraisers
- State Convention
- LDE's- District, area and state
- Local FFA activities (community service, workday auction, etc.)
- CDE's
- Exhibiting animals at the Sevier County Fair and Major Livestock Shows

**Section D:** Alumni membership in this chapter shall be limited to those students who have graduated from high school and are actively supporting the FFA.

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

**Section F:** Names of applicants for membership shall be filled with the Secretary.

**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 designed by the National FFA Organization.

The blue and gold corduroy jacket is the official jacket of the FFA. They can be purchased through the National FFA Supply Service website. We encourage all FFA members to purchase an official jacket and either a scarf (female) or a tie (male). The cost of this is approximately \$60.00. Please allow 4-6 weeks for delivery. If you need help with this please contact your advisor.

**Article V: Active Membership**

**Section A:** There shall be four types of active membership in this

chapter:

1. The Discovery FFA Degree
2. The Greenhand FFA Degree
3. The Chapter FFA Degree
4. The State FFA Degree
5. The American FFA Degree

**Section B:** Discovery FFA Degree. Minimum qualifications for this degree are set forth by the National Constitution.

**Section C:** Greenhand FFA Degree. Minimum qualifications for this degree are set forth by the National Constitution.

**Section D:** Chapter FFA Degree. Minimum qualifications for this degree are set forth by the National Constitution.

**Section E:** State FFA Degree. Minimum qualifications set forth in the State Association Constitution.

**Section F:** American FFA Degree. Qualifications for this degree are set forth in the Constitution of the National Organization.

**Section G:** The advisor's shall review the qualifications of members and make recommendations to the chapter concerning degree advancement.

## **Article VI: Officers**

**Section A:** The officers of this chapter shall be as follows: President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, Reporter, Sentinel, and Advisor. The advisor shall be the teacher of vocational agriculture in the school where the chapter is located. Officers shall perform the duties usually associated with their respective office.

Additional offices may be selected and filled based upon need such as Historian, Assistant Historian, Assistant Reporter, Multiple Vice Presidents, Student Advisor, Parliamentarian, and Chaplain.

**Section B:** Officers shall be elected annually through a selection process consisting of an interview. Offices will be filled by rank with the exception of President and Vice President. Those must be filled by the two highest ranking incoming Juniors and Seniors.

**Section C:** A special night will be set aside for an interviewing committee to interview candidates. Only those members being interviewed can attend. The interviewing committee shall consist of three or more people to be determined by the advisor.

**Section D:** An officer who misses three chapter meetings and/or three officer meetings will be required to attend a probationary meeting. A probationary meeting will consist of a committee of the two most senior officers, not involved and in good standing with the chapter to discuss the absences and formulate a plan for improvement. The advisor will be present in an advisory capacity only.

Upon missing a fourth chapter meeting and/or fourth officer meeting the officer will be removed from office if the executive committee agrees that the reason for the absence is not valid.

**Section E:** Officers must abide by the FFA code of ethics at all times. Failure to comply will result in removal of office.

## FFA Code of Ethics

FFA members conduct themselves at all times to be a credit to their organization, chapter, school, community and family. FFA members pledge to:

1. Develop my potential for premier leadership, personal growth and career success.
2. Make a positive difference in the lives of others.
3. Dress neatly and appropriately for the occasion.
4. Respect the rights of others and their property.
5. Be courteous, honest and fair with others.
6. Communicate in an appropriate, purposeful and positive manner.
7. Demonstrate good sportsmanship by being modest in winning and generous in defeat.
8. Make myself aware of FFA programs and activities and be an active participant.
9. Conduct and value a supervised agricultural experience program.

10. Strive to establish and enhance my skills through agricultural education in order to enter a successful career.
11. Appreciate and promote diversity in our organization.

*Adopted by the Delegates at the 1952 National FFA Convention. Revised by the Delegates at the 1995 National FFA Convention.*

**Section F:** The officers of the chapter together with the chairman 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 bylaws adopted from time to time.

**Section G:** Vacancies for chapter officers shall be filled by those unsuccessful candidates from the previous interviews, additional vacancies shall be filled by nominations at the next regularly scheduled meeting.

**Section H:** Officers and their parent or guardian will be required to sign the officer contract at the first official meeting after installment. This contract is binding and mandatory for all officers. (appendixes 1)

## **Article VII: Meetings**

**Section A:** Regular chapter meetings will be held once each month of the year at such time and place as is designated the Chapter Executive Committee.

Special meetings may be called at any time.

**Section B:** Standard meeting paraphernalia shall be used at each meeting.

All regular meetings shall be open and closed with the Official Ceremony.

**Section C:** Delegates, for the state convention, shall be selected annually from the 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 in the State.

**Section D:** A quorum, consisting of a majority of high school members, must be present to transact business or commit the chapter to any proposal or action.

**Section E:** Robert's Rules of Order shall be the official regulations governing the meetings.

## **Article VIII: Dues**

**Section A:** Local dues in this chapter shall be fixed annually by a state and national mandate.

**Section B:** Full local, state, and national dues shall be paid by all active members. Dues must be paid in full by September 30th of the current school year. Horatio FFA membership dues are \$20.00. This covers the cost of district, area, state, and national dues plus a t-shirt. Horatio FFA is a member of the national FFA association, the Arkansas FFA association and the southern district.

## **Article IX: Ancillary programs CDE's and LCDE's and show teams**

**Section A:** Students must be bonafied FFA members

**Section B:** Students must adhere to the national FFA member code of conduct clearly printed on pg 35 of the FFA student handbook. (Appendix A)

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Failure to abide by this code of ethics is grounds of immediate expulsion of the violator from his/her chapter membership, office and all chapter activities including judging teams, show teams and any other chapter activities.

### **Section C: Stock Show rules**

All stock shows attended by the Horatio FFA have specific rules, which must be followed. An exhibitor violation of any rule may be given a verbal warning. The second violation may automatically result in the disqualification from any show under the discretion of the advisor. All exhibitors must adhere to the following rules:

1. Exhibitors will remember any show attended by the Horatio FFA is a school activity. All rules pertaining to school activities will be adhered to.
2. Exhibitors will not be allowed to leave the show grounds without the permission of the advisor.
3. Exhibitors will exhibit sportsmanship expected of them as members of the Horatio FFA.
4. Exhibitors are responsible for the care of their own animal. Exhibitors must maintain their own SAE projects. The exhibitor may ask for assistance but remember, it is the responsibility of the exhibitor to feed, groom, trim, bathe and present his/her livestock.

**Again, we ask that parents assist the students but remember:  
TO HELP IS GREAT----DOING IT FOR THEM IS NOT TEACHING THEM.**



## The Horatio FFA Chapter

- Participates as a show team at the following school sanctioned livestock shows throughout the year: Sevier County Fair, the Four States Fair, the Third District Fair and the Arkansas State Fair.
- The advisor will supervise and assist Any and all FFA members in good standing with the HHS FFA Chapter at any of the above shows during competition hours throughout the year.
- The HHS FFA Chapter will provide monthly weight clinics ( during the summer) in which the students will have an opportunity to bring their projects to the school farm and weigh them. The advisor will not be making farm calls to weigh animals at other times.
- The student will be responsible to bring their projects to the holding pens located at the school in order for them to be transported to and from the fair. The advisor will not be coming to individual farms to transport animals. This policy is with the student and the livestock's well being and interest in mind and to protect the district form liability.
- Students are responsible for getting their assignments from the teacher prior to being absent. The office and faculty will be supplied with excused students prior to the trip. If your student does not meet the grade requirement to travel the student **will not be excused from that class no exceptions**. The teacher will notify the advisor if the grader requirement is not met. The Horatio School district as well as the Horatio FFA have a responsibility to educate your student above all else and that will absolutely always be our priority. Please encourage your student to do their part in the educational journey!
- The overnight stay of the exhibitor will be the responsibility of the parents of the exhibitor. The advisor will be on the grounds for the animals in case of an emergency, but will not be responsible for your child after the hours of the competition.

## Section D: Official Dress

HHS ISD dress code is always in effect at FFA functions and competitions. If it isn't appropriate to wear at school don't wear it to an FFA activity!

### For livestock shows

- Buttoned down or polo type shirt
- Nice jeans that fit at the waist and are free of fading or holes
- Closed toed shoes are required\_\_\_NO TENNIS SHOES

- Belt should be worn
- No caps or HATS
- Hair should be pulled away from face and look orderly

### **CDE Dress code**

- Buttoned down or polo type shirt
- Nice jeans that fit at the waist and are free of fading or holes
- Closed toed shoes are required
- Appropriate cap and Hat should be worn

### **FFA Official Dress**

The uniform worn by FFA members at local, district, area, state, and national functions is called official dress. It provides identity and a distinctive, recognizable image to the organization.

### **Section E: Overnight trips**

The opportunity to participate in the Horatio FFA is a privilege extended to the Horatio School district's students. Participation in the Horatio FFA places a student in a position of recognition and often bestows the position of role model upon the member. Any student who elects to accept the privilege of participating in the Horatio FFA must recognize that he/she is a representative of the school and the district, and will be held to a higher standard of conduct than that applied to the general student body. This applies to a school related and non school related activities. The member is subject to state law, school district policies, school rules and regulations, the Horatio FFA constitution and By-laws, the university Interscholastic league (UIL) rules. Horatio ISD policy governs all trips taken by the FFA members. Any student found in violation of these policies will be disciplined accordingly.

- Students will follow directions given by adviser's, as well as adult chaperons
- Students will conduct themselves in a proper manner at all times
- Students will not leave the hotel or site of activity for any reason
- Students will follow all curfew times. Lights will be out at the discretion of the advisor
- Students must stay in the room assigned to them
- Female students are not allowed in the rooms of male students
- Male students are not allowed in the rooms of female students

- Students will wear official dress, except when notified by the advisor.

### **Article X: FFA Fundraising Activities**

The FFA provides many activities throughout the year that require money. The entry fees for contests, community service projects, the food and refreshments for meetings, banquet supplies, scholarship's jackets, district, area, and state conventions ect. require a large sum of money. You are ask to participate in whatever fundraiser that we have. The more money that we raise the more opportunities that will be provided for our students.

This year as in the past we will be selling fruit and meat, we encourage each member to reach the goal of \$400.00. We will run a gun wall and ask that each student sell 8 tickets. In the spring we will have the work day auction that the students are expected to participate in.