

# CONSTITUTION OF THE TENNESSEE FFA ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

## Article I. NAME AND PURPOSES

Section A. The name of this organization shall be the Tennessee FFA Alumni Association. This organization is formed as a state affiliate with the National FFA Alumni Association.

Section B. The purposes of the Tennessee FFA Alumni Association shall be:

1. To support and promote the FFA organization, FFA activities, and vocational agriculture on the local, state, and national levels.
2. To provide a tie to the FFA and to assist FFA and agricultural educational personnel to involve former members in worthy activities.
3. To promote a greater knowledge of the agricultural industry and support education in agriculture.
4. To cooperate with the Tennessee FFA Association, local FFA Alumni affiliates, and the National FFA Alumni Association.
5. To promote and maintain an appreciation of the American free enterprise system of free men.
6. To promote the personal development aspect of the FFA.

## Article II. ORGANIZATION

Section A. The Tennessee FFA Alumni Association shall consist of individual members and chartered local affiliates organized on a school, county, or other area basis.

Section B-1. A local affiliate shall be eligible to become a chartered affiliate when (1) it has a least ten (10) members who have paid state and national dues, (2) its purposes or constitution and bylaws are in harmony with the Tennessee and National FFA Alumni Associations, and (3) it has a designated chairman.

B-2. A local affiliate shall be eligible to maintain affiliation as long as it meets the requirements listed under Article II, Section B-1 above.

Section C. When a local group becomes eligible to affiliate, it may apply to the state association to be chartered as a local affiliate of the Tennessee FFA Alumni Association. The state secretary shall supply an application upon request.

Section D. The Tennessee FFA Alumni Association may designate and charter any local affiliate in Tennessee with ten (10) or more Life members as a Life Member Affiliate.

### Article III. MEMBERSHIP

Section A. Membership shall be open to former active, collegiate, or honorary FFA and NFA members, present and former professional vocational agricultural educators, parents of FFA members, and others interested in the FFA.

Section B. Life membership in the Tennessee FFA Alumni Association shall be awarded to any member who is a Life Member of the National FFA Alumni Association.

### Article IV. EMBLEM

The gold FFA emblem with the word "Alumni" below it shall serve as the emblem of the Tennessee FFA Alumni Association.

### Article V. EXECUTIVE BODY

Section A. The executive body of the Tennessee FFA Alumni Association shall be the Tennessee FFA Alumni Council.

Section B. The Alumni Council shall consist of:

1. Voting members – fifteen (15) to seventeen (17) – to consist of four (4) members from each of Tennessee's grand divisions, up to two (2) at-large members to be appointed by the president and approved by the council and the current president, secretary, and treasurer of the Alumni Council."

2. Ex officio, non-voting members – to consist of the current state FFA president, immediate past state FFA president, state FFA advisor, state FFA specialist in agricultural education, president of the Tennessee Vocational Agriculture Teachers' Association, the immediate past president of the state FFA Alumni Association and other members deemed appropriate by the voting members of the Council.

Section C. Voting members of the Alumni Council representing the three (3) grand divisions shall serve two-year terms on a rotating basis except in cases of filling unexpired terms. At-large members shall be appointed to one-year terms.

Section D. The voting members of the Tennessee FFA Alumni Council shall elect annually from their own number a president, a president-elect, and a vice president from each of the state's grand divisions, who shall serve as officers of this Association. The election shall be held at the next regular Council meeting following the election of the voting members at the annual meeting. A secretary and treasurer shall be elected annually by the voting members of the Council and these officers shall also be voting members of the council. Upon the election of president, the Council position for that member shall be filled for the remaining portion of their unexpired term, if any term remains.

Section E. Duties of the officers shall be consistent with those usually appertaining to those positions.

#### Article VI. MEETINGS

Section A. The Alumni Council shall meet at least once each quarter and additional meetings may be called by the president or by a majority of the council members upon petition to the secretary.

#### Article VII. DUES

Section A. The annual active dues of the Tennessee FFA Alumni Association shall be recommended by the Alumni Council and fixed by majority vote of members present at the annual meeting.

Section B. Full state and national dues shall be paid by all members of the Tennessee FFA Alumni Association to be considered as active and in good standing.

Section C. The dues of any local affiliate shall be determined by that affiliate.

Section D. A "Life Membership" class of dues is established as set by the National FFA Alumni Association.

Section E. Voting members at the Annual meeting or through official mail ballot must have paid their annual dues.

Section F. Appropriate national dues shall be forwarded to the National FFA Alumni Association by the treasurer of the Tennessee FFA Alumni Association.

Section G. The membership year shall be from January 1 through December 31 of any calendar year; however, one who pays dues after November 1 shall receive credit for the next full membership year.

#### Article VIII. AMENDMENTS

Section A. Proposed amendments to this Constitution may be submitted by a local affiliate or by any active member and must be in writing and received by the secretary thirty days prior to the date of the annual meeting.

Section B. Proposed amendments must have been approved by at least a majority of the voting members of the Tennessee FFA Alumni Council before being submitted to the membership for consideration. The Alumni Council shall print or cause to be printed each proposed amendment for distribution at the annual meeting or for distribution by mail to current members. A two-thirds affirmative vote of those members present and voting at the annual meeting or a two-thirds affirmative vote of those members voting by official mail ballot shall be necessary to adopt an amendment. Amendments shall become effective on the first of the month following approval at the annual meeting, or in case of mail ballots, on the first of the month following the mail ballot.

ADOPTED \_\_\_\_\_ Unknown \_\_\_\_\_

AMENDED \_\_\_\_\_ May 3, 1988 \_\_\_\_\_

AMENDED \_\_\_\_\_ February 26, 2000 \_\_\_\_\_

AMENDED \_\_\_\_\_ March 4, 2006 \_\_\_\_\_

# TENNESSEE FFA ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

## BYLAWS

### Article I. RELATIONSHIP TO CONSTITUTION

These bylaws shall be compatible with the Constitution of Tennessee FFA Alumni Association.

### Article II. MEETINGS

Section A. The annual meeting of the state Alumni Association and other necessary meetings of the Alumni Association shall be held at such place and time as may be prescribed by the Alumni Council.

### Article III. DUTIES OF THE ALUMNI COUNCIL

It shall be the duty of the Alumni Council to direct the operation of the Association in accordance with its constitutional purposes.

### Article IV. PROCEDURE FOR SELECTION OF TENNESSEE FFA ALUMNI COUNCIL

Section A. The voting members of the Tennessee FFA Alumni Council representing the three (3) grand divisions shall be selected from nominations made at the annual meeting of the Alumni Association. Each grand division shall submit nominees from its area and election shall be at-large by a plurality vote of those members present and voting.

Section B. In addition to voting members, there shall be ex officio non-voting members as prescribed by the Constitution.

Section C. Voting council members representing the three (3) grand divisions shall serve for two-year terms, no more than one-half of whom may be seated any one year. The method of rotation is prescribed as follows:

Initially, the two council members elected from each grand division and having the highest number of votes cast shall serve for two years. The two council members from each grand division receiving the next highest number of votes shall serve for one-year terms. Thereafter, the rotation pattern will have been established.

Section D. Whenever a vacancy occurs on the Alumni Council other than from expiration of their terms of office, the Council shall appoint a person to fill the unexpired term of office.

Article V. FISCAL YEAR

Section A. The fiscal year of the State FFA Alumni Association shall commence on the first day of July each year and shall end on the thirtieth day of June on the following year.

Section B. Books and records of the Tennessee FFA Alumni Association may be inspected by any member or his agent or attorney at any reasonable time.

Section C. There shall be an annual audit of the Tennessee FFA Alumni Association.

Article VI. REPORTS

Section A. An annual State FFA Alumni Association report shall be submitted to the National FFA Alumni Association at the completion of the fiscal year.

Article VII. AMENDMENTS

Section A. Proposed amendments may be submitted by a local affiliate or by any active member and must be in writing and received thirty days prior to the date of the annual meeting.

Section B. Proposed amendments that have been approved for submission by a majority of the voting members of the Alumni Council shall be printed for the membership vote at the annual meeting.

Section C. Voting shall be at the annual meeting or by mail ballot to current members with the affirmation by two-thirds of those present and voting at the annual meeting or of two-thirds of those members voting by mail ballot being necessary for adoption. Amendments to these bylaws shall become effective on the first of the month following the annual meeting, or in case of mail ballots, on the first of the month following the mail ballot.

ADOPTED \_\_\_\_\_ Unknown \_\_\_\_\_

AMENDED \_\_\_\_\_ May 3, 1988 \_\_\_\_\_

AMENDED \_\_\_\_\_ March 4, 2006 \_\_\_\_\_