

Madison FFA Chapter Constitution revised 3/10/16

And By-Laws

Article I-Name and Purposes

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

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

1. To develop competent, aggressive, rural, and agricultural leadership.
2. To create and nurture a love of agricultural life.
3. To strengthen the confidence of students of agricultural education in themselves and their work.
4. To create more interest in the intelligent choice of agriculture as an occupation.
5. To encourage members in the development of individual agricultural experience programs and establish an agricultural careers.
6. To encourage members to improve the home and its surroundings.
7. To participate in worthy undertaking for the improvement of the industry of agriculture.
8. To develop character, train for useful citizenship, and foster patriotism.
9. To participate in cooperative effort.
10. To encourage and practice thrift.
11. To encourage improvement in scholarship.
12. To provide and encourage the development of organized rural recreational activities.
13. To strengthen and educate the local community and strive for increased Ag literacy.

Article II Organization

Section A. The Madison Chapter of FFA is a charter local unit of the Idaho Association of FFA which is chartered by the National Organization of FFA.

Section B. This chapter accepts in full the provisions in the constitution and by laws of the Idaho Association of FFA as well as those of the National FFA Organization.

Article III Membership

Section A. Membership in the chapter shall be of four kinds: (1) Active, (2) Inactive, (3) Honorary, (4) Alumni as defined by the National FFA Constitution.

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

Section C. Honorary membership in this chapter shall be limited to the Honorary Chapter FFA degree.

Section D. Active members in good standing may vote on all business brought before the chapter. An active member shall be considered active when;

1. He/She attends local chapter meetings and no more than one meeting is missed during one school year without an adequate excuse.
2. He/She shows an interest in, and takes part in the affairs of the chapter.
3. He/She pays dues regularly.

Section E. A member is considered inactive when:

1. More than one meeting or activity is missed without informing an officer or advisor.
2. Does not show an interest in or take part in chapter affairs.
3. Does not pay dues.

Section F. A non active member may become active once again if one or more of the following is done:

1. No more meetings are missed.
2. A written excuse is turned in to the FFA officers and is acceptable to them.
3. A written proposal is turned in to the officers and advisors from the inactive member explaining why the member desires to be an active member again. This must be acceptable to the officers.
4. Attend a Chapter officer meeting expressing and explaining their desire to become an active member again.

Section G. Non active members will not be allowed to:

1. Participate in any recreational activity or attend a FFA trip planned by the FFA chapter.
2. Compete in any local, district, or state Career Development Events held by the FFA or participate in any other FFA function.
3. Advance in degree standing.
4. Receive any FFA award given at the local, state, or district level.
5. Participate in any Fairs or any other FFA show.

Section H. An individual is considered a member of the Madison FFA Chapter if and only if the membership fees/dues are paid, and the advisor is aware of this transaction.

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 uniform and those obtained from concerns officially designated by the National Organization of FFA.

Article V-Membership Degrees and Privileges

Section A. There shall be five degrees of active membership in this chapter. These grades are: (1) The Discovery FFA Degree, (2) The Greenhand FFA Degree, (3) The Chapter FFA Degree, (4) The State FFA Degree, and (5) The American FFA Degree. These are based upon achievement and the National Organization shall set the standards for the several degrees.

Section B. "Discovery FFA Degree" On meeting the following minimum qualifications, the Discovery FFA Degree may be conferred by the chapter.

1. Have been [or will be] enrolled in an Agricultural class for at least a portion of the school year while in grade 7 or 8
2. Have paid FFA dues to be a member at the local, State and national levels.
3. Have participated in at least one local FFA chapter activity Outside of scheduled class time.
4. Have knowledge of agriculture-related career, ownership and entrepreneurial opportunities.
5. Are familiar with the local FFA chapter Program of Activities

Section C. "Greenhand FFA Degree" On meeting the following minimum qualifications, the Greenhand Degree may be conferred by the chapter.

1. Be regularly enrolled in an Agricultural education course for an agricultural occupation and have satisfactory and acceptable plans for a program of supervised Agricultural experience and/or other agricultural occupational experience.
2. Learn and explain the FFA Creed, Motto, and Salute.
3. Describe and explain the meaning of the FFA emblem, colors, and symbols.
4. Explain the proper use of the FFA jacket.
5. Have satisfactory knowledge of the history of the organization.
6. Know the duties and responsibilities of FFA members.
7. Personally own or have access to Official FFA Manual.
8. Submit written application for the Degree for chapter records.

Section D. "Chapter FFA Degree" On meeting the following minimum qualifications, the Chapter Farmer Degree may be conferred by the chapter:

1. Must have received the Greenhand FFA Degree.
2. Must have satisfactorily completed at least one semester of instruction in vocational Agriculture, have in operation an improved supervised farming and/or other agriculture occupational experience program and be regularly enrolled in a vocational agriculture class.
3. Have satisfactory knowledge of the local constitution and of the local program of activities.
4. Satisfactorily participated in at least three official functions in the chapter program of activities.
5. Have earned at least \$150.00 by his own efforts from his Supervised Agricultural Experience Program in agriculture production and/or agribusiness or worked 50 hours in the case of Directed Laboratory Experience in agriculture and/or agribusiness.
6. Demonstrate ability to effectively lead a group discussion for 15 minutes.
7. Demonstrate five parliamentary procedure abilities.
8. Demonstrate progress toward achievement of an Agriculture Proficiency Award on the local level.
9. Have a satisfactory scholastic record in an agriculture course.
10. Submit application for the Degree for chapter records.
11. Meet other requirements as established by the chapter and/or State Association.

Section E. State FFA Degree. Minimum qualifications for election:

1. Qualifications for the State FFA Degree are those set forth in the Constitution of the State FFA Association.

Section F. American FFA Degree. Minimum qualifications for election:

1. Qualifications for the American FFA Degree are those set forth in the Constitution of the National FFA Association.

Section G. Advisors shall review the qualifications of members and make recommendations to the chapter concerning degree advancement.

Article VI-Officers

Section A. The officers of the chapter shall be as follows: President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, Reporter, Sentinel, Greenhand President, Greenhand Vice-President, and Advisors. The advisors shall be the teacher of Agriculture Education in the school where the chapter is located. Officers shall perform the usual duties of their respective offices.

Section B. Officers shall be selected annually, by a selection committee comprised of six impartial individuals, at any regular chapter meeting. Worthy candidates for office must submit a written application to the advisor.

Section C. The officers of the chapter together with the chairmen in charge of the major sections of the annual program of work shall constitute the Chapter Executive Committee. This 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 D. Honorary members shall not vote nor shall they hold any office in the chapter except that of Advisor.

Article VII-Meetings

Section A. Regular chapter meetings shall be held once a month during the school year at a place and time designated by the chapter executive committee. Special meetings may be called at any time.

Section B. Two delegates shall be appointed 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 within the State.

Section C. A majority of the active members listed on the secretary's membership roll shall constitute a quorum, and a quorum must be present at any meeting at which business is transacted or a vote taken committing the chapter to any proposal or action.

Article VIII - Dues

Section A. Local dues in this chapter shall be fixed annually by the advisors.

Section B. Full local, state and district dues shall be paid by all active members.

Section C. No member shall be considered active unless they pay full local, state and district dues before December 1st. (Exception for first time FFA members joining after December 1st.)

Article IX - Amendments

Section A. This constitution may be amended or changed at any regular chapter meeting by two-thirds of the active members present providing it is not in conflict with the State FFA association constitution or that of the National Organization of the FFA.

Section B. Bylaws may be adopted to fit the needs of the chapter at any regular chapter meeting by a two-thirds vote of the active members present providing such bylaws conflict in no way with the constitution and bylaws of either the State Association or the National Organization.