**Yoakum FFA Chapter**

# Constitution

***Revised on 09/08/18***

## ARTICLE I - Name, Mission and Strategies

**Section A.** The name of this organization shall be the Yoakum FFA Chapter of the National FFA Organization and the Texas FFA Association.

**Section B.** The mission and strategies for this chapter are as follows:

FFA makes a **positive difference** in the lives of students by developing their potential for **premier leadership, personal growth** and **career success** through **agricultural education**.

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 the confidence of agriculture students in themselves and their work.

4. Promotes the intelligent choice and establishment of an agricultural career.

5. Encourages achievement in supervised agricultural experience programs.

6. Encourages wise management of economic, environmental and human resources of the community.

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 Yoakum Chapter of FFA is a chartered local unit of the Texas Association of FFA, which is chartered by the National FFA Organization.

**Section B.** This chapter accepts in full the provisions in the constitution, bylaws and policies of the Texas Association of FFA and the National FFA Organization and the policies and regulations of the Yoakum Independent School District.

### ARTICLE III - Membership

**Section A.** Membership in this chapter shall be of four kinds: (1) Active; (2) Alumni; (3) Honorary and (4) Junior, as defined by the National and Texas FFA Constitutions and by Texas FFA Association membership policies.

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

**Section C.** To be eligible for active membership in this chapter, a student must meet the membership eligibility requirements of the National FFA Organization and the Texas FFA Association. 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. While in school, be enrolled in at least one agriculture, food and natural resources course, as defined in Texas FFA Association membership policies, during the school year and/or follow a planned course of study. Either course must include a supervised agricultural experience program, the objective of which is preparation for an agriculture, food and natural resources career.

2. Shows an interest in the affairs of the organization by attending meetings, striving for degrees of membership, and participating in other organized activities of the chapter.

3. Pays all current local, district, area, state and national dues by the date determined by the chapter.

4. Displays conduct consistent with the ideals and purposes of the National FFA Organization, Texas FFA Association and with the school district’s code of student conduct.

5. Meets all other local standards and requirements described in this chapter’s bylaws and policies.

**Section D**. This chapter may elect to have a junior FFA organization. Junior members must meet all junior FFA membership requirements described in the Texas FFA Association Constitution and policies. A junior member shall be considered in good standing when he or she:

1. Shows an interest in the affairs of the organization by attending junior member meetings.
2. Pays local and state dues by the date determined by the chapter.
3. Displays conduct consistent with the ideals and purposes of the National FFA Organization and with the school district’s code of student conduct.
4. Meets all other local standards and requirements described in this chapter’s bylaws and policies.

Yoakum Junior FFA Membership shall be permitted to all children with in the Yoakum, Saint. Joseph, Sweet Home, and Ezzell schools up until their incoming freshman year at YOAKUMHS.

1. Exhibition of Major Show livestock and poultry requires 4H or Jr Membership (and to be in the 3rd grade or 9 years of age or HS FFA membership prior to December 1st of the current year thru their local FFA Chapter.
2. Membership will be permitted by the Local FFA Advisors in accordance with the guidelines of our YOAKUM ISD school policies and FFA Handbook.
3. Parents and Junior Members will follow all guidelines/rules required by HS FFA members in the exhibition of livestock.
4. Parents will be responsible for the transportation and overseeing of all livestock projects. Parents will maintain contact with the FFA Advisors for entries and deadlines.
5. Parents should stay current with their email address on the FFA Chapter email out.
6. Parents/exhibitors should stay current with their show rules and deadlines.
7. Because Junior FFA members are not in the high school agriculture classes and Advisors do not have daily access to the Jr members, Parents/Jr Members should be attentive to all show rules and information.

**Section E.** Names of applicants for membership shall be filed with the secretary and/or the chairman of the membership committee.

**Section F.** The membership year for this chapter shall begin on August 1 and end on July 31 of each year.

**Section G.** Honorary Membership – Farmers, school superintendents, principals, school board trustees, advisory committee members, chapter advisors, teachers, staff members in agriculture, food and natural resource education, business peoples, support group members and others who are helping to advance agricultural education and FFA and who have rendered outstanding service may be elected to honorary membership by a majority vote of the members present at any regular or special meeting. Honorary membership in this chapter shall be limited to the Honorary Chapter FFA Degree. Honorary Chapter FFA Degree recipients shall be entitled to wear the official silver or gold emblem pin. Procedures for nominating and electing honorary members shall be described in this chapter’s bylaws or rules.

## 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 designated by the National FFA Organization.

## ARTICLE V - Degrees and Privileges of Active Membership

**Section A.** There shall be five degrees of active membership based on individual achievement. These degrees are: (1) Discovery FFA Degree, (2) Greenhand FFA Degree, (3) Chapter FFA Degree, (4) State FFA Degree and (5) American FFA Degree. All Discovery FFA members are entitled to wear the regulation bronze and blue emblem pin. All Greenhands are entitled to wear the regulation bronze emblem pin. All members holding the Chapter FFA Degree are entitled to wear the regulation silver emblem pin. All members holding the State FFA Degree are entitled to wear the regulation gold emblem charm. All members holding the American FFA Degree are entitled to wear the regulation gold emblem key.

**Section B.** Discovery FFA Degree*.* Minimum qualifications for election:

1. Be enrolled in a local credit agriculture, food and natural resources class for at least a portion of the school year while in grades 7-8.
2. Have become a dues paying member of the FFA at local, state and national levels.
3. Participate in at least one local FFA chapter activity outside of scheduled class time.
4. Have knowledge of agriculturally related career, ownership and entrepreneurial opportunities.
5. Be familiar with the local FFA chapter program of activities.
6. Submit written applications for the degree.

**Section C.** Greenhand FFA Degree. Minimum qualifications for election:

1. Be enrolled in agriculture, food and natural resources course as defined by Texas FFA membership policies for high school credit and have satisfactory plans for a supervised agricultural experience program.

2. Learn and explain the meaning of the FFA Creed, Motto, and Salute.

3. Describe and explain the meaning of the FFA emblem and colors.

4. Demonstrate a knowledge of the FFA Code of Ethics and the proper use of the FFA jacket.

5. Demonstrate knowledge of the history of the organization, the chapter constitution and bylaws, and the chapter Program of Activities.

6. Personally own or have access to the Official FFA Manual and the FFA Student Handbook.

1. Submit a written application for the Greenhand FFA Degree.

**Section D.** Chapter FFA Degree. Minimum qualifications for election:

Must have received the Greenhand FFA Degree.

1. Have satisfactorily completed the equivalent of at least two semesters of systematic school instruction in Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources at or above the ninth-grade level, have in operation an approved supervised agricultural experience program, and be enrolled in an Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources course.
2. Have participated in the planning and conducting of at least three official functions in the chapter Program of Activities.
3. Have earned and productively invested at least $150 or worked at least forty-five hours in excess of scheduled class time, or a combination thereof and have developed plans for continued growth and improvement in a supervised agricultural experience program. The combination of hours multiplied by a factor of 3.33 and dollars must equal or exceed the number 150.
4. Have effectively led a group discussion for fifteen minutes.
5. Have demonstrated five procedures of parliamentary law.
6. Have shown progress toward individual achievement in the FFA awards program.
7. Have a satisfactory scholastic record.
8. Have participated in at least 10 hours of community service activities. These hours are in addition to and cannot be duplicated as paid or unpaid labor.
9. Have submitted an application for the Chapter FFA Degree.

**Section E.** State FFA Degree. Minimum qualifications for selection:

1. Have received the Chapter FFA Degree.
2. Have been an active FFA member for at least two years (24 months) at the time of receiving the State FFA Degree.
3. Have satisfactorily completed the equivalent of at least four semesters of systematic school instruction in Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources at or above the ninth-grade level, which includes a supervised agricultural experience program.
4. Have earned and productively invested at least $1,000 or worked at least 300 hours in excess of scheduled class time, or a combination thereof in a supervised agricultural experience program. The combination of hours, multiplied by a factor of 3.56 and dollars must exceed or equal the number 1000.
5. Have demonstrated leadership ability by:
   1. Performing ten procedures of parliamentary law.
   2. Giving a six-minute speech on a topic relating to agriculture or the FFA.
   3. Serving as an officer, committee chairperson, or participating member of a major committee
6. Have a satisfactory scholastic record as certified by the local Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources instructor and the principal or superintendent.
7. Have participated in the planning and completion of the chapter program of activities.
8. As of April 1, have completed ten activities above the chapter level in at least three of six different categories: leadership development events, career development events, conventions and meetings, project shows, student awards and leadership and service as described in policies adopted by the Board of Directors.
9. As of April 1of the ear the member is to receive the degree, have participated in at least 25 hours of community service within at least two different community service activities. These hours are in addition to and cannot be duplicated as paid or unpaid SAE hours.

Written records of achievement of all requirements, verified by the chapter FFA advisor, shall be submitted to the State Association at least one month prior to the state FFA convention at which the State FFA Degree is to be received. The State FFA Executive Director shall provide for a review of the records and submit a recommendation to the State FFA Board of Directors, which shall nominate at the State FFA convention the candidates who have been found worth to receive the honor. The State FFA Degree will be conferred upon the candidate subject to approval by the delegates at the state convention

**Section F.** American FFA Degree. Minimum qualifications for selection:

Have received the State FFA Degree, have been an active member for the past three years (36 months), and have a record or satisfactory participation in the activities on the chapter and state levels.

Have satisfactorily completed the equivalent of at least three years (540 hours) of systematic secondary school instruction in an Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources program or have completed the program of Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources at the school last attended.

Have graduated from high school at least twelve months prior to the national convention at which the degree is to be granted.

Have in operation and have maintained records to substantiate an outstanding supervised agricultural experience program through which a member has exhibited comprehensive planning, managerial and financial expertise.

A student after entering agricultural education must have: a. earned at least $10,000 and productively invested at least $7,500; or b. earned and productively invested $2,000 and worked 2,250 hours in excess of scheduled class time. Any combination of hours, times a factor of 3.56, plus actual dollars earned and productively invested must be equal to or greater than the number 10,000. Hours used for the purpose of producing earning reported as productively invested income shall not be duplicated as hours of credit to meet the minimum requirements for the degree.

Have a record of outstanding leadership abilities and community involvement and have achieved a high school scholastic record of "C" or better as certified by the principal or superintendent.

Have participated in at least 50 hours of community service, within at least three different community service activities. These hours are in addition to and cannot be duplicated as paid or unpaid SAE hours.

Submit an application and supporting documentation pursuant to the deadlines and requirements described in Texas FFA policies and procedures.

## ARTICLE VI – Officers and Executive Committee

**Section A.** The offices of an FFA chapter shall be: president, vice president, secretary, treasurer, reporter and sentinel. Other officers may be elected as deemed appropriate by the chapter. The teacher(s) of agriculture, food and natural resources shall be the FFA advisor(s). Chapter officers shall be elected annually by the members present at a regular meeting or called special meeting of the chapter. Procedures for electing officers and specific duties of each office are described in the bylaws of this chapter.

**Section B.** Pursuant to the provisions of the national and state constitutions, all chapter officers shall have attained the chapter FFA degree. The President must be a returning officer. In the event of no returning officer the position for president must be fulfilled by an active upcoming junior or senior.

**Section C.** Officers shall serve from the end of the chapter meeting at which they are installed to the end of the next succeeding chapter meeting at which officers are installed.

**Section D.** The elected officers of the chapter shall constitute the executive committee which shall convene to plan the activities of the chapter. Standing committee chairpersons may also be named as members of the executive committee. All policy decisions of the executive committee must be approved by the chapter. Telephone conferences of the executive committee may be called and considered meetings provided that all participating members may participate and be heard simultaneously.

**Section E.** Pursuant to the applicable constitutional, bylaw and policy provisions of the district, area and state associations and of the National FFA Organization, this chapter may nominate candidates for offices above the chapter level in a manner consistent with the provisions of its bylaws and policies. Candidates for district and area office shall have attained the chapter degree at the time of the district or area election. Candidates for state office shall hold the state degree at the time of the state election. Candidates for national office shall hold the American Degree at the time of their election to office.

## ARTICLE VII - Committees

**Section A.** The standing committees of the chapter shall be described in the bylaws. The chapter may, at any meeting, create additional standing committees.

**Section B.** The chapter president shall appoint all committees and committee chairs. The terms of all committees shall expire on a date described in the chapter’s annual strategic action plan. Committee expiration may vary depending on duties but no standing committee term shall extend past the end of the fiscal year. The president shall have the authority to remove or reassign any committee chairperson or member, with the consent of the advisor.

**Section C.** No committee shall have the authority to expend chapter funds (unless expressly authorized to do so), amend the chapter’s constitution, bylaws or policies, appoint or remove a committee member, or take any action outside the scope of authority delegated to it by the chapter.

## ARTICLE VIII - Dues

**Section A.** Local dues in this chapter shall be fixed annually by a majority vote of the active members.

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

**Section C.** No member shall be considered as active and in good standing unless he/she pays full local, district, area, state and national FFA dues.

## ARTICLE IX - Meetings

**Section A.** Meeting dates and times shall be fixed by the chapter’s executive committee with the advice and consent of the chapter advisor. Special meetings may be called by the president, by a majority vote of the executive committee or by the chapter advisor(s). Meeting agendas shall be posted in a manner consistent with operating rules or procedures adopted by the chapter.

**Section B.** A quorum shall exist when 1/4th of the chapter membership is present.

**Section C.** Proxy and cumulative voting are prohibited.

## ARTICLE X - Amendments

**Section A.** This constitution may be amended or changed at any regular or special chapter meeting by a two-thirds vote of the votes cast by a quorum of active members present providing it is not in conflict with the National FFA Organization or Texas FFA Association constitution, bylaws or policies Amendments must not conflict with the policies and/or regulations of the Yoakum Independent School District. Members shall be notified by mail, electronic mail or classroom announcement at least 30 days prior to a meeting at which any constitutional amendment is to be considered.

**Section B.** Bylaws may be adopted to fit the needs of the chapter at any regular or special chapter meeting by a majority vote of a quorum of active members present providing such bylaws do not conflict in any way with the constitution, bylaws or policies of the Texas FFA Association, National FFA Organization or the Yoakum Independent School District. Members shall be notified by mail, electronic mail or classroom announcement at least 30 days prior to a meeting at which any amendment to the bylaws is to be considered.

## ARTICLE XI – Parliamentary Procedure

**Section A.** The *Parliamentary Guide for FFA* by Jarrell D. Gray shall be used as a guide for all chapter meetings. The latest edition of *Roberts Rules of Order* shall be the final authority in governing the actions of all chapter meetings.

**Yoakum FFA Chapter**

# Bylaws

## ARTICLE I. – Relationship to Constitution

The Bylaws shall be a part of the Constitution of the Yoakum Chapter of FFA.

## ARTICLE II. – Location of Offices

The headquarters and principal office of the Yoakum Chapter of FFA shall be at 100 Poth Street Yoakum Tx 77995

## ARTICLE III – Procedures for Electing Officers

**Section A.** The chapter shall adopt rules related to the election of officers which shall include, but not be limited to, designation of elections committee, filing deadlines, application forms, testing procedures and election date.

**Section B.** Qualified members shall declare intent to be considered for chapter office by filing the required forms by the prescribed filing deadline pursuant to the rules adopted by the chapter.

**Section C.** Officers shall be selected by a combination of written exam score,30% interview score, 50% and a score derived from a secret ballot vote of the members present a regular or called special chapter meeting, 20%

**Section D.** All written materials related to a chapter election shall be deposited and retained in a secure location for no less than 30 days following the announcement of election results.

**Section E.** Appeals or protests related to a chapter election shall be filed pursuant to the grievances procedures of the Yoakum Independent School District.

**ARTICLE IV – Officer Guidelines**

**Section A.** The officers of the chapter shall be as follows: President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, Reporter, Sentinel, Student Advisor. The executive committee shall make revisions to the officer positions as needed by the chapter in the year of service to be held. The advisor shall be the teachers of Agricultural Science in the school where the chapter is located. Officers shall perform the usual duties of the respective officers as listed in the Official FFA Manual and the YOAKUM FFA Handbook.

**Section B.** Officers shall be elected annually. The Officer team may chose by a vote of the FFA Executive Committee to select their own officer positions other than that of President and Vice-President. Otherwise the officers will be determined by the rank in which they fall in order of the process of the system.

**Section C.** The officers and advisors of the chapter together with the chairmen 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 by-laws 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.

**Section E.** Chapter officers must hold the degree of the Chapter Farmer or higher and have satisfactory scholastic standing and a commendable citizenship and conduct record. The President must be a returning officer. In the event of no returning officer the position for president must be fulfilled by an active upcoming junior or senior.

1. All officer candidates are to know and agree to abide by the FFA Code of Ethics.
2. All officer candidates are to have knowledge of The Mission and Strategies of the FFA Organization.
3. All officer candidates are to have commendable citizenship and conduct records. A candidate must have not been retained in the school guidance system during his or her high school term for drug use or handling.
4. All officer candidates who have offences resulting DAEP due to fighting, firearms, or alcohol will not be eligible to run for office the current school year.
5. Officer candidates shall meet the following respective scholastic requirements:
   1. Chapter officer candidates must have an average of "B" or better in past Agricultural Science courses and have an overall average of "C" or better in courses taken the six weeks immediately preceding officer elections.
6. **All officer candidates are to have a sincere desire to carry out the duties of the office to which they are elected**.
7. All officers must agree to abide by the FFA Officer Rules as created each year by the Chapter Executive Committee and sign a statement agreeing to abide by them.
8. Officers are to carry out their duties as outlined in the official FFA Manual and as assigned by the President and approved by the Advisors.

## ARTICLE V – Duties of Officers

Chapter officers serve a vital function in the FFA organization. By taking a major leadership role, these students grow from the experience and benefit the chapter. It should be the officers' goal to lead by example and encourage other members to participate in chapter activities. The following are general duties expected of all officers.

* A commitment to a genuine desire to be a part of a leadership team.
* A willingness to accept responsibility.
* A sincere desire to work with all chapter members in meeting their leadership, personal and Chapter goals.
* A commitment to lead by example.
* A knowledge and understanding of the chapter, state and national FFA constitutions and bylaws.
* A working knowledge of parliamentary procedure.
* An ability to memorize their parts in the official ceremonies

**Section A.** It shall be the duty of all officers to fulfill the responsibilities described in the officer contract adopted by the chapter and agreed to by each officer at the time of declaring candidacy for chapter office.

**Section B.** The president shall preside at all of the chapter’s meetings, shall sign all official documents or authorize execution of said documents, appoint student committees and serve as an ex-officio member of all student committees, coordinate all chapter operations, represent the chapter in official functions and perform other such duties as usually pertain to the office of president.

**Section C.** The vice president shall perform the duties of the president in the event of the disability, death, resignation, removal or other inability of the president to perform such duties, develop the chapter’s program of activities, coordinate the operations of all student committees, serve as an ex-officio member of all student committees and perform such other duties and further duties as may be imposed upon him or her by the chapter.

**Section D.** The secretary shall make and keep correct records or minutes of proceedings of the chapter and executive committee, prepare and post meeting agendas, file reports, maintain member activity records, issue membership cards, update policy documents as directed and perform such other duties and further duties as may be imposed upon him or her by the chapter.

**Section E.** The treasurer shall have responsibility for accounting of all funds and property of the chapter. The treasurer shall provide direction and oversight to any and all who handle the monies of the chapter, assuring that the financial policies of the chapter and Yoakum Independent School District are followed completely, shall present a proposed budget at a regularly scheduled or called special chapter meeting, present monthly financial reports at chapter meetings, chair the budget and finance committee and perform such other duties and further duties as may be imposed upon him or her by the chapter.

**Section F.** The reporter shall chair the chapter public relations committee and develop public relations strategies to accurately define the public image of the agricultural education program and FFA chapter, develop or cause to be developed press releases concerning chapter activities, maintain or cause to be maintained a chapter website, develop working relationships with all local and school district media, ensure a complete photographic record of all chapter activities and perform such other duties and further duties as may be imposed upon him or her by the chapter.

**Section G.** The sentinel shall have responsibility for all meeting related equipment and shall maintain an inventory of all such equipment, ensure that all meeting and social venues are ready to receive members and guests prior to each function, take charge of candidates for degree and award ceremonies, assist the president in maintaining order, ensure a welcoming environment for guests and perform such other duties and further duties as may be imposed upon him or her by the chapter.

**Section H.** The student Advisor shall supervise chapter activities year-round. Inform prospective students and parents about FFA. Instruct students in leadership and personal development. Build school and community support for the program. Encourage involvement of all chapter members in activities. Prepare students for involvement in career development events and leadership programs.

**Section H. (OPTIONAL)**The historian shall have responsibility for documenting events to create a complete and accurate chapter history and compile such documentation such as, but not limited to newspaper and magazine articles, photographs, video footage, significant web-based content, ceremony and banquet programs and other memorabilia which may be maintained to provide future generations a glimpse into the chapter's history. The historian shall also maintain records of historically significant anniversaries, past degree and award recipients, officers and alumni of distinction and periodically create displays which foster pride among the members and perform such other duties and further duties as may be imposed upon him or her by the chapter.

**Section I. (OPTIONAL)** The parliamentarian shall achieve a level of proficiency in parliamentary law, as prescribed in policies adopted by the chapter and shall rule on all questions of parliamentary conduct at chapter meetings, conduct parliamentary workshops for younger members or develop other content or achievement benchmarks that foster value for mastery of parliamentary procedures. The parliamentary shall have custody of the chapter's parliamentary reference texts and shall perform such other duties and further duties as may be imposed upon him or her by the chapter.

**Section J. (OPTIONAL)** The chaplain shall present invocations or benedictions at chapter functions and conduct or cause to be conducted reflections and camps, conferences and workshops as deemed appropriate by the chapter and shall perform other such duties and further duties as may be imposed on him or her by the chapter.

## ARTICLE VI – Resignation, Removal of Officers, Officer Vacancies

**Section A.** The advisor or the executive committee with the advice and consent of the advisor, may, with good cause, remove any officer elected by the chapter. Good cause shall include, but not be limited to, violation of the provisions of the chapter’s officer contract, violation of chapter or departmental rules of conduct, violation of the school code of student conduct or violation of state or federal laws.

**Section B.** Any officer may resign at any time by giving written notice to the advisor, president or secretary. Such resignation shall take effect at the time specified in the notice, and, unless otherwise specified in the notice, the acceptance of such resignation shall not be necessary to make it effective.

**Section C.** Should the office of president become vacant; the vice president shall assume the title and duties of president. The executive committee may appoint an interim officer to fill any other vacancy until the chapter elects a qualified replacement.

**Section D.** Notification by the officer team and advisors for noncompliance of duties will occur. The consequences for not fulfilling duties are as follows in order:

* + 1. The first step is a meeting with officers and advisors to give encouragement.
    2. The second step is written notification to the officer that is deemed to be not fulfilling officer duties and a reduction in officer duties.
    3. The third step is a meeting with the advisors to discuss possible resignation.

Section E.

* 1. Officers may not have served in the school guidance ISS center more than 2 times during current school year without removal from office; officers who are assigned ISS 1 time will be put on probation.
  2. Once an officer has been assigned ISS for the second time they WILL be removed from office.
  3. Probation restrictions prevent you from Competing on CDE or LDE teams
  4. Probation length is one month from referral date.
  5. Officers must attend all functions of the Chapter, cooperative activities, conventions, elections, community activities and all others listed on the official chapter calendar posted in the Agriculture Department Office. If an officer may be unable to attend he or she must speak to an Advisor prior to the absence. The second absence will constitute a written warning and the third absence will be brought before the executive committee for dismissal review.
  6. An officer must wear Official Dress unless otherwise allowed Official Chapter Shirt for meetings and functions representing the FFA Chapter
  7. Officers may be removed from office if on the second official meeting they cannot perform the official opening and closing ceremony without written or verbal crutches, with the exception of the vice president who has until the fourth official meeting.
  8. An officer will be entitled to a full and impartial review and hearing by the executive committee. They may be temporarily or permanently dismissed from office. A decision will be based upon the facts.

Article VII – officer contract

**Attendance**

Attendance at all FFA functions is mandatory unless permission is granted prior to the function by the advisors prior to the activity.

* 1. Involvement
     1. No FFA chapter or officer meetings may be missed unless approved by advisors for family emergency or other extenuating circumstances approved by advisors prior to the event.
     2. The consequence for missing a FFA meeting without approval results in a meeting with the advisors to discuss possible resignation of FFA office
     3. All officers are required to participate on a CDE and LDE Team\* .
        1. exceptions are up to the discretion of the Ag science teacher
  2. FFA Functions
     1. No more than 2 FFA functions may be missed without the approval of Advisors prior to the absence.
     2. The following are considered approved exceptions: stock shows, camps, family events, major tests, athletic games, funerals, and graduations. Advisors will always work with the student in the event that a higher level of competition interferes with the FFA event missed. The student should discuss the exception or missed event prior to the missed date.
     3. The consequence for missing a function without prior approval is a meeting with advisors and officers to discuss possible resignation of FFA office.
  3. FFA Banquet
     1. Officers must attend the FFA Banquet rehearsals to prepare for the banquet. If missed without prior notification to the Advisors (only for emergencies) the individual officers positions in Opening & Closing Ceremonies and any parts requiring speaking and placement in the banquet script will be replaced by another member/officer chosen by the FFA Advisors.
     2. Banquet must be attended in Official Dress.

Current and Incoming FFA Officers are required to stay after the banquet and clean up the facility

Article VIII- Conduct

* Inappropriate or negative remarks, foul language or sexual references that are inappropriate on the school campus either through social networking, texting, personal or another social media about the FFA, members, advisors or others involved in the FFA will not be tolerated.
  1. The advisors & principal will make the ultimate decision in determining whether what has been said talks negatively of the FFA, others or themselves.
  2. The consequences of such detrimental or negative actions are as follows:
     1. The first step is a meeting with the officers and advisors to give encouragement to the respective officer.
     2. The second step is written notification.
     3. The third step is a meeting with the advisors to discuss possible resignation.

Article- GENERAL PROVISIONS CONCERNING OFFICERS AND MEMBERS

1. Membership may be temporarily or permanently denied for failure to abide by the code of Ethics.

Article- OFFICIAL FFA CLOTHING AND ACCESSORIES

* + - 1. Each individual member takes upon themselves the responsibility of wearing official clothing and accessories with dignity and pride so as not to reflect any bad criticism upon them self, the school, the FFA Organization, or the Local chapter.

Article OFFICIAL FFA AND SCHOOL EQUIPMENT

1.All members will show pride in the FFA Organization in his/her school by properly caring for and using the facility, its equipment, and official paraphernalia in a proper, dignified manner.

## ARTICLE VII – Committees

**Section A.** The standing committees of the chapter shall be in harmony with the National FFA Organization’s Quality Standards for Local Chapters. The committee designations and descriptions contained in these bylaws shall be amended to reflect the most current Quality Standards for Local Chapters adopted by the National FFA Organization for the membership year following revision of such standards. Such amendments shall me made without action by the chapter.

**Section B.** Each active member of this chapter shall be assigned to a committee which is deemed commensurate to the member’s interests, talents and skills. The chapter shall not be obligated to staff all committees, but any of the standing committees may be activated by the chapter president without the action of the chapter.

**Section C.** Each standing committee shall develop and submit to the executive committee a plan within the committee’s scope of responsibility and a corresponding budget within the timelines prescribed by the president. Each committee shall make regular and timely reports to the chapter concerning progress towards its respective goals.

**Section D.** The standing committees of the chapter and their respective duties are:

1. Growing Leaders-Leadership shall plan and execute activities which help the individual develop technical, human relations and decision-making skills to grow leaders.
2. Growing Leaders-Healthy Lifestyles shall plan and execute strategies which promote the well-being of students mentally or physically, in achieving the positive evolution of the whole person.
3. Growing Leaders- Scholarship shall plan and execute strategies which develop a positive attitude toward lifelong learning experiences.
4. Growing Leaders-Personal Growth shall plan and execute strategies which improve the identity and self-awareness of members, striving to enhance the quality of life and contribute to members’ life goals and development.
5. Growing Leaders- Career Success shall plan and execute strategies which promote student involvement and growth through agriculture-related experiences and/or entrepreneurship and promote career readiness.
6. Building Communities-Environmental shall plan and execute strategies to preserve natural resources and develop more environmentally responsible individuals
7. Building Communities –Human Resources shall plan and execute strategies which improve the welfare and well-being of members and citizens of the community
8. Building Communities-Citizenship shall plan and execute strategies to encourage members to become active, involved citizens of their school, community and country.
9. Building Communities –Stakeholder Engagement shall plan and execute strategies to develop teamwork and cooperation between the local chapter and stakeholders.
10. Building Communities –Economic Development shall plans and execute strategies to improve the economic welfare of the community.
11. Strengthening Agriculture-Support Group shall plan and execute strategies to develop and maintain positive relations among FFA, parents and community leaders interested in supporting agricultural education.
12. Strengthening Agriculture –Chapter Recruitment shall plan and execute strategies to increase agricultural education enrollment and/or FFA membership and encourage greater participation.
13. Strengthening Agriculture -Safety shall plan and execute strategies intended to enhance safety in the community
14. Strengthening Agriculture –Agricultural Advocacy shall plan and execute strategies to articulate and promote agricultural programs, practices, policies and/or education to elicit action.
15. Strengthening Agriculture -Agricultural Literacy shall plan and execute strategies to help consumers become better informed about the production, distribution and daily impact of food, fiber and fuel.

**Section E.** Subcommittees of a standing committee may be created by the president, executive committee, advisor or by the committee with the permission of the president and advisor.

## ARTICLE VIII – Transactions of the Chapter

**Section A.** The fiscal year of the chapter shall begin on September 1 and end on August 31

**Section B.** The chapter shall adopt policies and procedures consistent with the fiduciary policies, procedures and audit standards of the Yoakum Independent School District.

## ARTICLE IX – Grievances and Appeals

Grievances and appeals shall be addressed under the auspices of the student grievance policies and procedures of the Yoakum Independent School District.