



**CONSTITUTION
SOUTHWEST DISTRICT
OF THE IOWA FFA ASSOCIATION**

**Revised and Amended at the 2018 Southwest District Convention
March 3, 2018**

ARTICLE I: Name and Function

- A. The name of this organization shall be the Southwest District of the Iowa Association of the National FFA Organization. It may be shortened to "Southwest Iowa District FFA." Members are hereinafter referred to as "FFA Members" and the letters "FFA" may be used to designate the district, its activities, or the members thereof.
- B. This organization accepts in full the provisions of the State Constitution and bylaws of the Iowa Association of the National FFA Organization.
- C. The purposes for which this district is formed are as follows:
 1. To develop competent, aggressive rural and agricultural leadership.
 2. To create and nurture a love of country life.
 3. To strengthen the confidence of agricultural education students in themselves and in their work.
 4. To create more interest in the intelligent choice of agribusiness SAE programs.
 5. To encourage members of our district to improve the farm home and its surroundings.
 6. To participate in worthy undertaking for the improvement of agriculture.
 7. To develop character, train for useful citizenship, and foster patriotism.
 8. To participate in cooperative effort.
 9. To encourage and practice thrift.
 10. To encourage improvement in scholarship.
 11. To provide and encourage the development of organized recreational activities.

ARTICLE II: Membership

- A. Membership in this district shall be of two kinds: Active and Honorary, as defined by the National FFA Constitution.
- B. The regular work of this district shall be carried on by the active membership.
- C. Honorary membership in this district shall be limited to the Honorary District FFA Degree.
- D. Active chapters in "Good Standing" may vote on all business brought before the district. An active chapter shall be considered in good standing when:
 1. They show an interest in and take part in the affairs of the district.
 2. They pay their district dues by December 1st.



ARTICLE III: Emblems

- A. The emblem of the FFA shall be the emblem of the district.
- B. Emblems used by the members shall be designated by the national organization of the FFA.

ARTICLE IV: Membership Degrees and Privileges

- A. There shall be four grades of active membership in this district. These grades are:
 1. The Greenhand Degree
 2. The Chapter Degree
 3. The Iowa Degree
 4. The American Degree
 - All Greenhands are entitled to wear the bronze emblem pin. All members holding the Chapter Degree are entitled to wear the silver emblem pin. All members holding the Iowa Degree are entitled to wear the gold emblem charm. All members holding the American Degree are entitled to wear the regulation gold emblem key.
- B. Greenhand Degree minimum qualifications are listed in the National FFA Constitution.
- C. Chapter Degree minimum qualifications are listed in the National FFA Constitution.
- D. Iowa Degree minimum qualifications are listed in the Constitution of the Iowa FFA Association.
- E. American Degree minimum qualifications are listed in the National FFA Constitution.

ARTICLE V: Officers

- A. The officers of the Southwest District FFA shall be President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Reporter, Sentinel, and Advisor. This shall constitute the executive committee of the Southwest District FFA. The executive committee shall have full power to act as necessary for the district in accordance with actions taken at district meetings and in support of various regulations and bylaws adopted from time to time.
- B. These officers shall perform the usual duties of their respective office according to the Official FFA Manual and the bylaws of the Southwest District FFA.
- C. District officers shall be elected annually by a combination of 2/5 the nominating committee score and 3/5 of a secret ballot vote of district delegates present at district convention with the newly elected officers being installed this same day.
- D. The executive committee will set the time and place for officer interviews.
- E. Honorary members may not vote nor shall they hold any office except that of advisor.



ARTICLE VI: Meetings and Conventions

- A. A district convention shall be held annually. The time and place shall be set by the district advisor.
- B. Each chapter in the Southwest District FFA is responsible to have two delegates from their active membership present at the district convention.
- C. The district will conduct its session according to Robert's Rules of Order and the Official FFA Manual.
- D. Emergency and executive meetings will be held under the discretion of the district executive committee.

ARTICLE VII: Expenses

- A. Expenses of district officers for the function of their office will be paid by the district. (i.e. telephone calls, postage, automobile mileage, and printing expenses.)
- B. All district officer expenses will be paid for by the day of district convention.
- C. The district treasurer's book will run from district convention to district convention with all materials and accounts transferred to the newly elected treasurer by the following state convention.

ARTICLE VIII: Dues

- A. Dues will remain at \$40 per chapter per year unless a change is recommended by the district officers and approved by a majority vote of the delegates present at the annual district convention.
- B. FFA district dues will be paid by December 1st.
- C. No chapter shall be considered active and in good standing unless they pay all dues.

ARTICLE IX: Amendments

- A. Amendments to this constitution shall be submitted in written form to the secretary at least one month prior to the annual district convention. A two-thirds vote of all delegates present is necessary for adoption. The amendments must not conflict with the state or national constitutions.
- B. Bylaws may be adopted or changed at the district convention to fit the needs of the district. A two-thirds vote of all delegates present is necessary for adoption. The bylaws must not conflict with the state or national constitutions.

ARTICLE X: Contests and Awards

- A. All award applications and written materials for contests are due at the date, time, and place set by the District Advisor. No late materials will be accepted.
- B. All proficiency awards, books, and other materials must meet all state requirements.



BYLAWS

I. The Duties of the District Officers

- A. President: It shall be the duty of the president to preside over all the meetings of the district and executive committee. The president shall call special meetings of the executive committee, in case of important and pressing business.
- B. Vice President: It shall be the duty of the vice president to help the president in all ways possible in carrying on the business progress of the district. In case of the office of president becoming vacant due to resignation, illness, or otherwise, the vice president shall assume his duties for the period of the vacancy.
- C. Secretary: The secretary shall perform the duties common to such an office, such as keeping an accurate record of the meetings of the district and of the meetings of the executive committee. He/She shall attend to correspondence for the district and perform such other duties as he/she is directed by the executive committee. He/She shall keep the records of the organization.
- D. Treasurer: The treasurer shall act as custodian of the funds of the organization and collect Southwest District FFA dues. He/She shall keep an accurate record of all receipts, bank deposits, and disbursements, and make an annual report on such matters to the district and such other supplementary reports as may be directed by the executive committee. He/She shall pay out of the treasury such funds as are ordered paid by the executive committee.
- E. Reporter: The reporter shall write and submit news to the official FFA and Southwest District FFA publications. It shall also be his/her duties to plan other publicity of the district such as exhibits and displays.
- F. Sentinel: The sentinel shall set up the meeting room and care for district paraphernalia and equipment. He/She shall attend to the door during meetings, welcome visitors, bar those who are not authorized to enter, help the president in maintaining order in meetings, and see that the meeting room is kept comfortable. The sentinel shall also take charge of the candidates for degrees during initiation and assist with entertainment, features, and refreshments.
- G. Advisor: The advisor is the ex-officio member of all committees. It is his/her duty to advise the executive committee, district, and committees on matters of policy, and assist the district officers in conducting meetings and carrying out programs.