

THE CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS OF THE  
SAM HOUSTON DISTRICT OF THE FFA

ARTICLE I – NAME AND PURPOSES

- Section A. The name of this organization shall be the “Sam Houston District Association of the FFA.” Members are hereinafter referred to as FFA members and the letters, “FFA,” may be used to designate the Association, activities, or members thereof.
- Section B. The purposes for which this association is formed are as follows:
1. Develop competent and assertive agriculture leadership.
  2. Increase awareness of the global and technological importance of agriculture and its contribution to our well-being.
  3. Strengthens agriculture students’ confidence 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 the community’s economic, environmental and human resources.
  7. Develops interpersonal skills in teamwork, communication, 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 Sam Houston District Association of the FFA is a Chartered district unit of the Area IX Association of FFA which is chartered by the Texas and National Organizations of FFA.
- Section B. This Association accepts in full the provisions in the constitution and by-laws of the Area IX Association of FFA as well as those of the Texas and National Organizations of FFA.
- Section C. The Executive Committee shall contain five members consisting of the ATAT District President, ATAT District Vice President, ATAT District Secretary, ATAT District Treasurer, and the Advisor of the highest ranking FFA District Officer from a chapter not represented by a ATAT District Office. The Executive Committee shall have full power to act and interpret this Constitution as necessary for the Sam Houston District Association.

ARTICLE III – MEMBERSHIP

- Section A. Membership in this Association shall be of four kinds: (1) Active, (2) Alumni, (3) Collegiate, (4) Honorary; as defined in the National FFA Constitution.
- Section B. Each local chapter is entitled to send one delegate from its active membership to the District Meetings. Chapters with an active membership in excess of 50 are entitled to send one delegate per 50 members to the District Meetings as outlined in the formula below:

<u>Active Membership</u>	<u>Number of Delegates</u>
1-50	1
51-100	2
101-150	3
151-200	4
201-250	5
251-300	6
301-350	7
351-400	8

- Section C. Honorary membership shall be limited only to those who have received Honorary Degrees in their local chapters.
- Section D. All chapters in good standing are members of the Sam Houston District Association.

ARTICLE IV – EMBLEMS

- Section A. The emblem of the FFA shall be the emblem for the Association.
- 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 four grades of active membership in the Sam Houston District Association: (1) Greenhand (2) Chapter FFA (3) State FFA (4) American FFA.
- Section B. Qualifications for four Degrees of Active membership shall be in accord with Area, State, and National Constitution.

ARTICLE VI – OFFICERS

- Section A. District Officer Candidates shall be selected from FFA Chapters within the District.
- Section B. The officers of the Sam Houston District Association shall be as follows:  
President, Vice-president, Secretary, Treasurer, Reporter, Sentinel, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-president, 3<sup>rd</sup> Vice-president, and two Advisors. The advisors shall be the local chapter advisor of the District President and the District Vice-president.
- Section C. The District Officers, Area Officer Candidates, and State Officer Candidates representing the Sam Houston District shall be elected annually at the designated district meeting following guidelines set by the District Executive Committee and approved by Agriculture Science Teachers at the District Meeting.
- Section D. Honorary members shall not vote nor shall they hold any office in the Association except that of advisor.
- Section E. District Officers must hold the Degree of Chapter FFA when elected and must be a Junior or Senior while serving as a District Officer and may only serve one term.
- Section F. A member may not serve as District Officer and Area Officer concurrently.

ARTICLE VII – MEETINGS

- Section A. District Association meetings shall be determined by the District ATAT Officers and the District FFA Officers' Advisors.
- Section B. The "Parliamentary Guide for FFA" by Jarrell D. Gray shall be used as the final authority in governing the actions of all District Meetings.

ARTICLE VIII – DUES

- Section A. District Association dues shall be paid annually per member in each local chapter.
- Section B. No chapter shall be considered as active and in good standing unless they pay full District, Area, State, and National dues.

ARTICLE IX – LEADERSHIP

- Section A. One team from each local FFA chapter in each event or contest is eligible to compete in the District Leadership Contest, provided that these schools are in good standing with District Association rules.
- Section B. The District Speaking Events shall be held annually at the designated meeting.
- Section C. State and/or National Rules shall be followed for all District Competitions.

ARTICLE X – AMENDMENTS

- Section A. Proposed amendments to the District Constitution or By – Laws must be submitted in writing to the Area Coordinator at least 60 days prior to voting. These proposed changes must in turn be submitted in writing to the local chapters of the District at least 30 days prior to voting and submitted to the delegates in the district with recommendations.
- Section B. Amendments may be adopted or revisions made in the District Constitution at any district meeting by a two-thirds vote of the official delegates present.
- Section C. In case of an extenuating circumstance, items of business including but not limited to meetings and voting may be carried out by an alternative method as deemed appropriate by the Executive

Committee with full power to act as needed to assure the business of the Sam Houston District Association is carried out.

BY – LAWS

ARTICLE I

Two winners may represent the District for State Officer Election, Area Officer Election, Public Speaking Contest, and Talent Contest at the Area Convention or respective Area Meeting.

ARTICLE II

District candidates for FFA Talent Contests at the District Meeting will follow the rules for the State FFA Talent Contest. District candidates for Public Speaking Contest will follow the rules for the National Public Speaking Contest.

April 28, 1958 – Adopted

September 1970 – Amended

April 15, 1980 – Amended

June 1998 – Amended

April 14, 2005 – Amended

September 12, 2005 – Amended

September 20, 2010 – Amended

January 20, 2015 – Amended

April 24, 2023 - Amended