

# CONSTITUTION

## TENNESSEE 4-H ALL STARS

### **Article I. Name**

This organization will be known as the Tennessee 4-H All Stars and will be associated with the 4-H program of UT Extension.

### **Article II. Purpose**

The purpose of this organization will be to encourage service to others through both individual and cooperative efforts. This purpose will be expressed in the motto of the organization, "Service." Each member shall be expected to make a personal application of the motto.

### **Article III. Membership**

The membership of the Tennessee 4-H All Star organization will consist of those members who have been chosen from the roll of eligible 4-H Honor Club members and who have paid their All Star dues.

No 4-H Club member will be denied membership, an equal opportunity to hold office or participation in any of the activities or programs of this organization because of race, color, national origin, gender or disability.

### **Article IV. Officers and Their Selection**

The officers of this organization will be Chief, Deputy Chief, Scribe, and Advisor. The officers (with the exception of the Advisor) will be elected at State All Star Conference and will serve until the next State All Star Conference. The Advisor will be appointed by the state 4-H director. No All Star officer will serve for more than one year in any one office except the Advisor, who may serve for any number of years.

### **Article V. Meeting**

The organization will hold an annual High Council. High Council will be composed of the state officers and their regional counterparts. The business of the organization will be transacted at the state All Star conference. This conference will be held at a time and place to be determined by the executive committee as deemed necessary, providing such a session has the approval of the dean of UT Extension.

## **Article VI. Regional Constitutions**

Each region should have a regional 4-H All Star constitution. A regional constitution will have complete freedom in all matters concerning the regional organization, except those procedures that are specifically expressed by the state constitution. In case of dispute between regional and state constitutions, the state constitution will prevail.

## **Article VII. Amendment**

This constitution and/or its by-laws may be amended by a two-thirds majority vote of the members in attendance at any session of an annual State All Star Conference, provided that the proposed amendment shall have been approved jointly by the state executive committee and the dean of UT Extension. This amendment shall be mailed to all regional advisors and chiefs thirty (30) days in advance of the conference and presented at a meeting prior to the general assembly of the state conference where a vote on the proposed amendment is to be taken.

# BY-LAWS

## By-Law I. Membership

### Section I. Active Members

- A. Each county will have the responsibility of recommending as many 4-H members as meet the requirements set forth in By-Law I, Section I, Part B.
  
- B. The following qualifications should be considered in selection of nominees:
  - 1. Active 4-H Club member\*
  - 2. Must have completed the eight grade\*
  - 3. Must be a member of the Tennessee 4-H Honor Club\*
  - 4. Outstanding leadership ability
  - 5. Commendable character
  - 6. Above average project work
  - 7. Willingness to serve

*\* The first three qualifications are required.*

C. When initiated into the Tennessee 4-H Honor Club, a 4-H member shall be advised of All Star membership requirements. All Tennessee 4-H Honor Club members who desire to become All Stars shall complete an individual and/or participate in a group service learning project. Each prospective All Star member shall submit a report on their service learning activity along with a statement of 50 words or less about why their membership is desired. This report and statement shall be included in the 4-H All Star application form.

It is recommended that All Star application forms be reviewed at a joint meeting of county All Stars and Extension agents. A three-fourths majority vote of the All Stars in attendance at the meeting will be necessary to nominate anyone for All Star membership. The agent(s) who works with the county 4-H club program and All Stars present at the meeting must then sign the application form. These applications will be submitted to the regional office at least two days prior to the opening of the regional All Star conference at which the new All Stars will be initiated. If no All Stars appear for the joint meeting as previously outlined, the full responsibility for selection of nominees will then rest with the county Extension agents. In such case, the agents will sign the application form and indicate on the form that "No All Stars were present at the meeting."

D. Applications for All Star membership will be reviewed by the All Stars present at the regional All Star conference or by a committee appointed by the regional Chief. A three-fourths majority vote of the members present at this meeting, or of the committee, is required for acceptance. Secrecy will be maintained in voting for prospective members.

## **Section II. Interregional Transfer of Membership**

The regional All Star constitutions will provide for the transfer of All Star membership between regions in the state of Tennessee.

## **Section III. Membership Restrictions**

Upon termination of 4-H membership, active membership in All Stars will automatically cease.

## **By-Laws II. Dues**

The state dues of the Tennessee 4-H All Star organization will be a one-time payment of \$5.00 per member. Dues will be collected by the regional Advisor for all members initiated in a given year. This payment should be made to the state Advisor. These funds are to be used as needed to further the purposes of the state All Star organization and are not, in any way, connected with regional funds.

## **By-Law III. Election to Office**

### **Section I. State Officers**

- A. State All Star officers will be elected from the eligible top four regional officers who were serving their term of office on January 1 of the current year. An eligible officer may run for only one state All Star office in any one year. Elections shall be held at a combined session of the state executive committee and the top four officers from each region. This meeting must proceed the final session of the State All Star Conference.
- B. Newly elected officers shall assume the responsibilities of their office at the close of State All Star Conference.
- C. State offices must be held by persons who have served as one of the top four officers with the exception of the State All Star Advisor, who will be a member of the state 4-H staff. The position of State All Star Chief must be held by a person who has previously attended the State 4-H High Council meeting. Each regional advisor will be a regional advisor, program leader, or regional 4-H specialist.
- D. The regions shall have equal voting power at the meeting. The regional Chiefs have the privilege of appointing active All Stars to substitute for any regional officer that may be absent from this election meeting.
- E. Only regional Chiefs, Deputy Chiefs, and Scribes are eligible to vote in this election. No state officer may vote in this election unless he/she is otherwise eligible.

### **Section II. Regional Officers**

Regional officers will be elected from the active membership according to procedures set forth in regional constitutions.

## **By-Law IV. Duties of Officers**

### **Section I. Chief**

The Chief will preside at all meetings and perform duties usually pertaining to the office of president. He/she shall be chair of the executive committee and will govern its activities.

### **Section II. Deputy Chief**

The Deputy Chief will assist the Chief in conducting the work of this organization and, in case of absence, assume full duties.

### **Section III. Scribe**

The Scribe will serve as secretary of the organization, fulfilling all duties of this office. A complete set of past minutes of All Star conference and executive meetings will be maintained by the scribe. He/she will keep a record of all meetings, both general and executive, during the term of office and submit copies of these records to the executive committee, the regional advisors, the state 4-H office and the general membership, when necessary. At the end of the term, records of all meetings will then be passed on to the successor. The Scribe will also conduct any correspondence of the organization.

### **Section IV. Advisor**

The Advisor will serve as treasurer of the organization, fulfilling all duties of this office. He/she will receive and disburse all funds of the organization and will make a report at each state conference of the organization stating all receipts and disbursements. The books will be subject to audit by any member during the state conference.

### **Section V. Vacancies**

Should an officer resign, be removed from office, or for some reason be unable to fulfill the duties, the following procedure shall be used for the various offices: (1) Chief- the Deputy Chief assumes the duties; (2) all others – the runner up in the election for the particular office will assume the duties of the office.

## **By-Law V. Committees**

### **Section I. Standing Committees**

The standing committees of this organization will be (1) executive and (2) future plans. Membership in these two committees will include regional Chiefs, Deputy Chiefs and Scribes.

#### **A. Executive Committee**

1. This committee will be comprised of seven (7) members, including the state Chief, Deputy Chief, Scribe and all regional Chiefs, and a member of the state 4-H staff.

2. The executive committee will conduct the executive business of the organization, including the following specific items:

- a. Consider proposed amendments to the constitution and by-laws and make recommendations to the organization
- b. Investigate and conduct all cases of recall
- c. Hold business meetings, called by the state Chief, to transact any business that should be acted upon at that time and carry out authorized business of the previous annual state conference.

**B. Future Plans and Resolutions Committee**

1. This committee will be comprised of eight (8) members, including the state Deputy Chief, Scribe and their regional counterparts.
2. It will be the duty of this committee to recommend to the executive committee plans and policies of the organization for future years.

**C. Special Committees**

Special Committees, commissions or appointments may be made at any time by the state Chief to study specific problems or to further the efficiency of the organization.

**By-Law VI. Recall**

The regional chapters will have the right to expel any unworthy member from the organization. Charges brought against the member must be referred to the regional executive committee for investigation. The committee must give the accused the opportunity to refute the charge. A vote will be taken by the chapter following the report of the executive committee. A three-fourths vote of the All Stars present at the meeting is required for expulsion.

**By-Law VII. Quorum**

Two-thirds of the active All Star members registered for a state All Star conference will constitute a quorum at any one session of that conference.

**By-Law VIII. Rules of Order**

Robert's Rules of Order will be followed in conducting all business of the organization except in cases where other rules of procedures are specifically designated by this constitution and its by-laws.