

# Wapsie Valley FFA Constitution

## Article I. Name and Purpose

**Section A.** The name of the organization shall be Wapsie Valley Chapter of the FFA. Members are hereinafter referred to, as FFA members and the letters FFA may be used to designate the chapter, its activities, and members.

**Section B.** The purpose for which this chapter is formed is as followed:

1. To develop, competent, aggressive rural and agricultural leadership.
2. To create and nurture a love for the country life.
3. To create confidence among members in agriculture in their work and themselves.
4. To create a wide range of farming, and other agricultural occupation.
5. To encourage member to develop individual farming programs.
6. To improve the farms and communities.
7. To improve agriculture itself.
8. To develop character, citizenship, and patriotism.
9. To participate cooperatively.
10. To learn and pursue thrift.
11. To improve scholarship
12. To develop and encourage participation in chapter recreational activities.

## Article II Organization

**Section A.** The Wapsie Valley Chapter of the FFA is a chartered local unit of the Iowa Association of the FFA, which is chartered by the National Organization of the FFA.

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

## Article III. Membership

**Section A.** Membership designated in this chapter shall be of three kinds: (1) active (2) alumni, and (3) honorary, as provided by the National Organization.

**Section B.** Only the active members shall perform the business of this chapter.

**Section C.** Honorary membership shall be limited to Honorary Chapter FFA Degree

### Article III. Membership Continued

**Section D.** Any members in good standing can vote on all business. A member in good standing: (1) When he/she attends meetings, (2) shows interest in chapter activities, (3) participated in the chapter affairs, and (4) dues are paid annually. For officer elections, only in-school members may vote.

**Section E.** Name of applicants to our chapter shall be filed with the secretary.

### Article IV. Emblems

**Section A.** The emblem of the FFA shall be the emblem of our chapter.

**Section B.** The National FFA Foundation shall designate emblems used by members.

### Article V. Membership, Degrees, and Privileges

**Section A.** There shall be five degrees of active membership based on individual achievement. These are the Discovery FFA Degree, Greenhand FFA Degree, the Chapter FFA Degree, the State FFA Degree and the American FFA Degree. The national organization shall set the minimum qualifications for each degree. The Discovery FFA Degree is intended for use in state associations and local chapters where middle school membership is offered. Receipt of this degree is not necessary in order to obtain the Greenhand FFA Degree or subsequent degrees.

**Section B.** Discovery FFA Degree

1. Be enrolled in agricultural education 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 application for the degree.

## Article V. Membership, Degrees, and Privileges Continued

### **Section C. Greenhand Degree.**

1. Be enrolled in agricultural education and have satisfactory plans for a supervised agricultural experience program.
2. Learn and explain the FFA Creed, motto, salute and FFA Mission Statement.
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 a 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.
7. Submit written application for the Greenhand FFA Degree

### **Section D. Chapter FFA Degree**

1. Must have received the Greenhand FFA Degree.
2. Must have satisfactorily completed the equivalent of at least 180 hours of systematic school instruction in agricultural education at or above the ninth grade level, have in operation an approved supervised agricultural experience program and be enrolled in an agricultural education course.
3. Have participated in the planning and conducting of at least three official functions in the chapter Program of Activities.
4. A student after entering agricultural education must have: a. earned and productively invested at least \$150 by the member's own efforts; or worked at least 45 hours in excess of scheduled class time; or a combination thereof; and b. developed plans for continued growth and improvement in a supervised agricultural experience program.
5. Have effectively led a group discussion for 15 minutes.
6. Have demonstrated five procedures of parliamentary law.
7. Show progress toward individual achievement in the FFA award programs.
8. Have a satisfactory scholastic record.
9. 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 SAE hours.
10. Submit a written application for the Chapter FFA Degree

## Article V. Membership, Degrees, and Privileges Continued

### **Section E.** State FFA Degree

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

### **Section F.** American FFA Degree

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

## Article VI Officers

**Section A.** Officers of the chapter: President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Reporter, Sentinel, and Advisor.

**Section B.** Officers shall be elected annually by a majority vote of the members present at a regular meeting. Only President is elected by individual ballot, all other officers shall be elected by majority vote and office designated by nominating committee and newly elected President.

**Section C.** The Officers of the chapter, together with the advisor, make up the executive committee.

**Section D.** Honorary members shall not vote, nor shall they hold office in the chapter, except that of the advisor.

**Section E.** Chapter officers must hold the degree of the Chapter FFA Degree by the time of the satisfactory completion of three semesters.

**Section F.** The officers of the chapter 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 meeting and various regulations or by-laws adopted from time to time.

**Section G.** All candidates for chapter office shall be interviewed by a nominating committee comprised of an odd number of seniors.

**Section H.** All chapter officers are required to:

1. Attend District officer training camp.
2. Participate in the Program of Activities planning sessions.

## Article VI Officers Continued

Officers not attending these two activities without prior excuse adopted by the advisor will not receive first chance to attend the State or National Conventions or receive an officer plaque at the annual Parent-Member Banquet.

## Article VII. Meetings

**Section A.** Regular chapter meeting shall be held as determined by the chapter officers at a designated time set by the officers during the school year. The same applies to the summer meetings.

**Section B.** Standard meeting paraphernalia shall be used at each meeting. All regular meetings shall be opened and closed with official ceremonies. Parliamentary Procedure shall be used in transacting all business at each meeting.

**Section C.** Delegates, as specified by the State Constitution, shall be elected from the active membership to represent the chapter at the State Conference. Other delegates named as necessary in order to properly represent the Chapter at various other FFA meetings within the State.

**Section D.** A majority of the active members listed in the secretary's membership roll shall constitute a quorum. This must be present at any meetings at which business is transacted or a vote taken committing the Chapter to a proposal or action.

## Article VIII. Dues

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

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

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

## Article IX Amendments

**Section A.** This Constitution may be amended or changed at any regular meeting by two-thirds vote of the active membership present, providing such by-laws conflict in no way with the constitution or by-laws of either state or National Organizations and Associations.

Revised July 1986  
Revised July 1989  
Revised July 1992  
Revised July 1993  
Revised July 1994  
Revised July 1995  
Revised June 2001  
Revised June 2002  
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Revised June 2010  
Revised June 2011  
Revised June 2012  
Revised June 2013  
Revised June 2014  
Revised June 2015  
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