

# Area VII FFA Constitution

## ARTICLE I – Name and Purpose

Section A: The name of this organization shall be “Area VII of the Missouri Association of the FFA.” The words Area VII FFA Association may be used to designate the association, its activities, or members thereof.

Section B: The purpose for which this association is formed are as follows:

1. To provide additional leadership training opportunities for the members of the Area VII FFA Association.
2. To coordinate the public relations and activities of the chapters of the Area VII FFA Association.
3. To form a common bond among the FFA chapters in Area VII of the Central District of the Missouri Association of FFA in order to further brotherhood and cooperation among the members so that they might work together for the betterment of all.

## ARTICLE II – Organization

Section A: Area VII of the Missouri FFA Association is comprised of members, of chartered chapters, of the Missouri Association of the FFA who have paid their dues to the Area VII FFA Association.

Section B: This Association accepts in full the provisions in the Constitution and bylaws of the Missouri Association of FFA as well as those of the National FFA Organization.

## ARTICLE III – Membership

Section A: The kinds of membership of this association shall be Active and Honorary. The qualification for these two types of membership shall be those outlined in the National FFA Constitution.

Section B: Anyone becoming an active member of any of the FFA Chapters in the Area VII FFA Association at the same time becomes an active member of this association if the home chapter has paid their Area VII dues.

Section C: Each chapter shall be represented by two voting delegates to conduct the business of the Association.

Section D: The Honorary Degree of membership shall be conferred by the Association. Becoming an Honorary member of one of the FFA Chapters does not constitute honorary membership in the Area VII FFA Association.

#### ARTICLE IV – Officers

Section A: The officers of the Area VII FFA Association shall be as follows: President; Vice President; Secretary; Treasurer; Reporter; Sentinel; Chaplain; Parliamentarian; Historian; and Advisor.

Section B: Requirements for office shall be the same as stipulated for Chapter Office by the National Constitution.

Section C: The Area VII FFA Officer Selections shall be as follows:

1. Chapters may present only one candidate for an Area office. Candidate may interview for state and area office in the same year.
2. Officer candidates will submit an application prior to the interview. This application must be signed by the applicant, his/her parents, administrator, and advisor prior to the interview and will include an officer contract. The outgoing Area Advisor will draft the application and distribute it to potential applicants.
3. A panel of voting delegates will conduct the interview. Each school may bring two (2) students to serve on this panel. The outline of delegate procedures during the meeting is as follows:
  - a. All present delegates will divide among six equally numbered groups, with no group having more than one delegate from the same school.
  - b. Each group will develop one (1) question to present to each of the interviewees. The two advisors present must approve the question.
  - c. Each group will select one spokesman to serve on the panel of six (6) students. No school may have more than one (1) spokesman on the panel. The task of the spokesman will be to ask the question developed by their group during the interview.
4. The interview will be overseen by the following individuals, with only one of these individuals being a first year teacher:
  - a. The Area FFA Advisor
  - b. Another Area VII advisor (preferably one without a candidate during the interview)

5. Individuals not on the panel of voting delegates or advisors overseeing the interviews will not be allowed to observe the interviews.
6. The officers will be selected based on the following items:
  - a. FFA Knowledge – 15 pts: This will consist of a 30 question multiple choice test. Each question will be worth 0.5 points. Test questions will be taken from prior FFA Knowledge Exams. The outgoing Area Advisor is responsible for drafting the test.
  - b. Official Dress – 10 pts: Candidate will receive 2 points for each correct item of official dress that he/she wears for the interview. (FFA jacket, FFA tie or scarf, white shirt or blouse, black slacks or skirt, black shoes with black socks/hose, or boots.) Correct Official dress will be decided based on the most current Missouri State FFA Constitution.
  - c. Leadership Points – 20 pts: The candidates will fill out the Leadership pages(Forms 108, 109, and 110) from their SAE Record Book. The most current State Degree handbook will be used to tally the candidate’s score. The CAPS ON score will be used. One of the advisors in the interview room will score all Leadership Pages for points. The following chart will then be used to determine the candidate’s leadership portion for the interview.

State Degree Handbook Score	Leadership Points Score
0 – 80	0
81-120	2
121-140	4
141-160	6
161-180	8
181-200	10
201-220	12
221-240	14
241-260	16
261-280	18
281 – above	20

Example – If a student scores 206 on the state degree leadership page, then for the activity portion of the interview, the student would receive 12 points.

- d. Interview Questions – 60 pts: Each delegate will score each interview question on a scale of 1-10 for each interview. At the conclusion of all interviews, the delegates will average their score for each question for each applicant and report to one of the advisors present.

Grade Point Average – Yes/No: Anyone running for an office must have a current minimum cumulative GPA of 2.5 (on a 4.0 scale) as verified by the school counselor.

7. When the interview process is concluded, and all scores are totaled, the assigning of offices will take place. The officer with the highest score will be slated as President, the second highest score as Vice President, third highest score as Secretary, fourth highest score as Treasurer, fifth highest score as Reporter, sixth highest score as Sentinel, seventh highest score as Chaplain, eighth highest score as Parliamentarian, and ninth highest score as Historian.

In the event of a tie between offices, point totals from the Interview Questions will decide the break. If there is still a tie, the Leadership Points will be used, followed by the Knowledge Test.

8. The slate shall be presented to the delegates the evening of the interview for an up-or-down vote on the slate.
7. Once the Area VII FFA Association has approved the slate, the officers shall be installed that evening or at Area VII Banquet.

Section D: The Area VII FFA Association advisor shall be the chapter advisor of the Area VII FFA president. The advisor of the Area VII Treasurer will assist the Area Treasurer with his/her duties. The advisor of the Area VII Secretary will assist the Area Secretary with his/her duties.

Section E: Officers shall be limited to sophomore or juniors in high school at the time of elections. One individual may hold office for two years if elected to an office for a second year.

Section F: In case of officer resignation, the executive committee shall designate the officer's replacement.

#### ARTICLE V – Meetings

Section A: There shall be three set meetings each year. However, the president may call special meetings as needed. These shall be: Area FFA Leadership Conference, Greenhand Motivational Conference, and Area Banquet.

Section B: Simple majority constitutes a quorum.

Section C: Official FFA ceremonies, parliamentary law, and FFA paraphernalia shall be used in all meetings. The sentinel shall be responsible for the official paraphernalia for all meetings.

Section D: Meeting places will be determined by the executive committee. The secretary shall send advance notice 5 days in advance of meetings.

#### ARTICLE VI – Dues

Section A: The executive committee shall recommend minimum dues of \$25 per Area VII Chapter per school year. The dues shall be spent to cover postage, paper and other operational costs. Expenses encountered from banquets, barnwarmings, and other special projects shall be supported by the members participating in the special projects. Dues shall be paid by the Area's State Degree and Proficiency Selection night. Failure to pay by that date will result in forfeiture of contest, degree, proficiency awards.

#### ARTICLE VII – Executive Committee

Section A: The executive committee shall consist of all officers and the advisor.

Section B: The executive committee shall have the power to take all action necessary to carry out the business of the association unless such action limits the rights of the individual members.

Section C: Members of the Executive Committee shall have eight meeting/work days throughout the year. Those events are: Area Officer Camp Training, Area VII Central District Fair work day, State Fair Area VII work day (2 days), Area FFA Leadership Conference, Greenhand Motivational Conference, Area Banquet Planning meeting (held during State Degree & Proficiency Selection), and the Area FFA Banquet.

#### ARTICLE VIII – Amendments

Section A: To amend this constitution shall require 2/3 of the delegates of 2/3 of the chapters voting for the amendment.

Section B: An amendment must be filed with the secretary 30 days prior to an Area VII meeting. The secretary will then notify the chapters of the proposal 20 days prior to the meeting.

Section C: No amendment may conflict with any part of the State and National FFA Constitutions.

#### ARTICLE IX – Area FFA Degree

Section A: The Area VII of the Missouri Association of the FFA will award the Area FFA Degree each year.

- Section B: The Area FFA Degree application will be the current year's State Degree Application and must follow all rules outlined in the current State Degree Handbook. All due dates will follow the State Degree guidelines.
- Section C: The Area FFA Degree will be awarded to all members who submit a State Degree application that meet the minimum qualifications for the State FFA Degree as outlined in the most current FFA manual.
- Section D: The Area FFA Degree will be awarded at the Area VII Banquet.

#### ARTICLE X – State Officer Interviews

- Section A: The State Officer Interviews for Area VII will be conducted during the Area VII Officer Interview Night.
- Section B: The interview panel will consist of 2 present State FFA Officers, neither from Area VII and three representatives from the agricultural industry. It will be the duty of the current Area MVATA officers to secure such judges. One Area VII advisor will be present during the interviews, but will be a non-voting, non-contributing, non-participating member. This advisor must not have an applicant.
- Section C: The announcement of the new State FFA Officer representing Area VII will be made at the conclusion of the interview process and the new State Officer will be introduced at the Area FFA Banquet.
- Section D: Each candidate must submit the required documents for application of State Officer as required by the Missouri FFA Officer Handbook, by the required deadline as set by the State FFA advisor. Each applicant must bring 5 copies of the completed application to the interview.

#### ARTICLE XI – Miscellaneous

- Section A: The Area will provide respective officer pins for the executive committees.
- Section B: The Area will pay for the meal expense for all Area Officers (except Advisor) during the banquet.
- Section C: Official Dress guidelines are the most current Missouri State FFA Constitution Official Dress Guidelines.

## RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE AREA OFFICERS

- I. Close meeting at Area VII Banquet – (March)
  - A. Become familiar with your teammates.
  - B. Make sure every officer has every other officer's telephone # and address.
  - C. Get last year's officer's telephone # addresses.
  - D. Obtain Area Advisor's (New President's Advisor) telephone # and address.
  - E. Start learning parts in ceremonies.
  - F. Receive copy of the Area VII FFA Notebook and Constitution.
- II. Order Area VII FFA Jackets – (Needed by September)
- III. Attend Area Officer Leadership Camp (June or July)
- IV. District Fair at District Fair Location
- V. State Fair Work Day (2 days)
- VI. Chapter Officer Leadership Training – (September)
  - A. Each area Officer is to put on a workshop on their respective office to new chapter officers.
- VII. District Greenhand Motivational Conference – (January)
- VIII. Area Banquet – (March)
  - A. Any pre-planning meeting
  - B. Opening and Closing Ceremony
  - C. Present awards (make effort to ensure correct pronunciation of all names)
  - D. If holding Area Officer installation, know officer installation ceremony
  - E. Update Officer notebook as needed and have ready to pass on to new officer

NOTE TO OFFICERS: Realize that these are only the basic things that have been done in the past. You should not feel restricted to what has been presented; use your own judgment and pay attention to the details and specific duties of your office. Example: The Sentinel should bring the meeting room Paraphernalia if not supplied at the meeting location.