

MERIDIAN CHAPTER CONSTITUTION OF THE IDAHO FFA ASSOCIATION

(Revised 2023)

Article I: Name and Purposes

Section A: The name of this organization shall be the "Meridian FFA Chapter" and the letters FFA will be used to designate the chapter, its activities, or members thereof.

Section B: The purposes for which this chapter is formed are as follows:

1. To develop competent, aggressive, urban, rural, and agricultural leadership.
2. To create and nurture a love of community life.
3. To strengthen the confidence of students in themselves and their work.
4. To create more interest in the intelligent choice of Agricultural Occupation.
5. To encourage members in the development of individual Agricultural programs and establishment in Agribusiness Experience.
6. To encourage members to improve their home and its surroundings.
7. To participate in worthy undertaking for the improvement of agriculture.
8. To develop character, train for useful citizenship, and foster patriotism.
9. To participate in cooperative effort.
10. To encourage and practice thrift.
11. To encourage improvement in scholarship.
12. To provide and encourage the development of organized cooperative recreational activities.

Article II: State Affiliation

Section A: The Meridian FFA Chapter is a local unit of the State FFA Association which is chartered by the National FFA Organization.

Section B: This chapter accepts in full the provisions in the constitution and by-laws of the State FFA Association or the National FFA Organization.

Article III: Membership

Section A: Membership in this chapter shall be of three kinds: 1) Active, 2) Alumni, and 3) Honorary, as defined by the national FFA constitution.

Section B: Active membership will have two subsections of members in good standing and not in good standing.

Section C: The local work for this chapter shall be carried on by the active membership.

Section D: Active members in may vote on all business brought before the chapter. An active member shall be considered in good standing when the have met the following:

1. Be on the Meridian FFA Chapter Roster for the current year of membership.
2. Must be passing all classes and eligible for school extracurricular activities to participate in FFA activities.
3. Enrolled in and complete with a passing grade at least one semester of an agriculture class for the current school year.
4. Members must have a SAE with accurate records maintained in AET.
5. Members must adhere to the West Ada High School Student Handbook policies while on school property or at FFA activities.
6. Members must adhere to the FFA code of Ethics
7. Attend a minimum of three different chapter activities or meetings. First year members must attend a minimum of two chapter activities or meetings.
8. Shows an interest in, and takes part in the affairs of the chapter.
9. Pays dues regularly.

Section E: Alumni membership is open to any community member interested in and supportive of the FFA.

STRIKE OUT THE SECTION ON COLLEGIATE MEMBERSHIP

Section F: Honorary membership in this chapter shall be limited to the Honorary FFA Degree.

Section G: Names of applicants for membership shall be filed with the membership committee.

Section H: The FFA Code of Ethics, FFA members conduct themselves at all times to be a credit to their organization, chapter, school, community, and family. As an FFA member, I pledge to:

1. Develop my potential for premier leadership, personal growth, and career success.
2. Make a positive difference in the lives of others.
3. Dress neatly and appropriately for the occasion (FFA Official Manual page 24 for proper use of official dress).
4. Respect the rights of others and their property.
5. Be courteous, honest, and fair with others.
6. Communicate in an appropriate, purposeful, and positive manner.
7. Demonstrate good sportsmanship by being modest in winning and generous in defeat.
8. Make myself aware of FFA programs and activities and be an active participant.
9. Conduct and value a supervised agricultural experience program.
10. Strive to establish and enhance my skills through agricultural education in order to enter a successful career.
11. Appreciate and promote diversity in our organization. I will always respect all public and private property.

Article IV: Emblem

Section A: The emblem of the FFA shall be the emblem of this chapter.

Section B: Emblems used by the members shall be uniform and those obtained from concerns officially designated by the National FFA Organization.

Article V: Degrees and Privileges

Section A: There shall be two grades of active membership in this chapter. These grades are the "Green Hand Degree" and the "Chapter FFA Degree". All "Green Hands" are entitled to wear the regulation bronze emblem pin. All members holding the Chapter FFA Degree are entitled to wear the silver emblem degree pin.

Section B: Green Hand Degree minimum qualifications for election:

1. Be regularly enrolled in a class in Agricultural Science Technology and have satisfactory and acceptable plans for a program of supervised agricultural experience.
2. Be familiar with the purpose of the FFA and the program of work of the local chapter.
3. Learn and explain the FFA Creed, motto, salute and FFA mission statement.
4. Receive a majority vote of the members present at a regular meeting of the local chapter.

Section C: Chapter FFA Degree minimum qualifications for election:

1. Must hold the degree of Green Hand at the time of election to the chapter FFA degree and have record of satisfactory participation in the activities of the local chapter.
2. Must have satisfactorily completed at least one semester of instruction in agricultural science and technology, have in operation an improved supervised experience program, and be regularly enrolled in an agricultural science and technology course.
3. Be familiar with the provisions of the constitution of the local chapter.
4. Be familiar with the purpose and programs of work of the state FFA Association and National FFA Organization.
5. Be familiar with parliamentary procedure.
6. Be able to lead a group discussion for fifteen minutes.
7. Must have earned your own efforts from your supervised agricultural experience and deposited in the bank or otherwise productively invested at least \$100.00.
8. Receive a majority vote of the members present at a regularly scheduled chapter meeting.

Section D: Special committees shall review the qualifications of members and make recommendations to the

chapter concerning degree advancement.

Article VI: Officers

Section A: The officers of the chapter shall be as follows: President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Reporter, Sentinel, and Advisor. Also, other officers may be elected as the Chapter Nominating Committee sees fit. The Advisor shall be the teacher of agricultural science and technology in the school where the chapter is located. Officers shall perform the usual duties of their respective offices.

Section B: Officers shall be elected semi-annually or annually by a majority.

Section C: 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 meetings, or various regulations or by-laws adopted.

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

Section E: The following Chapter officers President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Reporter, and Sentinel must hold the Chapter FFA Degree Any additional officer positions added by the Chapter Nominating Committee must hold the Greenhand degree.

Section F: All Officers candidates agree to abide by the FFA Code of Ethics, as well as the following

1. All officer candidates are to have knowledge of The Mission and Strategies of the FFA Organization.
2. All officer candidates are to have commendable citizenship and conduct records. A candidate must have not been retained in school guidance system during his or her high school term for drug use or handling.
3. All officer candidates who have offenses resulting in in school suspension due to fighting, firearms, or alcohol will not be eligible to run for office in the current school year.
4. All officer candidates must pay their official FFA dues.
5. Officer candidates must be a member in good standing.
6. All officer candidates are to have a sincere desire to carry out the duties of the office to which they are elected.
7. All officers must agree to abide by the FFA Officer Expectations as created each year by the Chapter Executive Committee and sign a statement agreeing to abide by them as a member in good standing.
8. Officers are to carry out their duties as outlined in the Official FFA Manual and as assigned by the President and approved by the Advisors.

Article VII: Meetings

Section A: Regular meetings shall be held once a month during the school year and once a month during the remaining months of the year at such time and place as is designated by the Chapter Executive Committee. Special meetings may be called at any time.

Section B: Two delegates shall be elected annually from the active membership to represent the chapter at the FFA Leadership Conference. Other delegates may be named as necessary in order to have proper representation at various other FFA meetings within the State.

Section C: A majority of the active members present shall constitute a quorum.

Article VIII: Dues

Section A: Local dues in the chapter shall be fixed annually by a majority vote of the Chapter Executive Committee.

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

Section C: No member shall be considered as active and in good standing unless they pay full local, state, and national FFA dues.

Article IX: Amendments

Section A: This constitution may be amended or changed at any regular chapter meeting by a two-thirds vote of the active members present providing it is not in conflict with the State FFA Association Constitution or that of the National FFA Organization Constitution.

Section B: By-laws may be adopted to fit the needs of the chapter at any regular meeting by a two-thirds vote of the active members present providing such by-laws are in no way a conflict with the constitution and by-laws of either the State FFA Association or the National FFA Organization.