

CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS  
OF THE  
MISSISSIPPI FFA ASSOCIATION

**ARTICLE I.**  
**NAME AND ACTIVITIES**

SECTION A. The name of the organization is the “Mississippi FFA Association”. The Letters “FFA” and/or the words “Future Farmers of America” may be officially used to designate the Association, its units, or members thereof.

SECTION B. The aims and activities of this organization, here in after referred to as the “Association”, are:

1. To be integral part of the organized instructional programs in agriculture, agribusiness and renewable natural resources as qualify for assistance under federal vocational education legislation.
2. To build confidence of students in themselves and their work by developing desirable work habits and use of their time by learning to assume responsibilities and developing personal and occupational competencies in communications, human relations, and social abilities leading to intelligent choices of careers and successful employment or entrepreneurship in the agricultural industry.
3. To foster programs and activities which will provide and develop leadership, character, scholarship and occupational pride, training for useful citizenship, patriotism, thrift, and improvement in community life by encouraging members to improve the home and its surroundings and to develop and improve the community, including its economics, environmental and human resources.
4. To recognize individual achievement in scholarship and agricultural experience programs and other individual achievements by providing awards to deserving members and chapters.

**ARTICLE II.**  
**ORGANIZATION**

Section A. The Mississippi FFA Organization is the organization of, by and for students enrolled in agricultural education programs. The Mississippi FFA Association shall be comprised of affiliated local chapters, located in schools having instruction in Agriculture Education, and chartered by the Association, which is authorized by the National FFA Organization to issue and suspend charters in accordance with the provisions in its bylaws.

Section B. Active chapters of the Mississippi FFA Association for students enrolled in secondary schools of less than college grade shall be chartered only in such schools where recognized systematic instruction in Agricultural Education is offered under such provisions of the National Education Acts as reflected in the current National FFA Organization Constitution. More than one chapter may be chartered in a school when deemed appropriate by the State Board of Directors.

Section C. Collegiate chapters may be established in two- or four-year post-secondary institutions where agricultural courses are taught. Membership shall be opened to students enrolled in agricultural courses, or who are pursuing career objectives in the industry of agriculture. Each collegiate chapter shall be chartered by and maintained under the authority of the Mississippi Association. Activities for FFA collegiate chapter members shall be based upon the needs and interests of its members. Collegiate chapter members shall pay State and National dues.

Section D. Students enrolled in Agricultural Education at a local school shall meet, organize, and adopt a proposed constitution not in conflict with the State and National Constitutions, elect officers, set up a program of activities and apply to the State Association for a charter. After the Board of Directors has approved this application, the members of the local chapter may be known as the FFA and/or Future Farmers of America. An application form requesting a charter may be obtained from the current address of the FFA Association.

**ARTICLE III.**  
**PROCEDURE FOR DETERMINING**  
**THE STANDING OF LOCAL CHAPTERS**

A chapter of the FFA shall be considered to be in good standing with the State Association when the following general conditions are met:

1. All current annual state and national dues have been paid by the published date to the State FFA Association.
2. All current reports have been submitted to the State FFA Association by the published deadline.
3. No provisions of the Chapter constitution are in conflict with the State

Constitution and all national educational acts as reflected in the current National FFA Organization Constitution.

4. The Bylaws shall provide grounds for suspension of chapters in all cases of violation of all national education acts, the State FFA Constitution or Bylaws. A report on the recommended suspensions shall be presented to the Board of Directors prior to the next State Convention. In case any chapter is not in good standing at the time of the opening of the State Convention, the delegates in State Convention shall have the power, upon recommendation of the Board of Directors, to withdraw the chapter and refuse such chapter official representation at the annual State Convention. When such action is taken, the chapter in question and members thereof shall be denied the regular privileges of the Association. Upon meeting the requirements for good standing, a chapter may be reinstated by action of the Board of Directors not earlier than ten (10) days after the close of the State Convention during which it was not in good standing.
5. In the case a local department of Agricultural Education in which a chapter of FFA is located, is discontinued, the chapter so involved may be permitted to operate officially for a period not to exceed 36 months from the date of discontinuance of the department, providing appropriate supervision and guidance can be given to the chapter work by a person having approval of the local school administration and the State Advisor. Local chapter charters shall be surrendered to the State Advisor at the end of the 36-month period if a local department of Agricultural Education is not in operation in the school at that time.

#### **ARTICLE IV.** **MEMBERSHIP**

SECTION A. Membership in this organization shall be of four kinds:  
Active, Alumni, Collegiate, and Honorary.

SECTION B. ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP- To be eligible for active membership in a chartered FFA chapter, a student must be enrolled in a secondary agricultural education program. "Secondary agricultural education programs" may be considered to be in grades 7 – 12.

To become an active member and retain membership, a student must:

1. While in school, be enrolled in at least one agricultural education course during the school year and/or follow a planned course of study; either course must include a supervised agricultural experience program, the objective of which is preparation for an agricultural career.

2. Show an interest in the affairs of the organization by attending meetings, striving for degrees of membership and participating in other organized activities of the chapter.
3. Pay all current local, state and national dues by the date determined by the chapter.
4. Display conduct consistent with the ideals and purposes of the National FFA Organization.

A member may retain active membership until November 30, following the fourth National FFA Convention after graduation from high school.

A member in good standing at the time of induction into the armed forces of the United States of America or into the FFA international program shall be in good standing during the period of active service without further payment of dues or attendance of meetings. Time spent in the armed forces or FFA international program shall not be considered as elapsed time in determining the maximum period of four conventions following graduation from or the leaving of high school. Members using this waiver of service time for the purpose of maintaining active membership for application for advanced degree of membership must resume active participation within six months after being honorably discharged from military service or completing their FFA international program and indicate such a desire by paying dues and attending meetings. Members participating in a six-month armed services program or participation in the FFA international program for six months shall be eligible for one full year or extended membership. No individual may retain active membership beyond his or her twenty-third birthday.

**SECTION C. ALUMNI MEMBERSHIP-** Membership shall be open to former active members, collegiate and honorary members, present and former professional agricultural educators, parents of FFA members, and others interested in and supportive of the FFA.

**SECTION D. COLLEGIATE MEMBERSHIP-** Collegiate membership shall be open to students who are enrolled in agricultural courses or who are pursuing career objectives in the industry or agriculture at a two- or four-year post-secondary institution having a collegiate FFA chapter.

**SECTION E. HONORARY MEMBERSHIP-** Farmers, school superintendents, principals, members of boards of education, chapter advisors, teachers, staff members in agricultural education, business people and others who are helping to advance agricultural education and the FFA and who have rendered outstanding

service may be elected to honorary membership by a majority vote of the members present at any regular meeting or convention.

Honorary membership shall be limited to the Honorary Chapter FFA Degree in the local chapter and Honorary State FFA Degree in the state association.

## **ARTICLE V.** **DEGREES AND PRIVILEGES OF ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP**

SECTION A. There shall be four degrees of active membership based on individual achievement. Those under the jurisdiction of the Association are the Greenhand FFA Degree, the Chapter FFA Degree, and the State FFA Degree. The national organization has set minimum qualifications for each of these degrees as well as for the American FFA Degree. Refer to current, official FFA Manual for any changes.

SECTION B. GREENHAND FFA DEGREE- To be eligible to receive the Greenhand FFA Degree from the chapter, the member must meet the following minimum qualifications:

1. Be enrolled in agricultural education and have satisfactory plans for a supervised agricultural experience program.
2. Learn and explain the FFA Creed, Motto, *and* Salute, and FFA Mission Statement.
3. Describe and explain the meaning of the FFA emblem and colors.
4. Demonstrate knowledge of the FFA Code of Ethics and the proper use of the FFA jacket.
5. Demonstrate 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 C. CHAPTER FFA DEGREE- To be eligible to receive the Chapter FFA Degree from the chapter, the member must meet the following minimum qualifications:

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. Have earned and productivity invested at least \$150 by the member's own efforts or worked at least forty-five hours in excess of scheduled class time, or combination thereof, and have developed plans for continued growth and improvement in a supervised agricultural education 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 satisfactory scholastic record.
9. Submit a written application for the Chapter FFA Degree.

Other requirements may be established by an individual chapter; the listed requirements are mandated by the Association and the Organization.

SECTION D. STATE FFA DEGREE- To be eligible to receive the State FFA Degree from the Association, the member must meet the following minimum qualifications:

1. Have received the Chapter FFA Degree.
2. Have been an active FFA member for at least two years (24 months) at the time of receiving the State FFA Degree.
3. While in school, have completed the equivalent of at least two years (360 hours) of systematic school instruction in agricultural education at or above the ninth grade level, which includes a supervised agricultural experience program.

4. Have earned and productively invested at least \$1000, or worked at least 300 hours in excess of scheduled class time, or a combination thereof, in a supervised agricultural experience program.
5. Demonstrate leadership ability by:
  - a. Performing ten procedures of parliamentary law.
  - b. Giving a six-minute speech on a topic relating to agriculture or the FFA.
  - c. Serving as an officer, committee chairperson, or participating member of a chapter committee.
6. Have a satisfactory scholastic record as certified by the local agricultural education instructor and the principal or superintendent.
7. Have participated in the planning and completion of the chapter Program of Activities.
8. Have participated in at least five FFA activities above the chapter level.

The percentage of the total state membership which may receive the state FFA Degree and other requirements may be established by the Association and listed in the bylaws.

Written records of achievement of all requirements, verified by the chapter FFA advisor shall be submitted to the state association at least 30 days prior to the FFA convention at which the State FFA Degree is to be received. The state advisor shall provide for review of the records and submit a recommendation to the state association governing body, which shall nominate at the state FFA convention the candidates who have been found worthy to receive the honor. The delegates at the state convention will confer the State FFA Degree upon the candidates subject to approval.

**SECTION E. AMERICAN FFA DEGREE** – To be eligible to receive the American FFA Degree from the National FFA Organization, the member must meet the following minimum qualifications.

1. Have received the State FFA Degree, have been an active member for the past three years (36 months) and have a record of satisfactory participation in the activities on the chapter and state levels.
2. Have satisfactorily completed the equivalent of at least three years (540 hours) of systematic secondary school instruction in an agricultural education program or have completed the program of agricultural education offered in the school last attended.

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3. Have graduated from high school at least 12 months prior to the national convention at which the degree is to be granted.
4. Have in operation and have maintained records to substantiate an outstanding supervised agricultural experience program through which a member has exhibited comprehensive planning, managerial and financial expertise.
5. Have earned and productively invested at least \$7,500 or have earned and productively invested at least \$1,500 and worked 2,250 hours in excess of scheduled class time. Any combination of hours x \$3.33 plus dollars must be equal to, or greater than the number 9,000. Hours used for the purpose of producing earnings reported as productively invested income shall not be duplicated as hours of credit to meet the minimum requirements for the degree.

\*See chart for equating hours worked with dollars earned and productively invested in the Official FFA Manual.

6. Have a record of outstanding leadership abilities and community involvement and have achieved a high school scholastic record of “C” or better as certified by the principal or superintendent.

## ARTICLE VI. PROCEDURE FOR SELECTING AMERICAN FFA DEGREE RECIPIENTS

SECTION A. Applications for the degree must be approved by the state advisor or representative (s) thereof and be received by the national organization not later than midnight of June 30, or show by postmark or other reliable evidence, to have been mailed to the national organization on or before June 15, prior to the national convention the degree is to be received.

SECTION B. Applications must be submitted on the official form provided by the National FFA Organization.

SECTION C. The National FFA Board of Directors shall review the American FFA Degree applications and recommend those candidates meeting the minimum qualifications. The delegates present at the national FFA convention shall give final approval of the candidates.

## ARTICLE VII. EMBLEM

SECTION A. The official emblem of the National FFA Organization and the Association shall include five symbols, namely: the plow, representing labor and tillage of the soil; the owl, representing wisdom; the rising sun, representing progress; a cross-section of an ear of corn, representing common agricultural interests; and an American eagle surmounting the cross-section of the ear of corn, representing national scope of the organization. The emblem shall also include the letters "FFA" and the words "Agricultural Education."

SECTION B. The emblem shall be uniform in all chapters of the Association. All members shall be entitled to display the emblem.

SECTION C. Greenhand FFA Degree recipients shall be entitled to wear the official bronze emblem pin; Chapter FFA Degree recipients shall be entitled to wear the official silver emblem pin; State FFA Degree recipients shall be entitled to wear the official gold emblem charm; and American FFA Degree recipients shall be entitled to wear the official gold emblem key.

SECTION D. Honorary Chapter Degree recipients shall be entitled to wear either the official silver or gold emblem pin; Honorary State FFA Degree recipients shall be entitled to wear the official gold emblem charm; and Honorary American FFA Degree recipients shall be entitled to wear the official gold emblem key.

SECTION E. Collegiate FFA chapter members and FFA advisors shall be entitled to wear the official gold owl pin.

## **ARTICLE VIII.** **OFFICERS**

SECTION A. The officers of the state FFA associations shall be president, vice president, secretary, treasurer, reporter, and sentinel. Other officers may be elected as deemed appropriate by the state advisor and/or state FFA governing body. The state supervisor of agricultural education shall be the state FFA advisor. All state FFA officers shall be elected annually by a majority vote of the delegates present at any regular convention of the state association.

SECTION B. The officers of a FFA chapter shall be: president, vice president, secretary, treasurer, reporter and sentinel. Other officers shall be elected as deemed appropriate by the local advisor and/or governing body. The teacher(s) of agricultural education shall be the FFA advisor(s). The members present at any regular meeting of the chapter shall elect chapter officers annually or semi-annually.

SECTION C. Only members of the Association who have attained the State FFA Degree are eligible to hold office in the Mississippi FFA Association. Officers in the chapters must have attained and held the Chapter FFA Degree after the chapter has been established in any given school for two years or longer.

**ARTICLE IX.**  
**PROCEDURE FOR ELECTING**  
**STATE OFFICERS**

SECTION A. STATE NOMINATING COMMITTEE. The state nominating committee for selecting state officer candidates shall consist of three FFA members from each district, one past State FFA Officer, and three adult consultants.

The three adult consultants shall be selected by the MAVAT State Officers to serve three-year rotational terms. The adult consultants may not be current teachers of agriculture education. The consultants may be former or retired agriculture teachers or state staff members of vocational agriculture education, university staff from the colleges of agriculture in Mississippi, or persons from industries that support the Mississippi FFA.

Members of the State Vocational Agriculture Staff will choose one past State FFA Officer who has been out of office for no less than three years. The past State FFA Officer will serve as a consultant to the committee members and will not have a vote.

It shall be the duty of the state nominating committee to select from all candidates not suggested for state office a number of candidates to serve the Association as official delegates to the national convention when the number of delegates is greater than the number of state officers. The number chosen shall be based upon the percentage of national membership the Association has as of the beginning of the state convention. In the event the final number of official delegates exceeds the number of designated delegates appointed by the nominating committee, it shall be the duty of the State Board of Directors to choose the remaining number of delegates.

It shall also be the duty of the nominating committee to select the third member of the Executive Committee from among the current state officers.

SECTION B. GEOGRAPHICAL DISTRIBUTION OF THE OFFICERS. The President, Vice President, and Secretary shall be nominated from the state-at-large. The remaining officers shall be nominated from each district. These officers include the Treasurer, Reporter, and Sentinel. A rotation system among the districts shall be used in the nominating of these officers, with at least one officer from each supervisory district. In the event a Supervisory District is not

represented to the nominating committee, the committee shall choose an officer candidate from the state-at-large.

SECTION C. NUMBER OF NOMINEES. The nominating committee shall nominate one candidate for each of the six offices and one member of the Executive Committee to be reported to the convention delegates. The delegates selected will be reported only to the Board of Directors.

SECTION D. FLOOR NOMINATIONS. Opportunity shall be provided to receive nominations from the floor for any office. Nominations shall cease upon the third consecutive unanswered call for nominations by the State President.

If there are no nominations from the floor, the slate of officers suggested by the nominating committee may be accepted by acclamation if such a motion is made from the delegate floor and a **standing vote** of the delegate body passes said motion.

SECTION E. BALLOTING. In the event of nominations from the floor, candidates shall be allowed three (3) minutes to address the Delegates. Election of officers shall be by secret ballot with voting done only in a room designed for balloting. Election of officers shall require a majority vote of the delegates voting. Each chapter shall be entitled to two votes. An Asterisk (\*) shall be placed by the names of candidates nominated by the nominating committee.

SECTION F. RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE STATE NOMINATING COMMITTEE. The district nominating committee is made up of the State President, the State FFA Advisor, and the State FFA Coordinator, or their appointees. The committee shall screen and recommend the seven best officer candidates from the district to the state nominating committee. Any current state officer pursuing the office of President shall not count against this number. The district nominating committee shall meet at least 30 days in advance of the state nominating committee.

SECTION G. RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE DISTRICT NOMINATING COMMITTEE. A chapter may recommend any number of candidates to the District nominating committee.

SECTION H. OFFICER APPLICATIONS. Applications for state office may be obtained from the Mississippi FFA Association at any time throughout the year. All applications for state office must be presented to the district nominating committee on the day of district screening with the signatures of parent(s) or legal guardian(s) and the applicant's advisor(s). **Members may apply for any state officer position.** Any current state officer may pursue the office of President, but the filling of the position is not limited to a current state officer.

SECTION I. NATIONAL OFFICER CANDIDATE OFFICER NOMINATIONS.

National officer candidate nominations shall be determined prior to convention by a State Nominating Committee appointed by the State FFA Advisor and State FFA Coordinator. Applications may be obtained from the National FFA Organization and must be submitted at the applicant's respective District contest. See National FFA Constitution for eligibility requirements.

**ARTICLE X.**  
**DUTIES OF STATE OFFICERS**

The duties of the state officers shall be set out in the Mississippi FFA State Officer Roles and Responsibilities Handbook. The State Executive Committee, the State FFA Advisor, and the State FFA Coordinator shall develop this article each year. This article shall define the duties, roles and responsibilities of the forthcoming state officer team. **The article shall be revised by and voted on by the Board of Directors at least 30 days before the state convention. This article shall be made available to all advisors and members as requested.**

**ARTICLE XI.**  
**MEETINGS AND CONVENTIONS**

SECTION A. A meeting of the Association shall be held annually at least 45 days prior to the National FFA Convention except in the case of extreme emergency declared by the State Board of Directors. It shall be the duty of the state president to call one state convention each year, on such a date, time and location as agreed upon by the Board of Directors.

SECTION B. Local chapters shall hold their meetings monthly or more often throughout the calendar year at such time and place as decided upon the local chapter.

SECTION C. Each chapter shall be entitled to send two delegates to the state convention.

SECTION D. The Association is entitled to send to the national convention two official delegates designated as chair and vice delegates based upon the Association's percentage of national membership. The election of additional delegates, exceeding the number of state officers, is described in detail in Article IX, Section A.

SECTION E. A parliamentarian will be appointed by the MAVAT Association at their spring meeting for the duration of the state convention.

**ARTICLE XII.**  
**COMMITTEES**

SECTION A. The President of the Association, with approval from the Board of Directors, shall appoint the following committees annually: the Nominating Committee, the Auditing Committee, the Committee on the Program of Activities, and the Balloting Committee. Other Committees may be appointed as necessary.

The Nominating Committee shall place in nomination the candidates for the various State Offices as well as those additional delegates needed to represent the Association at the national convention. The Chairman of the Executive Committee shall serve as coordinator for this committee.

The Auditing Committee shall examine the books of association; the record of receipts and disbursements; the record of savings and investments; and the record of activities. The State Treasurer shall serve as an ex-officio, non-voting member to this committee.

The Balloting Committee, in the event of nomination from the floor, shall arrange for the election of officers. Duties further include preparing ballots, supervising balloting, counting ballots and tabulating votes, and announcing results of the elections. The presiding officer shall make no biased remarks regarding any candidate. The State Executive Committee Chair shall coordinate the balloting committee activities.

The members of these committees shall serve the Association until their final report is presented to the delegates of the convention by the committee chairmen and accepted by the delegates. A copy of all reports will be typed and presented to the Board of Directors at the first meeting of the fiscal year. The State President, State Advisor shall serve as ex-officio non-voting members of these committees.

SECTION B. The Executive Committee of the Association shall consist of the immediate Past State President as Chairman, the current State President, State Advisor and a retiring state officer, who will be named by the Nominating Committee. The Executive Committee shall serve as members on the Board of Directors, serve as a source consultation for all business of the Association, and assist the state officer team as requested. The Executive Committee Chairperson or the State Advisor may call meetings of the Executive Committee as necessary.

**ARTICLE XIII.**  
**STATE BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

SECTION A. The governing body of the Association shall be the State Board of directors. The Board of Directors shall consist of State Advisor, Assistant Supervisors, FFA Coordinator an FFA Chapter Advisor from each of the supervisory districts, a Collegiate Chapter Advisors, and one representative from each of the Colleges of Agriculture at the Land Grant Colleges (Mississippi State University and Alcorn State University) as appointed by the Board of Directors, the current president of the Mississippi Association of Vocational-Agricultural Teachers and the current State FFA Officers with the Executive Committee Chairperson. This governing body shall have the powers granted to it by the National Education Acts.

SECTION B. The terms of office of the members of the board and the method of selection of such members, other than ex-officio members, shall be prescribed in the Bylaws.

SECTION C. The Board shall meet at least twice a year. The first meeting of the Board shall be within 60 days of the beginning of the fiscal year and last meeting of the Board shall be no less than 30 days from the beginning of the state convention. The minutes and all other annual reports of the Board shall be presented at all regular meetings. Special meetings of the Board may be called at any time by the adult chairperson or upon request by a majority of the Board members.

SECTION D. The structure of the Board of Directors shall be as follows:

A student board, made up of current State FFA Officers and chaired by the State President, shall consider all business to be brought before the Board of Directors. All business must first pass from the student board in order to be considered by the adult board. An adult board made up of those named in Section A and chaired by the State FFA Advisor. The adult board may either concur with the student board, in which case appropriate action would be taken on the business at hand, or disagree with the student board, in which case the matter would revert back to the student board for amendment or failure. Arguments may be given by any member of the Board concerning business at hand in either the student or adult board. The chairman of the board, which is tendering a discussion, shall be considered the chairman of the entire Board while discussion is being carried out.

SECTION E. The Governing Committee shall consist of the State Advisor, State FFA President, MAVAT President and the Executive Committee Chairperson. The Governing Committee shall have the powers of the Board, subject to its direction, and have the power to authorize the seal of the Association to be affixed to all papers that may require it.

**ARTICLE XIV.**  
**OFFICIAL DRESS**

SECTION A. The official dress of the Association shall be the same as that prescribed in the Official FFA Manual.

SECTION B. All items of official dress shall be required for platform events, FFA leadership conferences, important civic functions, and other appropriate FFA activities.

## ARTICLE XV. AMENDMENTS

SECTION A. A proposed amendment to the State Constitution must be submitted in writing to the governing committee of the Association at least 60 days prior to the state convention. **A proposed amendment must be submitted by the State Board of Directors to the chapters at least 30 days in advance of the state convention, and be submitted by the state officers with all issues to the state convention delegates.** An amendment to the state constitution may be adopted at any state convention by a two-thirds vote of delegates present.

SECTION B. In order to secure flexibility, bylaws may be adopted to fit the needs of the Association and of local chapters, provided they are not in conflict of the constitution of the National FFA Organization.

SECTION C. The provisions contained in this constitution shall apply to all local chapters of the Association.

## BYLAWS

### ARTICLE I. RELATIONSHIP TO THE CONSTITUTION

All provisions contained in the constitution of the Mississippi FFA Association shall be considered to be a part of these bylaws, to the same extent as thought fully set forth therein.

### ARTICLE II. LOCATION OF PRINCIPAL OFFICE

The principal office of the Association shall be in the city of Jackson, Mississippi. The address is P.O. Box 771, Jackson, Mississippi 39205-0771.

**ARTICLE III.**  
**PROCEDURE FOR THE ELECTION OF MEMBERS**  
**OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

All members of the board of directors shall continue in office until their successors have been chosen and qualified. The Mississippi Agriculture Teachers MAVAT Association in during an annual meeting shall elect the FFA Chapter Advisors serving on the Board of Directors.

**ARTICLE IV.**  
**FISCAL YEAR**

SECTION A. The fiscal year of the Association shall commence on the first day of August of each year and shall end on the thirty-first day of July the next succeeding calendar year.

SECTION B. All books and members, their agents, or attorneys may inspect records of the Association at any time.

**ARTICLE V.**  
**REPORTS TO THE STATE ASSOCIATION**

SECTION A. Each local chapter secretary shall submit the following:

1. A copy of the proposed Program of Activities.
2. The names, addresses, and grades of membership of all members of the proposed local chapter indicating what chapter office is held.

The application for a charter shall be mailed to the State Advisor and shall be signed by the President, Secretary, and Advisor of the proposed chapter.

A charter shall be granted upon such allocation and by the approval of the Board of Directors, provided that the proposed local constitution is not in conflict with the state constitution of the Association. The State President, State Secretary

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and State Advisor must sign the Charter. The State Board of Directors shall have the power to suspend such chapter upon receipt of evidence of infringement of the state constitution by the local chapter.

#### **ARTICLE VI.** **AMENDMENTS**

These bylaws, except those provisions included in the constitution of the Association, may be amended by the Board of Directors at any meeting, and such amendments shall be properly reported to the Association at the next state convention.

#### **ARTICLE VII.** **STANDING OF CONSTITUTION**

This document was adopted by the delegates of the 69<sup>th</sup> Mississippi FFA Convention and became the binding constitution on June 4, 2002.