

**STANDING RULES
DISTRICT 4 4-H COUNCIL**

1. NAME

The name of this organization shall be the District 4 4-H Council.

2. PURPOSE

The purpose shall be to promote and encourage 4-H club work and to coordinate 4-H club activities in the District.

3. MEMBERSHIP

The District 4 4-H Council membership shall consist of three (3) delegates, elected by each county in the district and the officers of the District 4-H Council. Council members shall be at least 14 or in the 9th grade by July 1 of the year they will be serving. They must be a 4-H member in good standing for the current 4-H year. Membership shall be for one (1) year beginning and ending at District Leadership Lab. No delegate is eligible to serve more than two (2) years unless elected as a district officer.

Each county will designate three (3) alternate delegates to the council. The alternates serve in the absence of the elected delegates with all the rights and privileges. Their membership on the council does not count as a year of eligibility unless they serve in excess of fifty percent (50%) of the time as the county's delegate.

One of the three (3) county delegates shall be a racial-ethnic minority representative elected or selected by the general membership of each of the respective counties.

4. OFFICERS

The six (6) officers of the District Council shall be President, three (3) Vice Presidents, Secretary and Public Relations director.

President (presides over council and serves as delegate to Texas 4-H Council)

1st Vice President (assumes duties of President and serves as delegate to Texas 4-H Council)

*2nd Vice President (membership, and serves as delegate to Texas 4-H Council.

3rd Vice President (program selection)

Secretary (records and distributes minutes)

Public Relations (interpretation)

**** If the President and 1st Vice President are of the same racial-ethnic culture, then the 2nd Vice President must be a different racial-ethnic culture.***

ELIGIBILITY FOR OFFICE

To be eligible for district office, a candidate must:

- (a) Be a bona fide member of District 4 4-H Council.
- (b) Be recommended by their County Extension Agent.
- (c) Must remain a resident in District 4 during their elected term of office.
- (d) Must not have previously held the same office on District 4 4-H Council.

TERM OF OFFICE:

Officers shall be elected at the annual meeting. The term of office shall be from the time of election at District Leadership Lab of current year until next District Leadership Lab. Texas 4-H Council members are not eligible to serve as an officer the next year. They may serve as voting members of next year's executive committee and will be included in all available activities. Vacancies shall be filled by the Executive Committee or by election. This will be left to the discretion of the Executive Committee.

5. ELECTION

Election shall be held by secret ballot at the annual meeting. Officers must be present to be elected unless attending a state or national 4-H activity or family emergency. Candidates for district office should complete the Application Nomination form for District 4-H Council Office and return the form to the District Office at least ten (10) days prior to the annual meeting. All eligible applicants will be presented as candidates for the office they choose.

Nominations will be accepted from the floor if the nominee has submitted an Application/Nomination form.

6. REPRESENTATION ON TEXAS 4-H COUNCIL

The President, 1st Vice President and 2nd Vice President shall serve as delegates to the Texas 4-H Council. In the event that these delegates cannot participate, an alternate shall be designated in line of succession from the Executive Committee. Any alternate who attends the Texas 4-H Council Workshop becomes the officially recognized delegate from the district and will fulfill Texas 4-H Council duties throughout the year.

Membership:

- a. The Texas 4-H Council membership is open to all youth, irrespective of race, color, disability, sex, religion or national origin. It consists of two member delegates from each District 4-H Council and elected delegates-at-large (See Section 3e)***
- b. Texas 4-H Council membership is open to enrolled members between the ages of 16 and 18 as of August 31 of the calendar year.***
- c. Delegates shall be eligible to attain and hold membership on the Texas 4-H Council for only one year.***

d. District Councils may select alternates to fulfill responsibilities of regularly elected delegates. Any alternate who attends the Texas 4-H Council Workshop becomes the official recognized delegate on the Council from his or her respective district and will fulfill Council duties throughout the remainder of the year. This alternate shall meet the requirements for the council membership.

e. The twelve District Councils have the opportunity to select a Delegate-at-Large on an annual basis to serve on the Texas 4-H Council. Each district may have three (3) representatives as long as one of the three is a minority.

f. Delegates -at-Large represent District 4-H Councils as members of the Texas 4-H Council. The same standing rules for membership apply to all delegates. Efforts should be made to assure minority representation on the Texas 4-H Council.

g. A council member enrolling out of state or district of which they were elected/selected shall automatically relinquish his or her position on the Texas 4-H Council pending approval by Council Advisors.

7. ANNUAL MEETING

An annual meeting shall be held during the District Leadership Lab, prior to the Texas 4-H Council Workshop. Officers and committee chairmen shall give reports of the work that has been done during their term of office at the annual meeting. Standing rules shall be reviewed and revised as necessary at this meeting. Additional meetings of the District 4-H Council will be called as necessary by the Executive Committee.

8. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The Executive Committee shall be composed of one president, three vice presidents, secretary and public relations director. *Previous Texas 4-H Council and members may serve as voting members of the Executive Committee. This committee also serves as the Ethic Committee.*

9. COMMITTEES

To be designated by the District Office.

The "Ethics Committee" shall review the activities of the District Council member, should the need arise. The committee, in conjunction with the County Extension Agents Council advisors, form this committee. The Ethics Committee shall listen to situations presented to them by any council member (or agent) and decide upon a recommendation to present to the District 4-H Leadership Team. The District Leadership Team will make a final decision.

The Public Relations Committee shall work in conjunction with the District 4-H activities and events.

10. VOTING BODY

The voting body shall consist of the membership as defined by Rule 3.

11. QUORUM

The quorum shall consist of twenty (20) voting members. In this number, ten (10) counties will be represented.

12. AMENDMENTS

These rules may be amended by a two-thirds vote of the District 4 4-H Council. Review and revisions will be done at the annual meeting. They will become effective July 1 following the annual meeting.

13. RESOLUTION

Be it resolved by the District 4 4-H Council that no member of the council shall consume controlled substances while traveling to and from, or participation in, 4-H activities. Be it further resolved, that the District 4 4-H Council recommends that all county 4-H councils adopt a similar resolution.

ELECTION PROCEDURE FOR DISTRICT IV 4-H COUNCIL

1. All candidates for each office will be recognized by name and office prior to beginning of the election.
2. Officer candidates will present their campaign speech immediately prior to the election of the office they choose.
3. Candidates not elected for the office they have campaigned for may run for another office, but must be nominated from the floor. They will not give their campaign speech again but will be recognized with the other candidates for that office prior to the election.

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