

# BYLAWS

## BYLAWS OF THE WISCONSIN FFA ALUMNI ASSOCIATION, INC. (Approved at February 11, 2006 Convention)

### ARTICLE I

#### Name/Emblem

- Section I.** The name of the organization shall be the Wisconsin FFA Alumni Association, Inc.
- Section II.** The gold emblem of the National FFA Organization with the word "Alumni" below it, surrounded by a shield outline, shall serve as the emblem of the Wisconsin FFA Alumni Association, Inc.

### ARTICLE II

#### Purpose

The purpose of this organization shall be:

- A. To support and promote the National FFA Organization and Agricultural Education on the local, state, and national levels;
- B. To provide a tie between all persons interested in supporting FFA members and the Alumni by assisting the FFA and Agriculture Education personnel;
- C. To promote greater knowledge of the agricultural industry and support education in agriculture;
- D. To cooperate with the local FFA chapters and the National FFA Alumni Association.

### ARTICLE III

#### Organization

- Section I.** The Wisconsin FFA Alumni Association, Inc., is a chartered state affiliate of the National FFA Alumni Association.
- Section II.** The Wisconsin FFA Alumni will be geographically organized into ten sections, the same as the Wisconsin FFA.
- Section III.** *Local Affiliates.* Local Affiliates shall be eligible to become chartered when:
- A. It has ten Charter members who had paid State and National dues.
  - B. Its bylaws and/or constitution are in harmony with the State and National FFA Alumni Association.
  - C. It has an executive group of officers.

**Section IV. Reports**

- A. The Wisconsin FFA Alumni Association, Inc., shall comply with requirements of the National Association for reporting progress and activities to the National Association and local affiliates throughout the state.
- B. This association shall submit all operational and statistical information required by the National FFA Alumni Association. This information will also be shared with Wisconsin FFA Alumni Affiliates at the same time.
- C. Additional reports may be developed and submitted upon simple majority approval of the members at the state meeting.

**Section V. Audits**

- A. There shall be an annual audit of the Wisconsin FFA Alumni Association, Inc. The FFA Alumni Treasurer, or anyone authorized to handle and account for funds, should be bonded in sufficient amount to protect the Alumni Association.
- B. The Wisconsin FFA Association, Inc., accepts in full the provisions of the National FFA Alumni bylaws.

**ARTICLE IV**

**Membership**

- Section I.** Membership shall be open, upon payment of dues, to:
- A. Former active, collegiate, and honorary FFA members;
  - B. Parents and friends of active and former FFA members;
  - C. Present and former professional agricultural educators;
  - D. Any other individuals or businesses that are interested in supporting the FFA and agricultural education.
  - E. Membership shall be open to anyone interested in supporting FFA, Agricultural Education, or volunteerism. *Membership in the FFA Alumni includes many rights, benefits, and privileges, however, no level of membership entitles any member to act for and/or on behalf of any local state of the National FFA Alumni regarding any policy or position unless granted by and through these bylaws and/or is otherwise granted specifically, in writing, by the National FFA Alumni Association.*

- Section II.** Annual, lifetime and corporate membership will meet the criteria as specified in Article III of the National FFA Alumni Association bylaws.

**Section III. Dues**

- A. All dues of the Wisconsin FFA Alumni Association, Inc., shall be recommended by the Alumni Council and fixed by a majority vote of members present at the annual meeting.
- B. No member shall be considered as an active member and in good standing unless he or she has paid all applicable dues.

## ARTICLE V

### Officers

- Section I.** The officers of the Wisconsin FFA Alumni Association, Inc., shall be the Alumni President, President-Elect, Vice-President, and Past Alumni President.
- Section II.** *Duties/Qualifications of Officers*
- A. President
1. The president will be the individual who served as president-elect the previous year unless two-third's of the delegate body votes to remove the president-elect from office.
  2. The president will be the principal officer of the association.
  3. It will be the president's duty to preside at all meetings of the State FFA Alumni Council, the Executive Committee and the Association and to carry out the general mission and objectives of the Association.
  4. The president will be ex-officio member of all committees except the Nomination Committee.
- B. President-Elect.
1. The president-elect will be the person who served as vice-president the previous year unless two-third's of the delegate body vote to remove the president-elect.
  2. The president-elect, at the direction of the president, will act in the president's behalf, and perform such duties as the president so directs.
- C. Vice-President
1. The vice president will be elected by the delegate body at the Annual Convention.
  2. The duties of the vice-president will be directed by the president and the Council.
- D. Past-President
1. The past-president will be the person who was president during the past year.
  2. Duties will be as directed by the president and the Council.
- E. Other Officer Duties
1. All officers will be responsible for carrying out the duties specified by these bylaws and the parliamentary authority listed in article ten of this document. Additional duties are listed in the WI FFA Alumni Association Handbook.

## ARTICLE VI

### Executive Board

- Section I.** The executive body of the Wisconsin FFA Alumni Association shall be the State FFA Alumni Council, henceforth known as "the Council" which is subordinate to the National FFA Alumni Council.

- Section II.** The council shall consist of the following:
- A. Voting members:
    - 1. The executive committee;
    - 2. Two representatives from each section (20 total).
  - B. Non-voting members:
    - 1. The Wisconsin FFA Alumni Executive Director/Treasurer;
    - 2. The State FFA Representative;
    - 3. WAAE President/Representative
    - 4. Wisconsin FFA Foundation Executive director
    - 5. DPI Staff Representative– Agriculture Education

- Section III.** Procedure for selection of members to the Council.
- A. A nominating committee of at least three, which includes the past president, will be appointed from different sections, by the Alumni President, to carry out the duties of nomination for Vice-President.
  - B. The nominating committee shall secure the names of individuals from each section who desire to run for Vice-President. Candidates may be any active member in good standing. Nominations will also be accepted from the floor.
  - C. The past president, president, and president-elect will be selected as indicated in Article V of these bylaws. If after nominations are closed it is found that only one member was nominated the president of the council may declare this person elected.
  - D. If either the Vice-President or President-Elect are removed from office, their positions will be filled via nominations from the floor of the delegate body. Once removed from office that officer may not hold state leadership positions in the Wisconsin FFA Alumni Association, Inc.
  - E. Sectional Representatives shall be elected for three-year terms within the section in the fall of the year and will be officially seated at the annual meeting. These representatives will serve a three-year term or until a representative is duly elected. Sectional representatives cannot serve more than two consecutive elected terms. They must be FFA Alumni members who live in that section who are not currently agricultural education instructors.
  - F. The Wisconsin FFA Executive Alumni Director/Treasurer, the State FFA president, WI FFA Foundation Executive Director, DPI – Ag Ed representative, and WAAE President will serve on the Council as long as they remain in their specified position.
  - G. *Seating of the Council*  
Following the membership election of the vice-president, the entire Council shall be seated by a membership resolution at the annual meeting.
  - H. *Vacancies*  
Vacancies of Council members elected by the membership shall be filled by a person appointed by the Council. If a sectional representative would vacate his or her position, the following procedure will be used to replace the representative:
    - 1. The person to fill the vacancy will be appointed by the Council;

2. At the next scheduled sectional meeting a person will be elected by single majority vote to complete the term.

**Section IV.** *Duties of the Council*

1. To direct the operation of the association in accordance with its bylaws.
2. Be responsible for planning the programs and activities in which it is advisable for the association to participate.

**Section V.** *Duties of Sectional Representative will include:*

- A. Establishes sectional goals (award applications, convention attendance, etc.);
- B. Assists with FFA Foundation fund drive;
- C. Attends all Alumni council meetings;
- D. Attends National FFA Alumni Convention as a delegate representing your State when attending the FFA National Convention if circumstances permit;
- E. Attends the local affiliates activities when appropriate (Judging contests, social events, etc.);
- F. Serves as a resource person for the FFA and FFA Alumni members;
- G. Obtain names, addresses, and telephone numbers of the local FFA Alumni contact person(s);
- H. Obtain resolutions (bylaw changes) from the members at the fall sectional Meetings
- I. File reports as indicated in bylaws;
- J. Publishing of newsletter;
- K. Hold fall sectional meetings by October 31.

**Section VI.** *Meetings*

The Wisconsin FFA Alumni Council shall meet at least two (2) times per year. Additional meetings may be called by the President or by a majority of the Council members upon petition to the Executive Director.

**Section VII.** *Removal from the Council*

Any member of the Council having two unexcused absences, during the WI FFA Alumni calendar year (convention to convention) from Council meetings may by two-third's vote of the Council be removed from the Council. Prior notification to the president-elect and submission of a written report may be considered as an excuse to be absent.

## **ARTICLE VII**

### **Executive Committee**

**Section I.** The Executive Committee will consist of the president, president-elect, past president, vice president, and executive director (non-voting).

**Section II.** The Executive Committee will perform the duties as prescribed by these bylaws and those that are designated to them by the Council.

**Section III.** The Executive Committee will select the executive director/treasurer.

## ARTICLE VIII

### Meetings

- Section I.** There shall be an annual meeting of the members of the Wisconsin FFA Alumni Association.
- Section II.** The Annual Meeting and other necessary meetings of the Wisconsin FFA Alumni Association, Inc., shall be held at such a place and time as prescribed by the State FFA Alumni Council. The Annual Meeting shall be held the second weekend in the month of February, unless otherwise decided by the Council.
- Section III.** Additional meetings may be called by the Wisconsin FFA Alumni Council.
- Section IV.** The minutes of the previous annual meeting will be published and given to each member at the annual Convention. They will not need to be read by the executive director at the Convention.

## ARTICLE IX

### Committees

- Section I.** The Wisconsin FFA Alumni will have the following committees:
- A. Finance
  - B. Awards
  - C. Resolutions/Bylaws
  - D. Membership
  - E. Communications/Promotions
  - F. State Alumni Convention Committee
  - G. Program Development
  - H. Past President's
- (See Wisconsin FFA Alumni manual for description of duties and responsibilities of each committee.)
- Section II.** These committees shall be served by a chairperson appointed by the Council.
- Section III.** The Council has the authority to create special committees and appoint FFA alumni to those committees.

## ARTICLE X

### Parliamentary Authority

The rules contained in the current edition of Roberts Rules of Order Newly Revised shall govern the association in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with these bylaws and any special rules of order the association may adopt.

## ARTICLE XI

### Amendments

Amendments to the bylaws of the Wisconsin FFA Alumni Association, Inc., may be adopted to fit the needs of the state at any regular state meeting by a two-thirds vote of the active members present providing such bylaws conflict in no way with the Constitution and bylaws of the National FFA Alumni Association, and are submitted sixty (60) days prior to the annual meeting to the executive director of the Wisconsin FFA Alumni.

## ARTICLE XII

### Administration

**Section I. *The Executive Director:***

- A. Will be appointed by the Executive Committee.
- B. The executive director duties/responsibilities will be:
  1. Serve as an ex officio non-voting member on the Council and Executive Committee.
  2. Serve as treasurer for the Wisconsin FFA Alumni .
  3. Perform the duties as specified by the Council.

**Section II. *Fiscal Year***

The fiscal year of the Wisconsin FFA Alumni Association shall be the calendar year.

**Section III. *Location Of Office***

Localities of association's office shall be designated by the Council.

**Section IV. *Official Address***

Official address of the Wisconsin FFA Alumni will be the mailing address of the executive director.

**Section V. *Books And Records***

Any member or his/her representative, for a proper purpose, may examine the books and records of the Wisconsin FFA Alumni Association, Inc. A written notice stating the purpose of the examination must be delivered or sent to the Association one week prior to the examination.