

STANDING RULES

DISTRICT IV 4-H COUNCIL

1. **NAME**

The name of this organization shall be the District IV 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 IV 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 Ultra. 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 nine (9) officers of the District Council shall be President, three (3) Vice Presidents, Secretary, Historian, Parliamentarian, Public Relations, and Health and Safety officer.

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)

Historian (organization of information of year with district and council)

Parliamentarian (maintains order)

Health and Safety Officer (Help plan the council meetings, suggesting health related topics, Provide some type of Health/safety information at meetings)

** 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 to serve as a delegate to the Texas 4-H Council..*

ELIGIBILITY FOR OFFICE

To be eligible for district office, a candidate must:

- (a) Be a bona fide member of District IV 4-H Council.
- (b) Be recommended by their County Extension Agent.
- (c) Must remain a resident in District IV during their elected term of office.
- (d) Must not have previously held the same office on District IV 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 Ultra of current year until next Ultra. 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 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 section for District 4-H Council Office when registering on 4-H Connect. All eligible applicants will be presented as candidates for the office they choose.

Nominations will be accepted from the floor if the nominee has completed his/her Application/Nomination section and meets all requirements.

Candidates are allowed (and encouraged) to set up a tri-fold campaign display in a designated area upon arrival at UITra. Candidates must limit their spending to \$25 for all material, handouts, etc. Receipts must be provided to the district specialist upon check-in. Table top space is limited to the width of a tri-fold (approximately 3 feet).

Election Procedure: The election process will consist of four parts, each given an equally weighted point value. Those four parts include the application, interview, impromptu question, and popular vote. Each part of the election process will be scored by judges or given point values by calculation.

Application	25 points	(scored by panel of adult judges)
Interview	25 points	(scored by panel of adult judges)
Question/Answer	25 points	(scored by panel of adult judges)
Popular Vote	25 points	(scored by calculation)
Total Possible	100 points	

1. Candidates will submit required application nomination information via 4-H Connect. A panel of adult judges will review and assign points (maximum of 25) to the candidate's application.
2. Candidates will be interviewed at the annual meeting and scored accordingly by a panel of adult judges (maximum of 25 points).
3. Each candidate will be asked a thought-provoking question. Candidates will have 2 minutes to respond. A panel of adult judges will assign points (maximum of 25) accordingly.

4. All candidates for each office will be recognized by name and office prior to beginning of the election.
5. Officer candidates will present their campaign speech (4-minute maximum) immediately prior to the election of the office they choose.*
6. The membership will cast their popular votes by secret ballot. The popular vote will be converted into a numeric point value (maximum of 25). (A candidate receiving 100% of the popular vote would receive 25 points; 80% = 20 points; 50% = 12.5 etc.)
7. Each candidate's four point sections will be summed for a total point value (maximum of 100). The candidate with the most points shall be elected to the position.
8. The district council president will cast his or her vote to break a tie.
9. Popular vote points are then erased and Steps 5, 6 and 7 are repeated for each subsequent office.

**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.*

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 and one Delegate-at-Large from each District 4-H Council.
- b. Council members must:
 - reach their 16th birthday and
 - must not have reached their 19th birthday on or before August 31st of the calendar year in which they are installed on the Texas 4-H Council.
- c. Delegates shall be eligible to attain and hold membership on the Texas 4-H Council for only one year.
- d. Membership onto the Texas 4-H Council occurs only after participation and completion of the entire Texas 4-H Council Educational Workshop in July. If an elected district officer is unable to participate in the entire workshop, they forfeit his/her space on the Texas 4-H Council to the next district officer. He/She will still retain his/her elected district office.
- e. There are specific events/activities/meetings that are required of the (3) elected officers (President, 1st VP, and 2nd VP) and encouraged for all members:
 - State Fair of Texas Honor Awards (September, Dallas, TX)
 - Junior Leadership Retreat (November, Texas 4-H Conference Center)

- January Planning Meeting (January, Texas 4-H Conference Center)
 - Texas 4-H Roundup (June, College Station, TX)
 - Texas 4-H Congress (July – even years, Austin, TX)
- f. 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.
 - g. The twelve (12) District Councils have the opportunity to select a Delegate-at-Large on an annual basis to serve on the Texas 4-H Council.
 - h. 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. Districts will select a minority to fill the position of Delegate-at-Large, if neither the District Council President nor Vice-President is a minority. If a District Council is unable to fill this position from its membership, then the District will forfeit its opportunity for minority delegate representation until the next rotation. Also, the Delegate-at-Large must be 1/16th of a minority nationality.
 - i. 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 MEETINGS**

An annual meeting shall be held during UITra (Ultimate Training), prior to the Texas 4-H Council Workshop, Fall Focus and Winter Lock-in. Officers and committee chairmen shall give reports of the work that has been done during their term of office at these annual meetings. Standing rules shall be reviewed and revised as necessary at these meetings. Additional meetings of the District IV 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, historian, parliamentarian, public relations director and the health and safety officer. 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 Agent Council advisors, forms 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.

The Spirit Committee shall work to raise the moral and spirit at District IV events, contests and anywhere District IV is represented.

Technology Team shall work on developing media presentations throughout the year for various events, contests, and activities for promotional purposes.

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. **AMMENDMENTS**

These rules may be amended by a two-thirds vote of the District IV 4-H Council. Review and revisions will be done at annual meetings. Amendments will become effective immediately following the meeting in which they were accepted.

13. **RESOLUTION**

Be it resolved by the District IV 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 IV 4-H Council recommends that all county 4-H councils adopt a similar resolution.

Reviewed Fall 2009 Council Meeting, 2010 Lock-In, 2010 Spring Meeting
Last Revised: Lock-In January 2011