

**Constitution & By-Laws of the**

**Southern Region Collegiate 4-H Council**

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**ARTICLE I - NAME & DEFINITIONS**

**Section 1:** The name of the organization shall be THE SOUTHERN REGION COLLEGIATE 4-H COUNCIL (SRC4-HC).

**Section 2:** The Southern Region Collegiate 4-H Council shall consist of the state Collegiate 4-H programs in the thirteen states and territory of Puerto Rico. Those states in the Southern Region shall consist of: Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, and Virginia.

**Section 3:** The Collegiate Programs in the Southern Region will be by state and have "clubs" in each state. There will be one collegiate program for a state with different clubs in the state instead of multiple collegiate programs in a state. Example: Instead of having "The University of Georgia's Collegiate 4-H Club" and "The University of North Georgia's Collegiate 4-H Club" their title will be "The Georgia Collegiate 4-H Council" of which both schools are a part of.

**Section 4:** The following terms shall have the following meanings:

1. SRC4-HC Advisory Committee shall constitute a board of appointed members who will organize the program and the SRC4-H Conference, and after the election of the region Board of Directors the Committee will be disbanded.
2. SRC4-HC Board of Directors shall consist of the 13 officers and directors elected by the Southern Region Collegiate 4-H Council. This is the elected body of the organization and represents the wishes of their state. A full list of duties is in Article VI.
3. 4-H State Collegiate Program(s) shall include the multiple Chapter 4-H programs recognized by the State 4-H Faculty and 4-H Staff of a given state.
4. 4-H Faculty and Staff will be defined as the professional 4-H faculty and staff persons of the thirteen land-grant systems in the Southern Region whose responsibility shall be to direct the 4-H Club activities for their state.
5. Collegiate 4-H'er will mean a college student who is enrolled in a school/college/university in the Southern Region and is a member of good standing within a recognized collegiate 4-H club.

**ARTICLE II – PURPOSE & POLICY**

**Section 1:** The purpose of the Southern Region 4-H Council will be to encourage participation in 4-H at the collegiate level for members to serve in teaching and service roles. Additionally, the collegiate 4-H clubs will work cooperatively with each state 4-H program to identify areas where collegiate 4-H members can serve as mentors, volunteers, and educators to 4-H youth members, parents and volunteers.

**Section 2:** The SRC4-HC will promote the mission mandates from National 4-H Council in its programing. Those mandates are: Science Technology Engineering and Mathematics (STEM), Healthy Living, Citizenship, and Mentoring.

**Section 3:** The SRC4-HC will promote leadership development by hosting and conducting programs and workshops at regional, state, and club. Additionally, the SRC4-HC will encourage SRC4-HC members to attend the National Collegiate 4-H Conference to be representatives of our program, and through the potential use of state and region competitions.

**Section 4:** The SRC4-HC will help members identify college and career goals.

**Section 5:** The SRC4-HC will promote employment opportunities with the Cooperative Extension Service as a potential career for all members.

**Section 6:** The SRC4-HC will promote generosity, independence, mastery, and belonging through events, workshops, community service, and the potential use of competitions.

**Section 7:** We believe that learning by doing is one of the most effective ways to learn and will promote this idea in our programing.

**Section 8:** The Southern Region 4-H Council and affiliated clubs will not discriminate based on gender, race, color, national origin, sexual orientation, or disability.

**ARTICLE III - MEMBERSHIP**

**Section 1:** Membership is open all individuals who have graduated high school and are presently attending a post-secondary institution located in the Southern Region. Members may be working on a certificate program, an associate's degree, bachelor's degree, master's degree, or a doctorate.

**Section 2:** Members of the Southern Region Council Board of Directors shall be members of the Southern Region Collegiate 4-H Council.

**Section 3:** All states will pay a due of $100 to the SRC4-HC for membership. This due is for the entire state and all of its members. This should be paid not later than September 30th of each year. No state will be allowed to bring members to the Southern Region Conference without payment of dues. Due monies will be used for lowering the cost of Conference and programing for the Southern Region Collegiate 4-H Council.

**ARTICLE IV – BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND OFFICERS**

**Section 1:** The Southern Region Collegiate 4-H Council shall be governed by a thirteen member Board of Directors elected annually at the SRC4-HC Conference, along with two 4-H Faculty Advisors appointed bi-annually by the Southern Regional 4-H Program Leaders.

**Section 2:** Each state will elect one person to represent their State’s 4-H Collegiate Club(s) on the Southern Region Collegiate 4-H Council.

**Section 3:** The Southern Region Collegiate 4-H Council shall have the officers of: President, Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary, and Representatives.

**Section 4:** Officers must apply to run for office before the Conference. Applications must be submitted to the Senior Faculty advisor. All officers must agree to serve a full term prior to applying to run for office. All candidates’ state coordinator or State Program director must approve their application before submitting.

**Section 5:** All candidates must have qualified and ran for one of the top four positions of President, Vice President, Treasurer, or Secretary. If a state has an elected member in one of these positions then they may not also have a state representatives. State Representatives will be elected by each individual state after the region wide election at Conference.

**Section 6:** Officer Candidates must be present at the Southern Regional Collegiate 4-H Conference and give a three to five minute campaign speech introducing themselves, reason for running, and their qualifications during an assembly for all delegates.

**Section 7:** All individuals running for a board of director position or an office must be present at the Southern Region Collegiate 4-H Conference to be nominated for office.

**Section 8:** All participants at the Southern Regional Collegiate Conference will be able to vote for the Southern Regional Collegiate 4-H Council officers.

**Section 9:** The Regional Board Members' term shall last from the Southern Region Collegiate 4-H Council's Conference at the time of the member’s election until the following year’s conference, one full year.

**Section 10:** The Regional Board Members may serve as many terms as they would like as long as they are being reelected. When members run for reelection it may be for the same office held or a different office.

**Section 11:** Election shall be by secret ballot. All candidates shall run in the region-wide officer election for one of the four offices. The Candidate receiving the most votes for an office will be elected. Run-off elections shall be held as necessary to break a tie.

**Section 12:** Candidates are allowed to campaign for office, however the following rules must be followed. Any candidate found in violation of these rules will be disqualified.

1. Candidate cannot bribe delegates with candy, food, pins/buttons, clothing, campaign materials of any kind, and/or any other miscellaneous item.
2. Candidates may carry a campaign sign or poster. This may or may not be attached to a stick or board as a handle. The poster should be of normal poster size or smaller.
3. Candidates may have delegates sign their poster, but cannot let any delegate hold their poster to campaign for them.
4. No candidate is allowed to use any inappropriate language and/or sexual innuendoes in their campaigning. Violators will be disqualified.
5. Candidates may not dress up in costume to run for board. Candidates may have funny slogans or funny speeches that included a light use of props.
6. Candidates may not use prerecorded video or audio for their speech.
7. Candidates may make regular poster size campaign posters to hang on walls, windows, and/or buildings. Each host state of Conference will dictate where these posters can be placed and what material will hang them.

**ARTICLE V – FACULTY ADVISORS**

**Section 1:** The two State Faculty Advisors will be on separate rotations to provide consist and transitional leadership to the Southern Region Collegiate 4-H Council. The two faculty advisors will represent their respective geographically areas of the Southern Region. One advisor will represent the states of: Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, & Virginia. The other advisor will represent the states/territories of: Alabama, Arkansas, Mississippi, Louisiana, Oklahoma, Puerto Rico, and Texas.

**ARTICLE VI - DUTIES OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**Section 1:** The President shall preside at all Southern Regional Collegiate 4-H Council business meetings, appoint committees, and perform the usual duties of a presiding officer.

**Section 2:** The Vice-President shall act in the capacity of the President in the absence of the latter or when called to occupy the chair by the President.

**Section 3:** The Treasurer shall keep a financial record of all financial actions and provide a report to the Board of Directors monthly in-person or via email.

**Section 4:** The Secretary shall record all meetings minutes of in-person meetings, video meetings, and conference calls and e-mail them to all members. The secretary shall also ask for agenda items from the Board of Directors before meetings to make an agenda and then e-mail it to all members of the Board of Directors. The Secretary will also maintain the SRC4-HC email address.

**Section 5:** The Board of Directors will plan the Southern Region Collegiate 4-H Conference. They will also plan any other region event and competition.

**Section 6:** Members of the Regional Board of Directors shall share the duties of presiding at non-business meetings and assemblies on a rotating basis. All members shall represent the Region’s Collegiate program and not partake in activities that dishonors the Region's Collegiate Program.

**Section 7:** The Faculty Advisors have the authority to ban elected Board of Directors members from activities for a period of time or indefinitely if a Board officer partakes in activities that dishonors the Southern Region Collegiate 4-H Council. Both Advisors must reach a consensus to ban a Board of Directors member.

**Section 8:** The Board of Directors will represent the SRC4-HC.

**Section 9:** Board Members should make it a point to visit state and chapter programs.

**Section 10:** Board Members should always be fund raising to help lower the cost of the Region Conference, and to potentially provide scholarships for members wishing to attend National Collegiate Conference.

**Section 11:** The Board of Directors will need to maintain a Facebook page to keep Collegiate 4-H’ers informed on events, activities, and ways they can be involved.

**Section 12:** The Board of Directors will send out newsletters each month to the States and Clubs in each state.

**ARTICLE VII - MEETINGS**

**Section 1:** The region’s annual meeting will be held at the Regional Conference in fall.

**Section 2:** Monthly meetings will be held for the Board of Directors in the form of conference call, video call, or face-to-face meetings.

**Section 3:** An Agenda will be made by the secretary for Board of Director’s meetings as listed in officer duties.

**Section 4:** The President and the Faculty Advisors can call a meeting in addition to the monthly meetings as they see fit.

**ARTICLE VIII – SOUTHERN REGION COLLEGIATE 4-H CONFRENCE**

**Section 1:** The SRC4-H Conference will be held in the fall of each year.

**Section 2:** The Board of Directors will decide the desired state where the Conference would be hosted. The State 4-H Leader of the hosting state must approve the location prior to announcing the location and date of conference. The location shall be determined to be able to provide adequate housing and meeting locations, as well as provide opportunity for community service experiences.

**Section 3:** Conference will be the weekend that National 4-H Week starts in October; however, exact days and times will be determined by the current Board of Directors in cooperation with the host state.

**Section 4:** The purpose of the conference will to engage the SRC4-HC members in personal, volunteer, and service development through well planned educational workshops and service projects.

**Section 5:** The conference shall include an opportunity for State Collegiate Programs to highlight program accomplishments through either a presentation or poster session.

**Section 6:** Conference should also serve as a networking event and allow Collegiate 4-H’ers the chance to meet other Collegiate members and build long lasting relationships.

**Section 7:** Prior to release of the final scheduled, the Board of Directors will vote to accept the agenda.

**Section 8:** Conference may have a theme with a skit/play/show performed by the Board of Directors to introduce the theme. The purpose of a theme is to attract Collegiate 4-H’ers, provide a basis for workshops, inspire Collegiate youth and adults to make a difference, and to provide a recreational aspect to the conference.

**ARTICLE IX: CLUB DISBANDMENT**

**Section 1:** Upon the disbandment of the club, all real property, including money, equipment and land, shall become the property of the State 4-H Program under which the SRC4HC is chartered for care and disposition and authorizes the said State 4-H Leader full rights to access bank records, bank funds, and all other banking authority. This also applies to all inventory and assets acquired by and or owed by this organization. The last official duty of the SRC4HC president and treasurer shall be to transfer all club property and to turn over club records to the State 4-H Leader.

**ARTICLE X: AMENDMENTS**

**Section 1.** These bylaws may be amended at any regular meeting of the club by a two-thirds vote of the members present, provided that the proposed amendments have been presented to the club in writing and filed with the secretary at the previous meeting of the club. Amendments must not conflict with the basic 4-H philosophy.

**ARTICLE XI - BY-LAWS**

**Section 1:** The official motto for the Southern Region Collegiate 4-H Council and its subordinate State and Chapter Councils shall be the National 4-H motto- "To make the best better."

**Section 2:** The official colors for the several Collegiate 4-H Councils shall be green and white.

**Section 3:** The official emblem for the several Collegiate 4-H Councils shall be the National 4-H emblem, the green four leaf clover bearing a white "H" on each leaf and should be used in accordance with policies and regulations set forth by the United States Department of Agriculture.

**Section 4:** The official pledge for the several Collegiate 4-H Councils shall be the National 4-H Pledge: I Pledge: My Head to clearer thinking, my Heart to greater loyalty, my Hands to larger service, and my Health to better living For my Club, my Community, my Country and my World."

**ARTICLE XII - RATIFICATION**

**Section 1:** The ratification of a new Constitution and By-laws shall be by a simple majority vote of the Collegiate 4-H Club members of the thirteen states in the Southern Region. If a state does not ratify it before Southern Region Collegiate 4-H Conference they will have the option to ratify it then. This is subject to the approval of the states Collegiate 4-H Coordinator and the State 4-H Leader of each state.