



CENTRAL DISTRICT 8 4-H COUNCIL STANDING RULES

Amended on June 23, 2017

1. Name – The name of this organization shall be the Central District 8 4-H Council.
2. Purpose – The purpose shall be to develop leadership, promote and encourage 4-H club work, and to coordinate 4-H activities in the district.
3. Membership – The Central District 8 4-H Council membership is open to 4-H members irrespective of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability, or genetic information.
 - a. Members – Membership shall consist of officers of the District 4-H Council and three (3) voting delegates from each of the twenty-one (21) County 4-H Councils. One (1) of the three (3) voting delegates from each county must be a minority as determined by his or her current 4-H Enrollment Form. Members must have at least three (3) years of 4-H membership, including the current year.
 - b. Grade – District 4-H Council members shall be in at least the 8th grade and not more than 12th grade on or before August 31 of the current 4-H year.
 - c. Term – Members shall be elected annually and shall be eligible for membership on the District 4-H Council for no more than two (2) years, except as an elected officer. If any delegate should resign, the respective County 4-H Council may elect a delegate to fill the vacancy.
4. Officers – The elected officers of the District 4-H Council shall be a Chairman, 1st Vice Chairman, Delegate-at-Large, and nine (9) Vice Chairmen.
 - a. Texas 4-H Council – The Chairman, 1st Vice Chairman, and Delegate-at-Large must be entering the 10th, 11th, or 12th grade and must be between the ages of 16 and 18 on August 31st of the calendar year in which they are installed on the District 4-H Council. The Chairman, 1st Vice Chairman, and Delegate-at-Large shall serve as delegates to the Texas 4-H Council.
 - b. Delegate-at-Large – The District 4-H Council has the responsibility of selecting or electing a state Delegate-at-Large each year. If the Chairman or 1st Vice Chairman are not of minority representation, then the Delegate-at-Large must be a minority. If either the Chairman or 1st Vice Chairman are of minority representation, then the Delegate-at-Large is not required to be of minority representation. Minority status is defined as 1/16th minority nationality.
 - c. Term of office – Officers shall be elected annually and no one shall hold more than one (1) district office per year. Officers shall be eligible to serve two (2) years as an officer. If a 4-H member is elected to Chairman, 1st Vice Chairman, or Delegate-At-Large, he/she will only be eligible to serve as a Vice Chairman the following year, if he/she is still eligible to hold an officer position according to additional officer requirements. Officers shall assume their duties at District Leadership Lab and shall continue to serve until the installation of officers the following year.
 - d. Additional Requirements
 - Must have attended a prior District 4-H Leadership Lab.

5. Election of Officers: Election of officers shall be held each year during District Leadership Lab. Candidates for office must meet the requirements as stated in Article 4.

The election process will be conducted as outlined in the District 8 4-H Officer Candidate Information and Agreement Form as approved by the District 8 4-H Program Development Committee.

Candidates will be allowed to submit a digital poster which states the candidate's name and county to publicize qualifications. All candidates will have an opportunity to present a candidate speech (3 minutes maximum including set-up and take down time). No handouts or give away items will be allowed such as candy, flyers, gum, t-shirts, etc.

All 4-H members wishing to run for an office on the District 8 4-H Council must submit the appropriate paperwork into the District 8 Extension Office, by the due date as stated on the application.

6. Executive Committee – The Executive Committee shall be composed of the elected officers stated in Article 4.
7. Special Committees – Special committees may be appointed at any time and in any way the Chairman deems advisable.
8. Meetings – There shall be at least one (1) regular meeting each year at District 8 4-H Leadership Lab. Additional meetings may be called by the Executive Committee working with the District 4-H Council advisors and District 4-H Specialist at any time deemed necessary. Officers will also be required to attend District Council Officer Meetings throughout the year in conjunction with district-wide events.
9. Voting Body – The voting body shall consist of the voting delegates as defined in Article 3. Each county will be allotted three (3) votes total. One (1) of the three (3) voting delegates must be of minority representation as determined by his or her current 4-H Enrollment Form. District officers may be one of these voting delegates, but cannot vote in addition to the county's allotted voting delegates. In the event of a tie, the current Chairman shall cast the deciding vote.
10. Quorum – A quorum shall consist of the voting members present at any regular or special meeting.
11. Amendments – The rules may be amended or changed by two-thirds (2/3) vote at any regular meeting, but must have approval of the District 4-H Specialist before amendments can be made to the bylaws.
12. Code of Conduct – District 4-H Council members are required to follow the stated Texas 4-H Youth and Development Consequences of Misbehavior and Code of Conduct. If a District 4-H Council member is suspected of any illegal activity (consuming alcoholic beverages and/or illegal drugs, etc.), before or during any activity or representation of the District 4-H Council, he/she shall be subject to be sent home and/or to dismissal from the District 4-H Council at the discretion of the Executive Committee and/or Council Advisors.

If a District 4-H Council member is not eligible to participate in Texas 4-H activities due to Code of Conduct violations, then he/she is not eligible to be a District 4-H Council member.
13. Dissolution clause – If the District 8 4-H Council disbands, all real property, including money, equipment and land, becomes the property of the District 8 4-H Program for care and disposition. The last official duty of the Council shall be to transfer the Council property and turn over records to the District 8 4-H Program.