

BYLAWS

Approved: September 19, 2023



MISSION

The mission of the National FFA Alumni & Supporters Association is to secure the promise of FFA And agricultural education by creating an environment where people and communities can develop their potential for premier leadership, personal growth, and career success. The Southern Nash Friends of the FFA embrace and have adopted this mission.

ARTICLE I. NAME & ORGANIZATION

The name of the organization shall be the Southern Nash Friends of the FFA. It is a chartered local Chapter of the North Carolina FFA Alumni and Supporters that in turn is chartered by the National FFA Organization. The Southern Nash Friends of the FFA accepts in full the provisions in the Constitution and Bylaws of the North Carolina and the National FFA Alumni Associations.

ARTICLE II. PURPOSE

The purpose of the organization shall be:

- A. To support and promote the FFA organization, FFA activities, and agricultural education on the local, state, and national levels.
- B. To provide a direct link to the Southern Nash FFA and to assist the FFA and agricultural education personnel.
- C. To provide engagement opportunities to former FFA members and supporters of FFA and agricultural education.
- D. To promote greater knowledge of the agricultural industry and support education in agriculture.
- E. To promote and maintain an appreciation of the American free enterprise system.
- F. To promote the personal development aspect of FFA.

ARTICLE III. MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. Membership shall be open to all who support FFA, agricultural education, and agriculture.

Section 2. A member is considered in good standing with full voting privileges if their name is listed on the membership roster and the Chapter's annual fees are paid in full based on the membership year of the National FFA Organization (August 1 – July 31). Annual membership dues will be set each year by the Alumni Council. Each year the chapter must pay an annual fee that includes the National FFA Alumni and Supporters fee, as well as any corresponding state FFA Alumni and Supporters fees which may be applicable.

ARTICLE IV. CONDUCT

The Southern Nash Friends of the FFA are committed to conducting it's programs and activities in a manner that is safe and welcoming to all people, and will consider the cultural diversity and economic differences of students and parents in all of it's actions. The organization shall in all matters maintain an environment that is free from any form of harassment or discrimination, and violations of these core principles will not be tolerated.

Reports of concerns related to the conduct of the membership can be made directly to the Southern Nash High School Administration, who will have the final authority on the removal of members or taking other actions, as deemed necessary.

ARTICLE V. EMBLEM

The gold FFA emblem with the word "Alumni" below it shall serve as the emblem of the Southern Nash Friends of the FFA. This emblem will adhere to the FFA emblem printing restrictions as specified in the FFA Alumni Handbook.

ARTICLE VI. OFFICERS

Section 1. Officers and Duties.

- The Officers of the Chapter shall be a President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer. Other officers may be elected as needed. The officers shall perform the duties prescribed by these Bylaws and by the parliamentary authority adopted by the Chapter including, but not limited to:
 - o President:
 - Provide notice of all meetings in advance, and provide regular updates to the membership relating to the activities of the Alumni Chapter and the FFA Chapter.
 - Issue the call for all meetings and preside over all such meetings, except as described for Committees.
 - Announce the meeting agenda.
 - Clearly state, and put to vote, all motions, and announce the result.
 - Represent the chapter in public relations and official functions.
 - Work with the Advisors to coordinate and help establish the activities of the chapter.
 - Maintain communication with the NC FFA Alumni & Supporters organization.
 - Delegate responsibilities as appropriate.
 - o Vice President:
 - Preside over meetings in the absence of the President.
 - Serve as Parliamentarian for the organization.
 - Assist in matters related to voting.
 - Assist the President in their duties.
 - Maintain and publish the annual membership roster.
 - o Secretary:
 - Record, maintain, and announce the minutes of the previous meeting.
 - Maintain custody of minutes and all other documents that come before the group.
 - Serve as Treasurer when said office is not otherwise filled.
 - o Treasurer:
 - Execute all matters of the organization's finances.
 - Maintain accurate records of all deposits and disbursements
 - Prepare and communicate financial reports at each regular meeting, and upon request.
 - Serve as a member of the Finance Committee.
 - Execute payments for the annual State and National affiliate dues.
 - Serve as Secretary when said office is not otherwise filled.
 - NOTE: The Finance Committee (or similar designee) will conduct an audit of the organization's financial records annually following the end of the fiscal year.

Section 2. Nomination Procedure, Time of Elections.

- Nominations and election of Officers for the coming school year shall occur at the final meeting held during the school year.

Section 3. Ballot Election, Term of Office.

- The Officers shall be elected by ballot to serve for one (1) year or until their successor is elected, and their term of office shall begin at the close of the meeting at which they are elected. In the event there is only one nomination for an office, majority vote by the members present at the meeting can be used in lieu of a ballot.

Section 4. Office-Holding Limitations.

- No member shall serve for more than three (3) terms in the same office. Exceptions may be allowed in the event that a willing candidate for office is not identified, and the existing Officer agrees to continue beyond the third (3rd) term.

ARTICLE VII. MEETINGS

Section 1. Regular Meetings.

- The regular meetings of the chapter shall be held on the third (3rd) Tuesday of each month during the school year unless otherwise ordered by the chapter, typically from September through April except in the month of December. Votes on binding decisions for the Chapter will only be held at regular meetings.

Section 2. Annual Meetings.

- The regular meeting in April shall be known as the annual meeting and shall be for the purpose of electing officers, receiving reports of officers and committees and for any other business that may arise.

Section 3. Special Meetings.

- Special meetings may be called by the President, the Alumni Council, or a quorum of the members with two weeks' notice. No business should be conducted except those items stated in the call of the special meeting.

Section 4. Quorum.

- A quorum shall consist of at least ten percent (10%) of members in good standing that are present at the meeting. Decisions by vote will be considered to be binding if approved by a quorum.

ARTICLE VIII. ALUMNI COUNCIL

Section 1. Board Composition.

The executive body of the Southern Nash Friends of the FFA shall consist of:

- The elected officers of the Alumni chapter.
- Up to four (4) persons elected at-large by the membership, which should include the immediate past President.
- The current FFA Chapter President or Student Advisor.
- At least one of the current FFA Advisors shall serve as an ex-officio member.
- All members of the Alumni Council must be active members of the Southern Nash Friends of the FFA, with the exception of the current FFA Chapter President or Student Advisor.

Section 2. Board Duties and Powers.

- The Alumni Council shall have general supervision of the affairs of the Chapter between its business meetings, fix the hours and place of meetings, make recommendations to the Chapter, and perform such other duties as are specified in these By-Laws. The Board shall be subject to the orders of the Chapter, and none of its acts shall conflict with actions taken by the Chapter.

Section 3. Board Meetings.

- Unless otherwise ordered by the Chapter, regular and special meetings of the Alumni Council shall be held at least semi-annually, with one of those meetings immediately preceding the start of the school year. Additional special meetings of the Alumni Council may be called by the President.

ARTICLE IX. COMMITTEES

Standing or special committees shall be appointed by the President, and as the Chapter or Alumni Council shall from time to time deem necessary to carry on the work of the Chapter. The President shall be an ex-officio (non-voting) member of all committees, however may be called upon to cast their vote in the event of a tie. Examples may include a Finance Committee, Nominating Committee, and a Scholarship Committee. Each Committee will select a Chairperson, who is responsible for managing the group's activities and providing regular updates to the membership during regular meetings.

ARTICLE X. PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY

The rules contained in the current edition of Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised shall govern the Chapter in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with these By-Laws and any special rules of order the Chapter may adopt.

ARTICLE XI. AMENDMENT OF BY-LAWS

These By-Laws may be amended at any regular meeting of the organization by a two-thirds (2/3) quorum, provided that the amendment has been submitted in writing at the previous regular meeting and is made available to all members.

ARTICLE XII. DISSOLUTION OF THE CHAPTER

Upon the dissolution of this Friends of the FFA Chapter, all remaining assets, account balances, FFA branded materials, social media and financial account logins, organizational materials and records shall be turned over to the Southern Nash High School FFA Chapter in which this organization was chartered to support. Any such assets not disposed of shall be turned over to the North Carolina FFA Alumni Association.

ARTICLE XIII. REVISION HISTORY

9/19/2023: Original Issue