

SOUTH DISTRICT 12 4-H COUNCIL
STANDING RULES

Amended November 15, 2008

Youth involvement in program development at all levels is an essential aspect of successful 4-H programming. For this reason, the District 12 4-H Council provides for representative 4-H youth 12-19 years of age:

- to advise the District Extension staff on programs for 4-H and other youth,
- to maintain linkage with county 4-H councils,
- to assist with the development and implementation of District events and activities,
- to provide 4-H youth the opportunity to learn democratic principles and procedures, and
- to interpret the 4-H program to the public through effective and satisfying group organization.

The following standing rules adopted by the South District 12 4-H Council members serve as guidelines for the group procedure:

1. **NAME:**
The name of this organization shall be the South District 12 4-H Council.
2. **PURPOSE:**
The purpose shall be to act as a sounding board to:
 - a. Identify needs and interests of 4-H and other youth.
 - b. Suggest and explore action programs that will meet the needs and interests of youth.
 - c. Advise in the determination of future 4-H programs.
3. **MEMBERSHIP:**
 - a. The District 12 4-H Council membership is open to all youth, irrespective of socioeconomic level, race, color, sex, religion, disability or national origin. It consists of two member delegates from each county 4-H Council and the elected District officers.
 - b. Council members must (1) reach their 12th birthday and (2) must not have reached their 19th birthday on or before August 31 of the **4-H** year.
 - c. District Officers must (1) reach their 14th birthday and (2) must not have reached their 19th birthday on or before August 31 of the **4-H** year in which they are installed on the District 4-H Council.
 - d. County councils may select alternates to fulfill responsibilities of regularly elected delegates. This alternate shall meet the requirements for council membership.
4. **OFFICERS:**
The officers shall be elected annually and shall be: President, 1st Vice President, Delegate at Large, 2nd Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Public Relations, Parliamentarian. The top three eligible officers will serve on Texas 4-H Council. (See current State Council Requirements for eligibility.)

Officers must fulfill all duties, including:

- Attend all council meetings. If unable to attend, the officer must, in advance, notify the District Council Advisor of his/her absence along with legitimate excuse.
- Attend assigned contests and events.
- Attend council officer retreat. If officer does not attend, a replacement will be appointed to that office by the Executive Committee.

5. TERM OF OFFICE:

- a. Council members shall serve from the time of installation until installation of the following year.
- b. Officers shall be elected annually and shall be eligible for only one term in that office.
- c. No person shall hold more than one office on the District 4-H Council during one term.
- d. No member shall hold any officer position, elected or appointed, for more than one term.
- e. Members shall not serve as an officer for more than three terms.

6. ANNUAL MEETING AND ELECTION OF OFFICERS:

- a. There shall be at least three (3) meetings held each year in the fall, January, and in the spring and/or any meetings deemed necessary by the Executive Committee.
- b. Officers shall be elected at the Election Convention and will be nominated by application.
- c. To run for District 12 office, you must attend one district meeting and/or informational session where a quorum is not met.
- d. Past District 12 officers must run for an office higher than the office they previously held as stated in item 7.
- e. A majority (>50%) constitutes an election.
- f. Candidates shall run for one office. If they are not elected they will not be able to be nominated for another office during that term.

7. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:

The Executive Committee shall be composed of the President, First Vice President, Delegate at Large, Second Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Public Relations and Parliamentarian in this respective order. The Executive Committee shall appoint members to fill vacancies in offices.

8. COMMITTEES:

Committees may be appointed at any time.

9. VOTING BODY:

The voting body shall consist of the membership as defined in Rule 3. Current officers and candidates cannot vote. However, in the event of a tie, the current president shall cast the deciding vote.

10. QUORUM:

A quorum shall consist of at least 5 counties or 10 voting members.
If a quorum is not met, the meeting shall be deemed an informational session.

11. AMENDMENTS:

These rules may be amended by a two thirds vote at any regular meeting.

4-H Rules of Conduct will apply at all Events and Activities.