# Agricultural Education

## Pettis County R-V

## FFA Chapter

## Bylaws

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Chapter Officers

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# Table of Contents


1. FFA Affiliation……..……..2
2. Point System……...……2
3. Member in Good Standing……..2
4. Officers in Good Standing……...2, 3
5. Meetings……...3
6. Area Leadership Conference……...……3
7. Trapshooting……3, 4
8. Fruit Sales ……...4, 5
9. Greenhand Initiation……...5
10. FFA Week ……..5
11. Banquet…….....6,7
12. Spring Trip Selection…….....…. 7
13. National Convention Selection……...……..... 7, 8
14. State Convention ……....8
15. Fall Contest ……...……8, 9
16. Barnyard Day …….....9
17. State Degree……..…….....9
18. Chapter Officer Selection Process ……..……....9, 10
19. Area and State Officer Selection Process……..10, 11
20. FFA Camp……..18, 19
21. Washington Leadership Conference …….....12

## FFA Affiliation:

I. In Missouri, an approved Agricultural Education program is based on a three-component model which includes classroom instruction, work-based learning, and the local FFA chapter. As the federal charter illustrates, students must have access to and participate in all three components to receive the full benefits of an agricultural education program. Taking agriculture classes without an FFA component is like taking a band class but never marching or performing in a concert.
II. By default, all students enrolled in an approved agriculture education course will be FFA members and have full access to the FFA opportunities.
III. This was voted on at the 2026 State FFA Convention.
IV. There are no individual dues.

## Point System:

To encourage participation in FFA activities, a points system was created to award the most active members with trips and awards.

I. The Points System is based on a member's participation. Each FFA member has the opportunity to gain as many points as possible based on how active the member is.
II. The number of points for possible activities will be determined at the beginning of the school year, set forth by the newly installed Officers.
III. Point deductions occur if you sign up for an activity but fail to attend or participate in the activity. The amount of points that were possible to gain will be deducted from your current amount.
IV. The points go towards earning a spot to the spring trip in the second semester. They shall run from July 1 and include the Banquet.

## Member in Good Standing:

**To be a member in good standing, you must meet the following requirements:**

I. Have a current GPA that positively reflects the FFA (C's or better)
II. Have a 90% school attendance yearly.
III. Must be a dues-paying member
IV. Must not be put in ISS or OSS (can't participate in events for that week.)
V. Be enrolled in an Agricultural Class
VI. Must display conduct consistent with ideals and purposes of the organization

## Officers in Good Standing:

The following set of guidelines will be used to determine Officers in Good Standing for other activities described within this constitution.

I- An Officer must be enrolled in an Agricultural/Vocational Class at Pettis County R-V
II- An Officer must be passing every class with at least a C- or higher
    a. Grades will be checked at every quarter
III- An Officer will make an effort to attend all chapter activities

IV- An Officer must be dues paying members
V- An Officer must display conduct consistent with the ideals and purposes of the organization
VI- An Officer must maintain at least a 90% attendance or higher yearly
VII- An Officer must attend monthly meetings with reasonable regularity
VIII- An Officer must stay within the guidelines of the strike system, adopted each year with the induction of new officers.

## Chapter Meetings:

**When:**

I. Regular Chapter meeting shall be held once a month during the school year and once a month during the remaining months of the year at such time and place as it is designated by the Chapter Executive Committee. Special meetings may be called at any time by the Executive Committee.

**Rules:**

I. Standard meeting paraphernalia shall be used at each meeting. All regular meetings shall open and close with the official ceremony. Roberts Rule of Order shall be the official rule of authority in all FFA meetings. Parliamentary Procedure shall be used in transacting all business at each meeting.

**Attendance:**

I. A "quorum" shall consist of 35% of In-School members listed on the secretary's membership roll for all meetings.

## Area Leadership Conference Guidelines:

**Who goes:**

I. Only officers in good standing can attend this conference
    a. See constitutional bylaws about members in good standing

**Attire:**

I. You must be in the entire FFA Manual official dress to attend this conference.

## Trapshooting:

**Eligibility:**

I. Person must have attended an hour-long safety class instructed by the advisor
II. Person must be a member in good standing of the FFA Chapter to participate
III. Person may have no Fs in any classes to be able to shoot

**Funding:**

I. Guns will be provided for students to borrow, or they may be allowed to bring their own gun to shoot. (See Gun Check-in for rules concerning bringing guns to school)

II. Students MUST bring their own shells
III. The chapter will pay all range and shooting fees.

**Selection of Teams:**

I. Teams will be selected by either the use of a running average or by having a shoot-off before each match. The method of selection will be decided by a majority vote of the members of the trap team at the beginning of each year
II. The shooters with the 5 best averages or shoot-off scores will be made the "A" team; the next 5 shooters will make up the "B" team.

**Gun Check-in:**

I. If students decide to use their own gun, they must follow the proper protocol for bringing their gun to practice. Their firearm must be in a case. It must be brought to the superintendent's office by **7:45 a.m.** on the day of a practice. **YOU MUST BE ON TIME. NO LATER THAN 7:45.** It **MUST** be signed in with Mr. Thomas or Mr. Ringen. If it is not signed in, students will not be allowed to participate in trapshooting and could result in OSS.
II. This means that firearms **CANNOT** be left in vehicles or the above actions will be followed. A student **WILL NOT** be allowed to transport their firearm on the school bus. It must be brought to school in their own vehicle or dropped off by a parent.

## Fruit Sales:

**Why We Sell:**

I. The Pettis County R-V FFA Chapter holds annual Fruit Sales for fundraising purposes.

**Rules:**

I. You will not receive your fruit packet unless you are in your Ag class to receive them from the Ag Advisor.
II. To earn points, it must be submitted by the end of the day on the date Fruit packets are due.
III. No pay = hold list

**Rewards:**

I. $1,000 worth of fruit sold will allow for a prize to be awarded at the advisor's discretion.
II. A fishbowl drawing will be held once all of the money raised has been turned into the Advisor. The amount of money put into the fishbowl will be determined by the Advisor, as well as the number of pulls each member receives.

III. Points given for selling fruit will be determined by the Chapter at the beginning of the year when the points chart is submitted.

## Greenhand Initiation:

**Eligibility:** To be eligible to receive the Greenhand FFA Degree from the chapter, a member must meet the following minimum qualifications:

I. Be enrolled in agricultural education and have satisfactory plans for a supervised agricultural experience program.
II. Learn and explain the FFA creed, motto, salute, and FFA mission statement.
III. Describe and explain the meaning of the FFA emblem and colors.
IV. Demonstrate a knowledge of the FFA Code of Ethics and the proper use of the FFA jacket.
V. Demonstrate a knowledge of the history of the organization, the chapter constitution and bylaws, and the chapter Program of Activities.
VI. Personally own or have access to the *Official FFA Manual* and the *Official FFA Student Handbook*.

**Initiation:**
Greenhands will arrive at school in Official Dress and will be accompanied by the officers and advisors for the purpose of dyeing their hands green in the Ag room. After the dying process is finished, the Greenhands will receive a green paper hand that is to be signed by all the officers by 3:50, giving them a full school day.

*Officers will make the paper hands 2-3 days before the set date.*

**Expectations:**

Officers- Officers will assist in the help of cutting the paper hands a couple of days in advance and the dying of the hands the morning of. Officers are not to refuse a Greenhand once asked for the signature.

Greenhands- Greenhands are to arrive in Official Dress the morning of and will have their hand dyed green. Greenhands are expected to receive **ALL** of the officer's signatures and have them ready to hand over by the end of the day.

## FFA Week:

**Activities:**

I. What we do each day will be voted on by members at the January meeting.

**Points:**

I. The number of points for each day will be voted on at the January meeting.

## Banquet:

I. There shall be a Parent and member Banquet every Spring towards the end of the school year to recognize accomplishments.
II. At this banquet, Proficiency awards, Honorary degrees, Contest pins, Scholarship awards, Leadership Awards, Star Awards, and State Degrees shall be given.

**Proficiency Awards:**

1. FFA members winning an Area Proficiency Award will receive a certificate.
2. FFA members winning at the State level will also receive $50 and a certificate.

**Honorary Degrees:**

1. At/or before the April FFA meeting, the chapter should choose at least one community member who has helped the FFA Chapter. The chosen person will be honored with an Honorary Member Pin and Plaque at the Chapter Banquet. The Secretary will be in charge of inviting the honorees.

**Career Development Event:**

1. In order to receive a CDE pin, the member has to be on a contest team that qualified for state.
2. Members receiving a Group I Rating receive a certificate.

**Leadership Development awards:**

1. In order to receive a pin, the member must have qualified for districts.

**Scholarship pins:**

1. Given to the FFA member (s) in each grade with the highest GPA.

**Leadership pin:**

1. Awarded to an FFA member in freshman through Senior grades with the most amount of points for the entire year. From July 1 to the event right before the banquet

**Star Awards:**

1. Star Greenhand Leadership- awarded to the Greenhand member who has earned the most points on the points chart. Starting July 1 to the event right before the banquet. Also awarded a plaque.
2. Star Greenhand SAE- Awarded to the Greenhand that has a strong SAE. This will be determined by their record book. Also awarded a plaque.
3. Star Farmer- Awarded to a Junior or Senior member with the strongest production SAE based on their record book. Also awarded a plaque.
4. Star Agribusiness-- Awarded to a Junior or Senior member with the strongest agribusiness SAE based on their record book. Also awarded a plaque.
5. Star Placement-- Awarded to a Junior or Senior member with the strongest placement SAE based on their record book. Also awarded a plaque.

**State Degrees:**

1. Honor State Degree recipients will be honored with a State Degree chain

**Any Other Awards:** At any time throughout the year, the chapter or advisor may add awards as needed.

**Section C:**

**Officer installation-** New officers will be inducted to their office and old officers will be retired. Senior officers who will be retiring will receive a plaque.

## Points Trip Selection:

**Eligibility:**

To be able to go on the Pettis County R-V Points Trip, you must:

1. Be in the top 20 members of the points chart after National Convention
2. Be a member in good standing (requirements defined in the constitutional bylaws)

**Payment:**

1. Chapter pays in full on even and odd years for the trip unless voted on differently by FFA members.

**Points Tie:**

1. In the event of a tie, the tied member with the highest semester GPA does will have the privilege of going to spring trip.
2. In the event a member was to drop out of the activity, the next member in line on the points chart is to attend the activity. This notice must be given a week in advance. Any cancellations after the week prior will not be filled.

**Why We Do It:**

1. To give a reward to the top 20 members

## Pettis County R-V National Convention Selection:

**Eligibility**:

In order to go to National Convention, you must be:

1. A member in the top 25 on the points chart is eligible to apply.
2. A member in good standing (constitutional bylaws outline the requirements of a member in good standing)
3. A member with all of your teacher's permission to go.
4. A written application will be scored by 2 anonymous judges.

**Payment:**

1. A fee is usually issued to the members going to National Convention to help pay for costs.
2. For example: In 2025, the members paid $150.

**In the event of a tie:**

1. In the event of a tie, the student in the higher grade will go. If the tie is between two people in the same grade, then the individual with the highest GPA will be the one permitted to go. If both individuals are freshmen who don't have a GPA, they will take an FFA Knowledge test; the person with the greater score will be allowed to go.

**Cancellation:**

2. If a member eligible to go cancels, the next person on the points chart moves up to fill in their spot. Any cancellations up to a week prior are not accepted.

**Why we go:**

3. We go to learn about advocating and leadership from the keynote speakers, while also meeting new people from across the country.

## State Convention:

**Attendance Eligibility-**

For a student to be able to attend State Convention, the student must

1. be a part of a contest team that is participating at the state level
2. be selected to be a delegate by the chapter

**Delegate Selection-**

1. Delegates will be selected by the chapter at the April meeting. For a member to be selected, they must first be nominated by somebody at the meeting. Then, after all nominations have been made, the nominees will leave the room, and the remaining members at the meeting will vote on who they want to be the two delegates at state convention
    A. Delegates cannot be on a contest team that is participating in a state competition that is occurring at the same time as the delegates' meeting

## Fall Contest:

**Who can be on a team?**

**1.** Any FFA member in good standing can be a part of the fall contest.

**Speaking Contest:**

2. Any member wanting to be in the speaking contest in the fall can talk to either of the Ag advisors to see if their topic is acceptable.

**Rituals Team:**

3. The rituals team will be the officer team.

## Barnyard Day:

**Section A:** Will be in the springtime date chosen by the officers. Schools that will be invited to attend are Northwest Elementary School. The kids will have the opportunity to walk around and look at the different farm animals, and each grade will have a class.

**Section B:** Group leaders will be chosen from the points chart. If they did not sign up to bring an animal or to teach a class, then they can be chosen. It starts at the top of the chart and goes down until we get enough group leaders. The leaders chosen must be a member in good standing and have their teacher's permission to get out of class.

**Section C:** To bring an animal, you have to sign up on a sheet of paper. You are responsible for bringing your animal and providing any fence that is needed or anything else to keep your animal for the day. You have to be a member in good standing and have you teachers permission to get out of class.

## State Degree Bylaws:

**Eligibility:**

1. We will follow the guidelines set by the National FFA Association
2. Member must be in good standing

**Complications:**

1. If our chapter has more than 7% of the members applying, the State Degrees that are picked will be based on which ones have the most State Degree points.

## Pettis County R-V FFA Officer Selection Process:

**Eligibility:**

In order to run for an FFA office at Pettis County R-V, you must be:

1. A dues-paying member
2. A member in good standing(constitutional bylaws outline the requirements of a member in good standing)

**Application:**

To enter the selection process, a member must first complete a written application. This is to determine the basis of their interview and intentions as an officer. This will show a record of their current GPA, interests, and ideas for the FFA. All applications must be turned in at least one day prior to the date of the interviews. Applications are not worth any points but are required to run for an office.

**Points System:**

To ensure officers are equally and fairly elected, a points system will be put into place. This will consist of a general knowledge and parliamentary procedure test, a score taken from the individual's state degree leadership pages, and an oral interview conducted by a selected committee.

The knowledge and parliamentary procedure test will consist of fifteen general FFA knowledge questions and ten general parliamentary procedure questions. All questions will be pulled from previous knowledge and parliamentary contest exams by the non-interviewing current officers. All questions will be worth one point each, totaling 25 points for the written exam.

The State Degree Leadership Page represents a score out of 400 points; however, the first two digits will be used to determine an individual's score in this process. Therefore, the total amount of points possible for this section is 40 points.

The final section will be the oral interview. A committee will be brought together consisting of all current non-interviewing officers, one community member (chosen by the current advisors), and one teacher (chosen by the current advisors). Within the interview, the candidates will be asked six questions. Two of which will pertain to FFA, two to their SAE, and two general questions. Each question will be worth a total of five points, equaling 30 points. An additional five points will be given as a general effect score by each judge. The judges' scores will be added up, and the average of all scores will be taken for the total interview score.

The total interview score plus the total exam score plus the total leadership score will determine the ranking of the new officers. The current advisors will determine how many officers are needed for the upcoming year, and the top-scoring individuals will be elected accordingly.

The newly elected officers will then be detained in a room until they themselves have determined the slate. After which the newly elected president should present the slate to the advisors for approval.

After approval from the advisors, a meeting should be scheduled within the following days to reveal the slate. At this meeting, all members will have a chance to vote and either approve or veto the slate. After the officers have been officially elected, they will be fully inducted at the following Spring Banquet.

## Area and State Officer Selection Process:

Whenever it becomes time for the Pettis County R-V FFA Chapter to select its candidates for Area and/or State Office, it will use the following system.

I- To start, it will be opened up to anyone who may want to volunteer. The chapter is allowed to send no more than two candidates to represent the chapter.

II- If more than two members volunteer, a points system will be used. This system will be composed of an individual's State Degree Leadership Pages, an Oral Interview, and a Written Application.

III- All candidates will fill out an application no later than one week prior to the set day of the oral interviews.

IV- An FFA member's State Degree Leadership Pages are given out of 400 points. For this purpose, we will use the first two digits as the individual's score. For example, if someone's score is 381, their score would be 38. Making the total amount of points possible for the State Degree Leadership pages 40 points.

V- The interview will be composed of all non-interviewing Chapter Officers, one community member chosen by the advisors, and one teacher chosen by the advisors.

VI- Within the interview, six questions will be asked. Two pertaining to FFA, two pertaining to their SAE, and two general questions. Each question will be worth five points for a total of thirty points. An additional ten points will be given for a general effect score and another ten points for the individual's introduction. For a total of 50 points possible within the interview.

VII- With the application being worth ten points, the 40 points taken from the State Degree Leadership Pages, and the interview of 50 points, the total amount possible for each individual is 100 points.

VIII- The top two individuals will be chosen as the candidates for Area or State Officers.

## FFA Camp:

**Who Goes?:**

Only FFA members can attend Camp Rising Sun

1. Each and every FFA member wanting to attend Camp Rising Sun must pay the set fee.

**When is Camp?:**

1. Camp takes place for one week, varying from the first week of June to the second week in July depending on the date your chapter is selected.

**Where is Camp Located?:**

2. Camp Rising Sun is located in the Lake of the Ozarks area.

**What do we pay?**

1. In the past, FFA members have paid $140 to attend camp.

## Washington Leadership Conference:

### What is the WLC?

1. The WLC is a nationwide FFA conference held in the nation's capital over the summer. The Pettis County R-V FFA Chapter attends the conference every other summer in the even years. During the week spent there, you create a Living to Serve plan to help people

in your community. You also get to know other FFA members from across the country and see all of Washington DC's monuments.

**Who is eligible to go?**

2. Any current FFA member in good standing who is between their sophomore and junior year or between their junior and senior year. There will be a meeting held for those members and their parents who wish to attend, so that they can get all the information that they need to know about the conference. The meeting date is determined by the advisor.

**Fundraising**

3. In years past, members going to the conference had to raise their own money to go to the conference. Some of the fundraising done was:

- Bakery sale during school.
- Selling meat sticks.
- Asking companies and organizations for donations.
- Garage sale.
- The Chapter donates a portion, which is determined at one of the FFA meetings before the conference.

**Transportation**

4. Transportation to get to Washington, DC is determined by the members and the advisors going on the trip.

**What if someone were to drop out?**

5. If someone were to cancel, then the money they raised would be split appropriately between the other members attending. Any replacements will be dealt with by the advisor

**Engaging in misconduct**

6. We will follow the WLC code of conduct put together by national FFA; any infractions will get you sent home at your own expense.