

**CONSTITUTION
Of
Northern District 4-H Horse Advisory Council of Virginia**

ARTICLE 1 – NAME

This name of this organization shall be “The Northern District 4-H Horse Advisory Council of Virginia.”

ARTICLE 2 – PURPOSES

The purposes of this Council shall be:

1. To plan, implement, and evaluate Northern District 4-H Horse Project Events
2. To coordinate the efforts of Northern District County Horse Programs
3. To maintain and disseminate information for the betterment of the 4-H Horse Project
4. To give financial support to educational 4-H Horse Project Programs

The development of Council members will occur through 4-H Council work, participating during Council meetings, district, state, regional, national and international 4-H Events, and other activities and by learning how to run a meeting with rules, patience and teamwork.

ARTICLE 3 – MEMBERSHIP

Section 1 – Nondiscrimination

1. Council membership shall be open to all enrolled 4-H Adult Volunteers willing to further its purpose. Membership is open to all, regardless of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, marital or family status.
2. Only two members from each Extension Unit shall be eligible to vote. It is the duty of each County agent to specify who these representatives are and to submit their names to the Council Extension Advisor and the Council Secretary. Alternates may be designated by the unit to stand in for voting members in their absence, so long as their names have been submitted by the unit agent to the Council along with the regular voting members.

Section 2 – Age

Membership is open to all 4-H Adult members over the age of 19 as of their age on September 30th of the current year.

ARTICLE 4 - OFFICERS

The officers of this club shall be President, Vice-President, Treasurer, Secretary. Council Officers do not have to be voting or alternate delegates in order to hold their office for the required term.

ARTICLE 5 – COMMITTEES

The following committees should be appointed to serve the Council:

1. Budget Committee – shall prepare and submit an annual budget to the Council
2. Northern District 4-H Horse Show Committee – shall plan, implement, and evaluate the District 4-H Horse Shows
3. Hippology/Horse Bowl Committee – shall help the Chairman of the contests in any way possible
4. Horse Judging Committee – shall help the Chairman of the contests in any way possible

ARTICLE 6 – MEETINGS

The Council will meet the even months of the year on the first Wednesday of the month. The location of the meetings will alternate so as to be accessible to members in all parts of the district.

ARTICLE 7 – FINANCES

The Council will follow all Virginia Cooperative Extension and Virginia 4-H fiscal policies as well as state and federal regulations. The Treasurer is responsible for obtaining a signature card from the bank to allow the President or Treasurer to sign checks for the Council.

All monetary matters not included in the budget shall be presented to the Council and will be voted on at a regular meeting.

ARTICLE 8 – VOLUNTEER MEMBERSHIP

This Council is made up of volunteer members, who: are officially enrolled, beyond 4-H member age, participate of his/her own free will and without compensation or expectation of compensation beyond possible reimbursement of out-of-pocket expenses, and perform tasks at the direction of and on behalf of the Virginia 4-H program. All 4-H Council members are expected to abide by the “Standards of Behavior for Virginia 4-H Volunteers”.

ARTICLE 9 – EXTENSION 4-H STAFF

The organization, program, and activities of this Council shall be under the general direction of the Northern District 4-H Horse Council Extension Advisor or designated Extension personnel.

ARTICLE 10 – DISSOLUTION

Upon the dissolution and termination of the Northern District 4-H Horse Advisory Council of Virginia for any reason, the officers shall take full account of the Council’s assets and liabilities, and shall liquidate the assets and shall apply and distribute the proceeds there from in the following order:

- A. To the payment of the debts and liabilities of the Northern District 4-H Horse Advisory Council of Virginia.
- B. To the setting up of any reserves that the officers may deem reasonable for the purpose of paying any unforeseen liabilities or obligations of the Council.
- C. After a waiting period of one year from the date of dissolution, if the Council fails to reorganize, the remaining balance shall be distributed to the State Horse Program for the purpose of program development directly related to the enrichment of the 4-H horse program.

Each of the members shall be provided a statement prepared by the Northern District 4-H Horse Advisory Council of Virginia outlining the assets, liabilities, and the distribution of assets upon complete liquidation. Upon compliance with these terms and the distribution of the funds, the Council shall cease to exist.

ARTICLE 12 – AMENDMENTS

This constitution may be amended at any regular business meeting by a two-thirds (2/3) vote cast by those in attendance.

SIGNATURES:

COUNCIL PRESIDENT

COUNCIL SECRETARY

UNIT EXTENSION 4-H STAFF OR
OTHER EXTENSION STAFF

DATE ADOPTED