District 4-H Council - Standing Rules

1. **Name**: The name of the organization shall be Southwest District 10 4-H Council.

2. **Purpose**: The purpose shall be to work together democratically to develop leadership; to promote and encourage 4-H Club work; and to coordinate 4-H activities in the district.

3. **Membership**: The Southwest District 10 4-H Council membership is open to 4-H members regardless of socioeconomic level, race, color, sex, religion, disability or national origin.

   A. **Members** - Membership is made up of three delegates from each of the 21 counties in the district and the officers of the District Council. If a delegate does not attend either meeting of the District Council, the delegate relinquishes their membership on the council for that year.

   B. **Age** - Council members shall be at least 14 years of age and not more than 19 years of age before August 31 of the year they take office.

   C. **Term** - Members shall be elected annually and shall be eligible to serve no more than three years.

   D. **Alternate Delegates** - Alternates should be elected at the same time as delegates. Alternates will serve only in the event a delegate is unable to attend a council meeting. The district office must be notified prior to the meeting of the intent of an alternate to replace a delegate at any scheduled meeting.

   E. **State Delegate** - The district council has the responsibility of selecting or electing a state delegate each calendar year. If the district president or first-vice president are not of minority representation, then the state delegate must be a minority. If either the president or first vice-president is minority, then the state delegate is not required to be of minority representation.

4. **Officers**: The elected officers of the Southwest 10 District 4-H Council shall be a president, first vice-president, state delegate, second-vice president, secretary, information chairman and parliamentarian**. Any District 10 4-H member who has previously attended District 10 Leadership Lab is eligible to run for a District Office.** A county is eligible for no more than two officers. The president and first vice-president and state delegate must reach their 16th birthday and not have reached their 19th birthday on or before August 31 of the calendar year in which they are installed on the District Council. The president, first vice-president and state delegate shall serve as delegates to the Texas 4-H Council. The second vice-president shall serve as first alternate.

5. **Term of Office**: Officers shall be elected annually. A person may be elevated to a higher office but shall not be eligible for re-election to the same office or election to a lower one. A person may not serve as an officer for more than two years. The term of office for each

elected officer shall be for one year (July 1-June 30) and the election and installation of officers will take place at the District 10 Leadership Lab annually. Qualified delegates interested in seeking council office must apply to the District 10 Extension office by May 1 preceding the District 10 Leadership Lab.

6. **Annual Meeting and Election of Officers**: An annual meeting shall be held in conjunction with District Leadership Lab. Officers shall be elected and installed at this event. Nominations will be made from the floor for those who have filed for office according to guidelines in article 5. **Candidates must have attended A District 10 4-H Leadership Lab prior to applying for a District 10 4-H Council office.** Each candidate will present a four-minute speech on his or her qualifications. Each candidate will participate in a "meet the candidate" question and answer session in front of the voting delegates. Elections shall be by secret ballot. A majority constitutes an election.

7. **Executive Committees**: The Executive Committee shall be composed of the elected officers.

8. **Meetings:** There shall be a minimum of two meetings during the year. The Executive Committee working with District 4-H Specialist will set the dates for additional meetings, as necessary.

9. **Voting Body**: The voting body shall consist of the members as defined in Article 3.

10. **Quorum**: A quorum shall consist of 21 voting members. In this manner, 10 counties shall be represented.

11. **Advisors**: Two County Extension Agents appointed by the District Extension Administrator will serve as advisors to the District 4-H Council. The agent advisors will work with the Extension Committee in planning for meetings and activities.

12. **Amendments**: These standing rules shall be read annually and may be amended by a two-thirds vote at any regular meeting. All proposed amendments or revisions must be in the district office 30 days prior to the next District 4-H Council meeting.

13. If a District 10 4-H Council member consumes, or is suspected of consuming alcoholic beverages and/or drugs before or during any activity or representation of the District 4-H Council, the delegates shall be sent home at the expense of the parents and be subject to dismissal from the District 10 4-H Council.

14. **Dissolution Clause:** If the District 10 4-H Council disbands, all real property, including money, equipment and land becomes the property of the District 10 Extension Office for care and disposition. The last official duty of the Council shall be to transfer the Council property and turn over Council records to the District Office.