**2018 Alaska FFA Delegate Issues**

**WE CANNOT EMPHASIZE ENOUGH THAT IT IS IMPORTANT TO SELECT DELEGATES IN ADVANCE AND REVIEW THE ISSUES AS A CHAPTER. PLEASE TAKE THE TIME DURING AN FFA MEETING TO SELECT YOUR DELEGATES AND DISCUSS THE BELOW ISSUES.**

**How many delegates does my chapter need to send?**

Each chapter shall be entitled to send one voting delegate to the annual state convention for every ten active members in the chapter. Any chapter whose membership is under thirty members will be entitled to send two voting delegates. The number of delegates shall not exceed the number of chapters chartered in the association; and delegates shall have received the Chapter FFA Degree. The delegates and nominating committee representative shall be elected by the majority vote of the chapter.

**What do I do as a delegate?**

Delegates are voting on state and national FFA issues.

**How am I supposed to know how to vote?**

There are a few things to take into account when you are voting as a delegate. One thing to consider is what does your chapter think? How does your chapter want you to vote? The other thing to consider is what is best for the state association and/or the national organization, as applicable.

**Do both my fellow delegate and I (from the same chapter) have to vote the same?**

No, you may both vote how you each see fit.

**Why do we have delegates?**

As a delegate voting on issues for the Alaska FFA, you are helping shape the Alaska FFA Association. You are making decisions that will affect the future of our organization. As a delegate voting on issues for the National FFA Organization you are making a statement to the Alaska national delegates on which way you want them to vote. Being a delegate is having a voice for your chapter and for our state.

**Note**: The portions of the constitution effected by the current delegate issues are shown below with the proposed changes. It is important to reflect upon these issues in advance and ask your chapter their opinions. When you are in delegate session we only have a limited time to discuss the issues, which makes being familiar with the issues essential to a successful delegate session.

**Issues #1:** **Location of Chapter Membership**

**(Constitution) (Requires Two-Thirds Vote To Pass)**

***Article V Membership***

Section C

Active members should be members of the local chapter offered at the school they are attending. The only exception is if the school the member is attending does not have a local chapter. In such case the member could join another chapter with permission of that chapter advisor.

Section ~~C~~ D

A member may retain active membership until November 30, following the fourth National Convention after graduation from high school. Following active membership students may be either collegiate or alumni membership.

Section ~~D~~ E

A member in good standing at the time of induction into the armed forces of the United States of America or into the FFA intentional program shall be in standing during the period of active service without further payment of dues or attendance at meetings. Time spent in the armed forces or FFA intentional program shall be considered as elapsed time in determining the maximum period of four conventions following graduation from high school or leaving high school. Members using this waiver of service time for the purpose of maintaining active membership for application for advanced degrees of membership must resume active participation within six months after having been honorably discharged from military service or completing their FFA international program and indicate such a desire by paying dues and attend meetings. Members participating in the six-month armed services program or participating in the FFA international program for six months shall be eligible for one fully extended membership.  No individual may retain active membership beyond his or her twenty-third birthday.

Section ~~E~~ F

Alumni membership -Membership shall be open to all former active members, collegiate and honorary members, present and former agricultural educators, parents of FFA members, and others interested in and supportive of the FFA.

Section ~~F~~ G

Collegiate Membership -Collegiate Membership shall be open to all students who are enrolled in agricultural or natural resource related courses or who are pursuing career objectives in the industry of agriculture at a two or four year postsecondary institution having a collegiate FFA chapter.

Section ~~G~~ H

Honorary Membership, farmers, school superintendents, principals, members of boards education, chapter advisors, teachers, staff members in agricultural and natural resources education, business people, and others who are helping to advance agricultural and natural resources education and the FFA and who have rendered outstanding service, may be elected to honorary membership by a majority vote of the members of any regular meeting or convention.  Honorary membership shall be limited to the Honorary Chapter FFA Degree in the local chapter and the Honorary State FFA Degree in the State Association.

Section ~~H~~ I

Members transferring from another FFA State Association, who, upon satisfactory evidence of prior standing in previous FFA chapter/ Association, upon payment of chapter and state dues, be credited for membership in the Alaska Association.  Transfer students participating in career development events must be enrolled in Alaska the fall semester prior to state convention.  Students are required to be an Alaska FFA member for more than one calendar year to be eligible for state star awards.

Rational: As an association our goal is to grow together. Every chapter brings value and assists in the association growing. It is not beneficial to move members to a different chapter. Furthermore, the member should be serving the agriculture program/classes/school in which they are attending.

**Issues #2:** **Career Development Events and Leadership Development Events**

**(Bylaws) (Requires Majority Vote To Pass)**

***Article V Career Development Events and Leadership Development Events***

The Alaska FFA Association will strive to make members successful for proceeding on to the national level.

1. The Alaska FFA Association will follow the guidelines for the national career development events and leadership development events as close as possible, dependent upon the resources of the state as a whole.
2. The first place individual/team in any competition qualifies for the national competition if offered.
3. In the event the first place individual/team chooses to not participate in the national competition, the second place individual/team has the option to participate in the national competition in their place.
4. If a member competes in a competition on the national level, they are still eligible to compete at state in the same competition.
5. Teams eligible for a national competition may replace up to one person on the original state qualifying team.

Rational: Standards should be set for state career development events and leadership development events as well as standards for national qualifications.

**Issues #3:** **Constitution and Bylaw Formatting**

**(Constitution and Bylaws) (Requires Two-Thirds Vote To Pass)**

This issue, if motion passed, would give permission for the state staff or an appointed individual to edit the formatting found in the constitution. This would not be editing any content, simply adjusting format. Formatting would include:

1. Adjusting spacing
2. Inserting/deleting words such as “the”, “as”, “a”, “it”, “an”, “is”, and “to”.
3. Inserting/deleting punctuation and capitalization.
4. Adjusting font and size of font.
5. Adjusting bolding, underlining, numbering, and bullets.
6. Adjusting margins and indents.

Rational: The constitution currently is formatted very poorly and could be cleaned up significantly for ease of reading and future amendments.