

AUBURN UNIVERSITY
BLOCK AND BRIDLE CLUB
a local chapter of the
NATIONAL BLOCK AND BRIDLE CLUB

CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS

Revised in 2001

Reviewed/Reapproved in 2006

Revised in 2016

CONSTITUTION OF THE BLOCK AND BRIDLE CLUB

PREAMBLE

Whereas, special advantages are to be derived from a student organization having in view the development of greater knowledge of livestock and whereas, a great interest and comradeship between students, faculty members and livestock breeders of the State is desired:

Whereas, the students of Auburn University, particularly those enrolled in the College of Agriculture, will be called upon to meet problems distinctly agricultural and rural and whereas, an organization of students with these interests alone can more fully meet the requirements of this respect:

Therefore, be it resolved that an organization be perfected as shall be deemed proper to serve the purposes.

OBJECTIVES:

- 1) The objective of which shall be a greater knowledge of livestock and companionship between man of common interest and the furtherance of all phases of the livestock industry of the State.
- 2) To promote a higher scholastic standard among the students of Animal Science and Agriculture in general.
- 3) To promote all phases of Animal Science, especially student activities of colleges and universities as well as traditional and emerging facets of animal agriculture.
- 4) To bring about a closer relationship among the persons pursuing some phase of Animal Science as a profession and faculty at Auburn University and professionals in the field of Agriculture.
- 5) To keep students informed of the new developments and current trends in the industry.

ARTICLE I

NAME

The name this organization shall be the Block and Bridle Club of the College of Agriculture, Auburn University and shall be affiliated with the Southeastern Region of the National Block and Bridle Club.

ARTICLE II

MEMBERSHIP

- Section 1. Any student of Auburn University who expresses an interest in Animal Sciences shall be eligible for membership. Membership shall include active, alumni and honorary categories.
- Section 2. The Club shall assess annual dues of twenty (\$20) dollars which must be paid before a new member's name is entered on the roll and membership certificate is issued. Portions of these dues (\$10) shall go to the National organization and the remainder shall remain in the local treasury.
- Section 3. An active member is defined as an individual that has paid their annual dues, attends all meetings and activities, actively participates in service projects and serves on several committees throughout the year. The Club secretary shall keep an accurate record of member attendance and participation.
- Section 4. Active membership shall be limited to undergraduate students of Auburn University and not limited to students of the College of Agriculture. Members must have an interest in some phase of Animal Science.
- Section 5. Alumni members shall include all former active members who have graduated or resigned from Auburn University in good standing.
- Section 6. Upon recommendation by staff members of the Department of Animal Sciences, honorary membership may be conferred upon any person who is actively identified with livestock interests and has made outstanding contributions in his field. The election shall be by a two-thirds vote of the active members present at the first regular meeting in April.

Section 7. These honorary members shall be subject to the approval of the Executive Council of the National Block and Bridle Club.

All paid members, including honorary members, shall receive a certificate of membership from the National Block and Bridle Club.

ARTICLE III

POWERS OF THE CLUB AND MEETINGS

Section 1. Robert's Rules of Order shall be the standard by which all parliamentary proceedings of the Club shall be governed.

Section 2. Regular meetings shall be held at 7:00 p.m. on the first and third Thursdays of each month during the school year, except for the following reasons:

- 1) When a meeting conflicts with the regulations of the University.
- 2) When the Executive Committee decides upon a different time or place.

Section 3. Special meetings may be called by the ranking officer at any time he/she thinks such to be necessary, or at any time a signed petition of at least twenty (20) percent of the active membership shall ask for such a meeting.

Section 4. All business of the Club will be transacted at a regular or special meeting.

Section 5. A majority of the active members shall constitute a quorum at any regular or special meeting of the Club. No major club business shall be transacted unless a quorum is present.

Section 6. All elections shall be by ballot unless an elector is accepted by acclamation. The Club shall have the power to enforce the performance of the duties of all officers and members.

Section 7. Only active members shall be eligible to vote in elections, or be eligible for office in the Block and Bridle Club. All voting for officers and honorary members shall be by secret ballot.

Section 8. Order of Business: The formal order of business shall be as follows:

- 1) Call or order
- 2) Reading, correction and approval of previous minutes
- 3) Presentation of committee reports
- 4) Unfinished business
- 5) New business
- 6) General announcements
- 7) Program
- 8) Adjournment

Section 9. At least one meeting per academic semester shall be designated for outside speaker, films or educational programs. The Vice Presidents shall be responsible for arranging these activities.

ARTICLE IV

OFFICERS

Section 1. The officers of the Club shall be, according to rank (highest to lowest), as follows:

- 1) President
- 2) Vice-Presidents (two members; 1st VP and 2nd VP)
- 3) Secretary
- 4) Treasurer
- 5) Marshall (at least two members)
- 6) Reporter (two members)
- 7) Ag Council Representative (two members)
- 8) Faculty Advisors (one permanent, two rotating)

All officers shall be elected by secret ballot at the 2nd to last regular meeting of Spring semester and will be installed at the annual year-end Spring Banquet.

In the event of an officer having to resign, a new one shall be elected by secret ballot at the earliest convenience. The position is open to any qualified members not currently in office, except in the case of the President. If the President must resign, the 1st VP will move up to President and 2nd VP will move up to 1st VP, and a new 2nd VP must be elected.

Section 2. Qualifications of Officers:

- 1) Any person elected to a club office must be an active member and in good standing.

- 2) Any officer must have an accumulative grade point average of at least 2.0.
- 3) All officers must conduct themselves in a professional manner at all times when representing the club.

Section 3.

Duties of Officers:

- 1) President: He/she must be a rising Junior or Senior enrolled at Auburn University and must not graduate nor contemplate leaving school until the completion of his/her full term of office. He/she shall not be eligible for re-election except when there is no other member of the Club eligible by law.

He/She shall upon assuming the duties of the office, take oath to support the Constitution and by-laws of the Club. He/she shall convene, preside over and adjourn all meetings of the Club, preserving strict order and enforcing the Constitution and by-laws. He/she shall state clearly and put to the house all motions and propositions, constitutional matters and motions to the floor.

Before the end of the school year, the new President shall employ the assistance of the new Executive Officers to construct a Calendar of Events for the coming year and see that all necessary facility reservations are made at that time.

The new President and Executive Officers shall also appoint all standing committees to serve for that Presidential term. The newly elected President shall immediately make a report to the Student Government Association (SGA) of their newly elected office.

- 2) Vice-Presidents: The Vice-Presidents (1st and 2nd) shall be qualified for office in the same manner as the President, in whose absence he/she shall be endowed with all the powers and privileges of the President. He/She shall be responsible for the planning of a suitable program and agendas for each Club meeting and assist in the promotion of the best interest of the club as the President may direct.

He/She shall be responsible for obtaining speakers for specified meetings. These officers shall be responsible for sending thank you notes and invitations and keep copies of all official

correspondence.

- 3) Secretary: Must be a rising Junior or Senior at Auburn University. It shall be the duty of the Secretary to correctly record the proceedings (minutes) of the Club, reading at each subsequent meeting the proceedings of the previous meeting and transcribing them after their adoption in a book prepared for that purpose. To his/her keeping shall be entrusted the books containing the Constitution and by-laws of the Club and all accumulations during his/her term in office and turn them over properly arranged and labeled to his/her successor. He/she shall keep an up-to-date list of all active members and send a list of new members to the National Block and Bridle Club. The secretary shall keep the club up-to-date of all National affairs including deadlines for national recognition and awards.

He/She shall act as corresponding Secretary. He/she shall obtain a summary report from all committee chairpersons immediately after each event and shall make an annual report of the work and activities of the Club.

- 4) Treasurer: The qualifications of the Treasurer shall be the same as for the Secretary and it shall be his/her duty to have charge of all money belonging to the Club. The treasurer shall see that a budget is formalized before fall semester classes begin and assist the Club in adherence to said budget.

He/she shall have a typed and or computerized print out summary of the club's finances to submit at each meeting.

He/She shall keep a record of all receipts and expenditures of the Club, which records shall be held subject to inspection by the President and Faculty.

It shall be the duty of the Treasurer to receive all money due the Club; keep an accurate account of all finances; collect all dues and assessments; pay all orders drawn by the Secretary and approved by the President. He/She shall send a check for new member's membership fee to the National Block and Bridle Club.

Under no condition shall the Treasurer use any of the money of the Club on his/her own authority.

When his successor is elected, he/she shall turn over to

him/her within one week all money belonging to the Club, together with the records kept by him/her.

- 5) Reporters: The qualifications of the Reporters shall be any members in good standing in the Club. It shall be their duties to give publicity to the activities of the Club.

Reporters shall prepare and distribute announcements of upcoming meetings and events, take and receive photographs of events, and prepare promotional articles for the mass media. The Reporters shall also prepare the Club's Yearbook and facilitate all related tasks.

- 6) Marshals: Only members of the Freshman and Sophomore classes of Auburn University shall be eligible to this office and shall be the club's Sergeant-At-Arms and Chairs of the Social Committee.

It shall be the duty of the Marshals to preserve order in meetings, prepare and collect ballots and answer all summons while Club is in session and serve as parliamentarians when needed.

Marshals shall also serve as chairs for the O-Nights Committee (new member recruitment) and be responsible for securing food and refreshments for the Block and Bridle meetings whenever food and refreshments are to be served.

- 7) Ag Council Representatives: One returning member and one new member will be selected. Individuals must have sound communication skills, capability and interest in providing regular representation of Block and Bridle Club at Ag Council Meetings. Duties include record keeping and necessary reporting to Ag Council of Block and Bridle activities for purpose of Ag Club Of The Year.

- 8) Faculty Advisors: The Club shall have three (3) Faculty Advisors (one permanent and two rotating on two-year terms) whose duties it shall be to advise the Club in regard to its various activities, serve as official representative of the faculty and serve as chief judicial officers of the Club. They shall be elected from the Faculty of the Department of Animal Sciences by ballot at the same time officers are elected in the Spring

Section 4. and must be approved by the Department Head.

Oath of Office: The retiring President shall administer the following oath to the incoming officers:

"Do you promise to perform the duties of your office as are set forth in this Constitution to the best of your ability?"

Answer: "I Do."

Failure to answer this question in the affirmative will disqualify any officer and the Club shall immediately elect a member to fill the vacancy. Upon the newly elected officer's answering this question in the affirmative, the retiring President shall say:

"I now declare you officers of the Block and Bridle Club. Good luck as you occupy your office."

ARTICLE V

IMPEACHMENT

Section 1. In the impeachment of an officer, the Advisor shall act as judge, and members of the Club, who are eligible to vote, act as the jury.

Section 2. Impeachment proceedings against any officer may be initiated by a written request of 25 percent of the active membership.

Section 3. This petition must be presented in writing at a meeting previous to the one at which final action is to be taken. A two-third vote of those present is necessary for conviction and removal from office.

One of the members bringing the charges against the officer shall act as prosecuting attorney in behalf of the Club, while the accused officer or someone selected by him (her) act as attorney for the defense.

ARTICLE VI

SUSPENSION

- Section 1. Any member who fails to pay his dues within one month after they are due shall be automatically suspended from participation in the Club activities until such time as he shall pay his dues and be reinstated as an active member.
- Section 2. Any member who fails to exert his energies toward the well being of the Club may be suspended from participation in all Club activities by a two-thirds vote of the active membership.

ARTICLE VII

EXPULSION

- Section 1. Unbecoming conduct of a member as a gentleman or a lady or public abuse of livestock may be punishable by expulsion.
- Section 2. Members who willfully obstruct the work of the Club and whose continuous presence is injurious to the Club, may be punished by expulsion.
- Section 3. No expulsion shall be made without formal charges and a duly held trial by the Club and the findings approved by the Executive Officers. A two-thirds majority of present members shall be necessary for conviction.

ARTICLE VIII

REVISION, MOTIONS AND RESOLUTIONS

- Section 1. The Constitution and by-laws shall not be revised, amended or repealed until the proposed changes have been read by the Secretary before the Club twice, once at each of two meetings and passed by a two-thirds vote of the members eligible to vote and present.
- Section 2. All proposed amendments (not revisions) to the Constitution or by-laws of the Club shall be styled as Motions. Not more than

three resolutions shall be proposed at one meeting; but any number of motions may be made, and if passed they shall become effective immediately.

Section 3.

No revision or amendment to the Constitution shall be presented to the Club unless in writing and signed by three members. Said revisions or amendments shall be voted on at the second meeting.

**BY-LAWS OF
THE BLOCK & BRIDLE CLUB**

STANDING COMMITTEES

Section 1. The only standing committee shall be the Executive Committee composed of all elected officers with guidance from the Faculty Advisors.

PROGRAM COMMITTEES

Section 2. Program committees shall include the following:

Academic Quadrathlon	Merchandise
Ag Olympics	National Awards Applications
Ag Roundup	O-Nights (IV.,3.6)
Ag Week	Programs & Scholarship
Animal Handling	Sheep & Goat Show
Fundraisers	Socials (IV.,3.6)
Get Ag-tive	Spring Banquet
Little "I" Showmanship	Summer Trip
Livestock Judging Contests	Thanksgiving Dinner
Livestock Sales	

Chairmen for each program committee will be appointed by the newly elected President and Executive Committee and shall be in place by the second regular meeting of the presidential term. Committee chairs will then select an appropriate number of committee members with guidance from the Executive Committee, and the committee will be established well in advance of the activity.

Each committee chairman shall be prepared to give reports at regular meetings and will file a written report upon completion of the activity.

Section 3. Brief descriptions of select programs:

ACADEMIC QUADRATHLON

The Club shall assist Animal Science faculty with an event known as the Academic Quadrathlon. The local competition shall be held prior to regional competition. Assistance will include coordination and administration of each category of the event.

Teams will consist of four students, and the event shall have four 9 components: Laboratory Practicum, Written Exam, Oral Presentation and College Quiz Bowl. All scores are on a team basis. The Club will help defray expenses of the winning team to the regional competition when finances allow.

AG OLYMPICS

The Club will organize a farm-theme Olympics (Fall and/or Spring) in order to increase camaraderie among members. Events may vary at the discretion of the committee chairperson and advisors. Prizes may be awarded for each category, person with the highest total points and team winners.

LITTLE "I" SHOWMANSHIP

The Club will put on a fitting and showing contest in the form of a livestock show at such time as best suited to the Club. This show shall be known as the "Little International Livestock Show." or "Little I". Contestants who win a species one year may not show that same species in subsequent years. The winner of the overall "Round Robin" showmanship contest will be designated Chairperson of the event for the subsequent year.

YOUTH (4-H/FFA) LIVESTOCK JUDGING CONTEST

The Club shall sponsor, whenever economically and physically possible, a Spring livestock judging contest for 4-H and FFA teams from throughout Alabama as a state-wide service to the livestock industry. The club shall be responsible for organizing the contest, obtaining livestock, forming official placings, tallying scores, acquiring awards and recognition for winners and the overall running of the contest. Teams will be divided into junior and senior divisions. The purpose of this event shall be to prepare Alabama 4-H and FFA youth teams for state and

national competitions.

WORKING LIVESTOCK SALES

The Club shall assist beef cattle producers, whenever economically and physically possible, with public cattle sales in order to give members real world livestock sales experience.

YOUTH SHEEP AND GOAT SHOW

Whenever possible, the Club will sponsor a late Summer youth (4-H and FFA) sheep and goat show to help give youth showmen a “practice” show to prepare for the Fall state and regional shows and to give Club members experience putting on such a livestock show. The chairperson and his/her committee for this event shall be responsible for coordinating the success of this event with the State Extension Youth Specialist, Department of Animal Sciences.