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O = Optional Paragraph

## University of California 4-H Unit Constitution

*Changes and additions to meet the needs of the unit may be made and must be approved by the county 4-H YDP staff and County Director prior to the unit approval.*

R **Article I  
Name**

The name of this unit shall be the \_\_\_\_\_.

R **Article II  
Purposes**

The purposes of this unit shall be:

- (1) To have fun while *learning practical life skills*.
- (2) To stimulate members *personal growth and development*. Help gain confidence and personal values. Provide learning experiences for members to practice and evaluate their growth.
- (3) To help youth *develop responsible citizenship*. Learn democratic ways and group living skills through practice. Share in community service and citizenship projects and activities.
- (4) *Develop effective leadership* among youth and adults.

R **Article III  
Relationship**

The 4-H unit is responsible to the county 4-H Volunteer Management Organization (VMO). 4-H VMOs and units are accountable to the University of California and obligated to follow policies and procedures, and abide by the core values of the University of California 4-H YDP.

R **Article IV  
Membership**

*Section I.* Any boy or girl may enroll in 4-H units upon meeting the enrollment criteria:

Primary Member: Must be 5 years old or in kindergarten by January 1 of the program year. Primary members enrolling after January 1 must participate as a primary member until the end of the program year. Primary members cannot participate in the following large animal projects: beef, sheep, swine, horse and goat.

Junior, Intermediate and Senior Members: Must be 9 years old or in the

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4<sup>th</sup> grade by January 1 of the program year and may continue in the program until the end of the calendar year in which they become 19 years of age.

Home Schooled: Children are to enroll based on their chronological age.

*Section 2.* County guidelines and the specific purposes or projects of the local club, its leadership and membership, determine local membership eligibility.

*Section 3. Duties of the Members.*

It shall be the duty of each member to:

- Abide by the 4-H member Code of Conduct;
- Abide by the core values of the University of California 4-H Youth Development Program;
- Attend meetings regularly;
- Study all bulletins and materials received from the University of California Cooperative Extension 4-H Youth Development Program;
- Do as much of the project work as is possible;
- Complete the project;
- Furnish reports required of the work done;
- Perform such duties of office or committees as may be required; and
- Help make the meetings interesting and helpful.

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## **Article V Officers**

*Section 1.* The officers of this club shall be president, vice president, secretary, treasurer and other positions as deemed appropriate.

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## **Article VI Meetings**

The unit will have as many meetings as are necessary to complete project work and to carry on a successful unit program. A minimum of eight (8) meetings is recommended. Attendance and participation can be promoted through incentive and recognition programs.

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## **Article VII Organization Volunteers**

Adult volunteers must be present at all unit and project meetings where youth under 18 are in attendance. The Organizational Unit Volunteer and/or Assistant Organizational Unit Volunteer must be in attendance at all club meetings unless they arrange for an adult substitute.

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**Article VIII  
Parents/Guardians**

Parents/guardians with youth under 18 should wait until a responsible adult is present before leaving their child(ren) at a meeting. They must arrive to pick up their children 15 minutes before the scheduled meeting adjournment. Parents are expected to abide by all University of California 4-H YDP policies and core values.

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**Article IX  
Nondiscrimination Statement**

The University of California prohibits discrimination or harassment of any person on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, gender identity, pregnancy (including childbirth, and medical conditions related to pregnancy or childbirth), physical or mental disability, medical condition (cancer-related or genetic characteristics), ancestry, marital status, age, sexual orientation, citizenship, or status as a covered veteran (covered veterans are special disabled veterans, recently separated veterans, Vietnam era veterans, or any other veterans who served on active duty during a war or in a campaign or expedition for which a campaign badge has been authorized) in any of its programs or activities.

University policy is intended to be consistent with the provisions of applicable State and Federal laws.

Inquiries regarding the University's nondiscrimination policies may be directed to the Affirmative Action/Staff Personnel Services Director, University of California, Agriculture and Natural Resources, 300 Lakeside Drive, 6<sup>th</sup> Floor, Oakland, CA 94612-3550, (510) 987-0096.

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The \_\_\_\_\_ 4-H unit of \_\_\_\_\_ County affirms and complies with this University of California policy.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Unit President

\_\_\_\_\_  
Organizational Unit Volunteer

\_\_\_\_\_  
4-H YDP Staff

This constitution was adopted \_\_\_\_\_, 2\_\_\_\_\_. *[Carry forward the original date from year to year as the constitution will be adopted only once. Each amendment to the constitution must indicate the article number amended and date the amendment was made.]*