

# CALIFORNIA 4-H ASSOCIATION CONSTITUTION

## Article I – Name

### Section 1: Name.

The name of this Organization shall be California 4-H Association, hereinafter called “Association.”

### Section 2: Scope.

The Association derives its authority from the University of California Division of Agriculture and Natural Resources. The Association shall be the officially authorized organization for 4-H employees. The Association is affiliated with the National Association of Extension 4-H Agents.

## Article II – Purpose

The primary purpose of the Association is professional improvement and individual growth. The Association’s goals are:

- a. To provide an opportunity to network and learn from colleagues, both in California and nationwide;
- b. To promote professional development among 4-H youth staff by providing guidelines and curriculum of study, professional improvement workshops, and vehicles for communication;
- c. Recognize Association members for achievement, innovation, and service; and
- d. To establish contact with and support for the National Association of Extension 4-H Agents.

## Article III – Membership

### Section 1: Membership.

Membership in the Association is open to all Cooperative Extension or 4-H Youth Development employed or retired academic and program staff. Membership categories include:

- a. Active membership- Individuals who have paid their fees and are employed in or retired from Cooperative Extension or the 4-H Youth Development Program;
- b. Life membership- This shall be made available to persons who have retired from such employment, regardless of their previous membership in the Association; and
- c. Honorary membership- This shall be bestowed upon an individual at the discretion of the Board of Directors.

### Section 2: Non-Discrimination.

The California 4-H Association prohibits discrimination against or harassment of any person participating in any programs or activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, gender identity, pregnancy (which includes pregnancy, childbirth, and medical conditions related to pregnancy or childbirth), physical or mental disability, medical condition (cancer- related or genetic characteristics), genetic information (including family medical history), ancestry, marital status, age, sexual orientation, citizenship, or service in the uniformed services (as defined by the Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act of 1994: service in the uniformed services includes membership, application for membership, performance of service, application for service, or obligation for service in the uniformed services).

## Article IV – Leadership of the Association

### Section 1: Authority.

The authority of the Association rests in its active membership. Actions of the Board of Directors are subject to review of the active membership.

### Section 2: Officers.

The officers of the Association shall consist of: President, President – Elect, Vice President (VP) for Membership, VP for Recognition, VP for Communications, and VP for Finance.

### Section 3: Board of Directors.

The Board of Directors shall consist of the Association’s officers and the immediate Past President. The Board shall be held responsible and shall act for, and behalf of the membership in achieving the purposes, objectives, and programs of the Association as specified in the bylaws. The Board shall determine policy, develop a budget and transact business under the authority of the Association membership.

## **Article V – Meetings**

### Section 1: Association Meetings.

Meetings of the Association and its committees shall be open to all active, life, and honorary members. Robert's Rules of Order shall govern the procedures of this Association. The Association shall hold a minimum of one (1) annual meeting per year, to be determined by the Board. A quorum shall consist of one-third (1/3) of the membership of the Association attending a meeting; or in an e-mail ballot, fifty-one percent (51%) of the membership providing the total membership received ballots with at least two (2) weeks response time.

### Section 2: Board of Directors' Meetings.

The Board shall have at least one (1) meeting per year besides that held in connection with the annual meeting. A quorum of the Board shall consist of a majority of the members of the Board.

## **Article VI – Dissolution**

In the event of the dissolution of the Association, the assets of the Association shall be transferred to the University of California for the purpose of 4-H youth work.

## **Article VII – Amendments**

This Constitution may be amended by:

- a. At any regular annual or other total membership meeting with a two-thirds (2/3) vote of those present, providing the Board submits notice or requested amendments at least thirty (30) days prior to the annual meeting; or
- b. Two-thirds (2/3) of total ballots cast providing the total membership receives ballots with at least thirty (30) days response time. Ballots may be collected electronically.

## **Ratification**

The Association hereby ratifies this Constitution on April 9, 2013.