

## 2. NAAE BYLAWS

**BYLAWS**  
of the  
**National Association of Agricultural Educators, Inc.**  
(formerly NVATA, Inc.)

**Adopted: December 2, 1948; Milwaukee, Wisconsin**  
**Last Amended: November 19, 2011; St. Louis, MO**

### **Article I NAME**

The name of the organization shall be “The National Association of Agricultural Educators, Inc.”

### **Article II OBJECTS**

The objects of this association are:

- Sec. 1. To assume and maintain an active national leadership in the promotion and furtherance of all levels of agricultural education.
- Sec. 2. To bring together all agricultural educators and others interested in agricultural education through membership in a national organization devoted exclusively to their interests at all levels of agricultural education.
- Sec. 3. To provide an opportunity for agricultural educators to discuss all problems affecting agricultural education on a national level.
- Sec. 4. To serve state or local organizations of agricultural educators in the solution of any problems which may arise.
- Sec. 5. To have and possess all the rights, powers, and privileges given to corporations by common law.
- Sec. 6. To cooperate with the Association for Career and Technical Education in furthering the cause of all vocational education.
- Sec. 7. To cooperate with all education entities in furthering the mission of agricultural education to provide a total dynamic educational system.

### **Article III MEMBERSHIP**

- Sec. 1. **Eligibility.** All people interested in agricultural education shall be eligible for membership.
- Sec. 2. **Class of Members.** Qualifications and privileges of each type of membership shall be defined as follows:
  - (a) **Active Membership**—shall be defined as persons professionally qualified to teach agriculture, or any course related thereto which requires an understanding and knowledge of agriculture in K-adult or any postsecondary public and/or private institutions or state staff and who are members of affiliated state associations of agricultural educators.
  - (b) **Associate Membership**—shall include others engaged in programs of agricultural education who are not professionally qualified to teach agriculture or any course related thereto which requires an understanding and knowledge of agriculture, and others interested in agricultural education shall

be eligible for membership. Associate members may serve as consultants to the NAAE and its affiliated state associations of agricultural educators.

- (c) **Retired Membership**—shall consist of anyone qualified to be an active or associate member of NAAE who has retired completely from his or her profession. The membership dues and benefits shall be the same as the dues and benefits of associate members.
- (d) **Direct Active Membership**—shall be defined the same as Active Membership (Article III, Sec. 2. (a) above) except where no state association of agricultural educators exists.
- (e) **Student Membership**—undergraduates in training for careers related to agricultural education.
- (f) **Life Membership**—those who at any time pay the active, associate life, or retired life membership dues. Active life members who become qualified as defined in Article III, Section 2(b) Associate Membership, shall become associate life members. Associate life members who become qualified as defined in Article III, Section 2(a) Active Membership, shall become active life members upon submitting the balance of active life membership dues. The balance of life dues shall not be refunded to active members who become associate life members. The balance of life dues shall not be refunded to active members or associate members who become retired life members.
  - (1) Life members shall be classified as either active, retired, or inactive. Active life members are those life members who are currently teaching or actively engaged at the local, state, or national levels of agricultural education. Retired life members and inactive life members are those life members who are not actively engaged in agricultural education at some level or who are retired from the profession.
- (g) **Honorary Membership**—persons who have made outstanding contributions to the NAAE and the program of agriculture in and about agriculture may be considered for honorary membership at the mid-year meeting of the Board of Directors.
- (h) **Organization/Business Membership**—agriculture, agribusiness, industry, civic, governmental, and other organizations or firms.

### Sec. 3. **Voting and Holding Office.**

- (a) **Voting**—The privilege of voting shall be restricted to active members (including active, direct active, and active life).
- (b) **Holding office**—The privilege of holding office shall be restricted to active members (active, direct active, and active life) except as provided in Article IV, Section 5.

### Sec. 4. **Annual Dues.**

The dues of the organization shall be set and approved by the delegates for the membership. Changing membership dues of active, direct active, associate, retired, student, and organizational/business members requires a 2/3 majority vote of the delegates at the annual meeting. Notification, in writing, of dues change intent must be received by state leadership 60 days prior to the annual meeting.

### Sec. 5. **Life Membership Dues.**

- (a) Active life membership dues shall be set at 12 times the active membership dues.
- (b) Associate life membership dues shall be set at 12 times the associate membership dues.

- (c) Retired life membership dues shall be set at \$120.

#### **Article IV OFFICERS**

- Sec. 1. The officers of the Association shall be a President, a President-Elect, and six Regional Vice Presidents.
- Sec. 2. The President and President-Elect shall each be elected for a one-year term at the annual business meeting.
- Sec. 3. Two Regional Vice Presidents shall be selected for a three year term at each annual meeting of the NAAE. Nominations shall be made at the first regional meeting and election shall be at the second regional meeting.
  - (a) Regional Secretaries shall be elected annually by the respective regions at the annual meeting of the NAAE for a term of one year.

- Sec. 4. The Board of Directors shall act as a nominating committee for the Office of President and President-Elect.

Nominees must have served at least one year on the Board of Directors within the past four years.

- (a) Nominations for the Offices of President and President-Elect shall be opened at the first NAAE general session and closed at the second general session. The election shall be by ballot at the final NAAE general session.
  - (b) In the event that a candidate for the office of President-Elect does not receive a majority vote, where more than two candidates are up for the position, the candidate receiving the fewest votes will be dropped from the ballot and voting will continue until a majority vote is obtained.
- Sec. 5. Officers shall be elected from the active membership (including active, direct active, and active life). In case any officers cease to be an active member, they may continue to serve in that office until the next annual meeting provided they remain in the field of education. In the event an officer leaves the field of agricultural education, the office shall be declared vacant immediately and filled as follows:
  - (a) In the case of the Vice President, the respective Regional Secretary shall immediately take office and serve until the next annual meeting at which time the Region shall elect a Vice President to serve the remaining unexpired term.
    - (1) In the event that the Regional Secretary resigns or ascends to the Office of Vice President, the Region shall elect a Regional Secretary to serve until the next annual meeting.
    - (2) In the event that both the Vice President and the Regional Secretary resign, the Region shall elect temporary officers to serve until the next annual meeting.
  - (b) In the case of the President, the Board of Directors shall have the power to appoint a successor from their own members, it being understood, however, that this appointment shall be to fill out the unexpired term and shall not affect any officer rotation between Regions.
  - (c) In the case of the President-Elect, the Board of Directors shall declare the office vacant until the next annual meeting.
- Sec. 6. Any officer failing to carry out their duties may be removed from office by a two-thirds majority vote of the delegates at any annual meeting.

Sec. 7. **Duties of Officers.**

- (a) The President or in his/her absence, another Board member designated by him/her or by the Board of Directors, shall preside at all meetings of the Association and Board of Directors. The President shall perform the usual duties devolving upon an officer.
- (b) The Executive Director shall keep full and accurate records of all business and proceedings of regular and special meetings. The Executive Director acting as treasurer, shall receive and under direction of the Board of Directors hold for safe keeping or expend any funds as ordered by the Board of Directors and shall keep an exact account of receipts and expenditures, with vouchers for all expenditures. No bill or account shall be authorized for payment unless properly presented. The Executive Director shall also perform such additional duties as the Board of Directors shall designate.
- (c) Each Regional Vice President shall be responsible for conducting the business of that Region. The Vice President may not serve as a state association delegate at any NAAE meeting.
- (d) The Regional Secretary shall perform such duties as assigned by the Vice President and/or the Board of Directors.

Sec. 8. No officer, upon completion of more than one half a term in office, shall be eligible to succeed oneself.

**Article V BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

- Sec. 1. The President, the President-Elect, and the six Regional Vice Presidents shall constitute the Board of Directors. The Executive Director shall serve as a non-voting, ex-officio member.
- Sec. 2. The Board of Directors shall constitute the administrative body of the Association and carry out all of the activities necessary to the successful operation of the Association. It shall be the duty of the Board of Directors to employ the Executive Director and to determine the compensation. It shall further be the duty of the Board to provide for the safekeeping and proper management of all funds of the Association.
- Sec. 3. The Board of Directors shall meet at the call of the President or upon written request of a majority of the Board of Directors.
- Sec. 4. Members of the Board of Directors shall be reimbursed for necessary expenses incurred while representing NAAE at all approved meetings.

**Article VI MEETINGS**

- Sec. 1. The annual meeting of the Association shall be held at such time and place as the Board of Directors shall decide.
- Sec. 2. **Delegates.**
  - (a) The business of the Association shall be conducted by the delegates, except that during the year the Board of Directors shall act for the Association.
  - (b) Delegates shall be selected from active members (active, direct active, and active life) on the following basis:
    - (1) The President or a designated representative of the affiliated state association plus:
    - (2) One delegate for each fifty active members (active, direct active, and active life) or major fraction thereof, in any affiliated association.

(a) Among life members, only active life members who are currently teaching or actively engaged at the local, state, or national levels of agricultural education may be included in delegate count calculations.

(c) The privilege of voting shall be restricted to active members (active, direct active, and active life) only. Only members in good standing shall serve as delegates.

Sec. 3. Whenever business is conducted during a Regional Leadership Conference which gives direction to the NAAE, including temporary elections, only official delegates shall be given the authority to vote. The number of voting delegates shall be determined according to the latest membership figures available from the national office. If the Regional Conference is held after July 1, the membership records as of June 30 shall be used for determining voting delegates.

Sec. 4. A quorum shall be a majority of the voting delegates present at the annual meeting.

#### **Article VII COMMITTEES**

Sec. 1. Committees may be appointed as deemed necessary by the President or the Board of Directors.

#### **Article VIII AMENDMENTS**

Sec. 1. The bylaws may be amended by a 2/3 vote of delegates present and voting at the annual meeting, providing the following provisions are met.

(a) Proposed amendments must be adopted by at least one Region or recommended by the Board of Directors.

(b) Proposed amendments must be sent to the Executive Director at least 90 days prior to the annual meeting.

(c) Affiliated state associations shall be notified of proposed amendments at least 60 days prior to the annual meeting by the Executive Director.

#### **Article IX PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY**

The most recent addition of Roberts Rules of Order, Newly Revised, shall govern all cases in which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with the bylaws or special policies.