

STATE YOUNG FARMERS STRUCTURE

I. REPRESENTATION

- A.** Alabama Farmers Federation Young Farmers State Committee is composed of one member from each of the 8 districts as illustrated on the map on the back of this handbook, and two members at-large, one from north and one from south Alabama.
- B.** The reigning Outstanding Young Farm Family serves as ex-officio members of the committee.
- C.** Members of the State Young Farmers Committee who are appointed to the American Farm Bureau Young Farmers and Ranchers Committee shall also be recognized by the State Young Farmers Committee as an ex-officio member of the State Young Farmers Committee for the duration of his or her term.

II. SELECTION

- A.** Official delegates to the Young Farmers annual meeting, **who have submitted a letter of support, signed by their county president**, shall be eligible for nomination to the state committee. This letter can be found in this handbook and will be available on line.
- B.** County presidents and young farmers chairmen should designate delegates and alternates by November 1, prior to the state annual meeting. The nomination form can be found in this handbook. **No amendments or additions to the delegates and alternate list will be made after November 1.**
- C.** Representatives will caucus by districts to select a nominee for appointment to the state committee. Nominations other than district caucus nominations may be made from the floor.
- D.** The list of nominees as approved by the representative body of the Young Farmers annual meeting shall be submitted to the president of the Alabama Farmers Federation for appointment.
- E.** State committee nominees, must be ages 17-33 by December 1 of the current year of the business meeting.
- F.** Members of the State Young Farmers Committee must be members of the Alabama Farmers Federation.

III. TERM OF OFFICE

- A. State committee members are appointed for a two-year term.
- B. In even numbered years, districts 2, 4, 6, 8 and the North at Large position will be open for election. In odd numbered years, districts 1, 3, 5, 7 and the South at Large position will be up for election.
- C. The tenure of office will be two full terms. (A term shall be more than one year but no more than two years with the definition of a year being from one state annual meeting to the next state annual meeting.)
- D. A committee member will resign from the Young Farmers Committee if that member misses two consecutive regularly scheduled meetings within a calendar year unless he/she has an excusable absence. An alternate member will be chosen immediately from that district. The president of the Alabama Farmers Federation shall request by letter nominations from the district where the vacancy exists. The letter of nomination must come from the county president in the district where the vacancy exists and must reach the president's desk on or before the specified date in the letter the Alabama Farmers Federation president sent to the county federation president. If a seat becomes vacant for any reason and the president of the Alabama Farmers Federation requests nominations and none are submitted before the deadline, then the seat will remain vacant until the time for its regularly scheduled election.

Illness or death within the committee member's family constitutes an excusable absence. The reason for the absence will be submitted in writing to the other committee members.

IV. OFFICERS

- A. The officers of the State Committee shall be chairman, vice chairman, and secretary.
- B. The state committee members will meet following their official appointment for election of officers.
- C. The chairman of the State Committee will be submitted by the state Farmers Federation president to the delegates of the Alabama Farmers Federation for election to the Alabama Farmers Federation board of directors.

V. YOUNG FARMERS ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING

- A. Each county Farmers Federation president should designate official representatives from his county to the Young Farmers annual meeting and should submit the official voting delegate form **no later than November 1**. Amendments or additions will not be accepted after this date.

- B.** Counties with active Young Farmer committees (having held 4 meetings and turned in a report of work) are entitled to two delegates and inactive counties, one delegate.
- C.** Only registered voting delegates and members of the state committee shall have voting privileges at the Young Farmers annual meeting. However, all young farmers are encouraged attend.
- D.** Voting delegates will be active members of the Alabama Farmers Federation and between 17 and 35 years of age.
- E.** State committee members are representatives-at-large, entitled to one vote in addition to the county vote. District representatives are entitled to one vote in their district and one vote in the at-large seat election (if applicable). At-Large representatives are entitled to one vote in the at-large seat election (if applicable), but are not entitled to a vote in a district, unless they are the official delegate from their county. If a state committee member is their county's voting delegate, they forfeit the vote they earn as a state committee member. Therefore, to maximize their number of votes, each we recommend each county send voting delegates not currently serving on the state committee.
- F.** In order for a county Young Farmer committee to be considered active, the committee must develop and submit the Report of Work Form by October 1 each year. The committee must also hold at least 4 regular meetings throughout the year. An example report of work can be found in this handbook. The current document can be found online at the Young Farmers website.
- G.** Delegates will be required to sign in when registering for the annual meeting. No additions or amendments will be made at registration. Only the voting delegates, or in their absence, alternates, will be allowed to vote.
- H.** A list of voting delegates will be called and seated in proper order before the business session begins.
- I.** Nominations other than district caucus nominations may be made from the floor.

VI. OPERATION

- A.** The state committee shall function under the authority and supervision of the Alabama Farmers Federation president.
- B.** Coordinating the activities of the State Committee shall be the director of the Young Farmers Division.