

CONSTITUTION
OF THE
NEWTON COUNTY 4-H COUNCIL
(Revised June 3, 2004)

- ARTICLE I This organization shall be known as the Newton County 4-H Council.
- ARTICLE II The purpose of this council shall be to serve as an advisory organization representing all 4-H clubs in the county whose membership is open to all regardless of sex, race, color, ethnic group, or socio-economic level, to plan and carry out the 4-H program of events and activities with the cooperation of the Extension staff.
- ARTICLE III Membership of council shall be open to all regardless of sex, race, color, Ethnic group, or socio-economic level.
- a. Voting Members:
 - 1. President of each 4-H club
 - 2. Community leader of each 4-H club
 - 3. Adult council member
 - 4. Junior council member (should be 13 years old or older, if Possible)
 - b. Non-voting members:

All leaders and officers of every 4-H club in Newton County.
- ARTICLE IV Officers shall be chosen from the voting members of the council and shall be: President (shall be an adult), Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer (shall be an adult), and Song Leader.
- ARTICLE V In order to organize a new club, it must have a minimum of ten (10) members.

BY-LAWS

1. The Newton County 4-H Council shall meet on the first Thursday of January, March, May, June, July, September, and November.
2. In the absence of the president, the next ranking officer shall preside. It shall be left to the discretion of the council to elect or otherwise fill a vacancy upon non-performance of an officer. Non performance shall mean the absence of an officer from two (2) consecutive meetings of the council (exception if officer is attending another 4-H sponsored event).
3. The secretary shall keep the minutes in a book provided for that purpose.
4. The treasurer shall receive and disburse all money belonging to the council and shall make a report at every business meeting of the council.

5. A member of the Extension staff in charge of 4-H shall prepare the newspaper report of council meetings, and any other publicity deemed necessary, from the secretary's minutes.
6. Seven (7) voting members from not less than three (3) clubs shall constitute a quorum to conduct the business of the council.
7. Officers shall not serve longer than two (2) consecutive years in their respective office.
8. The election of officers will be at the November meeting, at which time both the newly elected and retiring council members shall be present, with both groups eligible to vote.
9. All 4-H clubs in the county shall be required to reorganize in September and elect officers at that time.
10. The executive committee shall consist of the officers, the retiring president, and members of the county Extension staff as ex-officio members.
11. The president shall appoint all committees as needed.
12. In any case that a council member cannot attend a meeting, he shall appoint a proxy to attend in his place. A proxy can be constituted by an individual attending the meeting in their place and clubs not exceeding their voting limit. Paper proxy not required.
13. This constitution shall be read at the November and January meetings of the council, and also by the community leader at each 4-H club in the county at their October meeting.
14. The council will designate, by vote, the individual to vote the Newton County A & M shares.
15. Newton County 4-H Trip Reimbursement Policy

4-H Camp – All members are reimbursed ½ the registration cost upon returning from camp.

The following trips qualify for ½ reimbursement upon return: RATT Trip; Kansas City Global Conference (15 yrs. & older); State 4-H Teen Conference (12 & 13 yr olds); State 4-H Teen Congress (14 & older); Missouri 4-H Youth Forum – Jefferson City; Citizenship Washington Focus (15 yrs. & older; paid once a lifetime per member); National 4-H Congress (14 yrs. & older) - Must win award through regional and state application

Other 4-H trips not included for automatic ½ reimbursement that must have council approval prior to going: (written and oral presentation before the council by one or more

participants; presentation must include number of participants, cost of transportation, lodging, and registration fees.)

Eligibility for receiving reimbursement:

- All Newton County 4-H Members who are in “good standing” (must have attended at least 51% of club and project meetings.)
- 13 yrs. & under - must also complete a Missouri Report Form and Project Completion Record.
- 14 & over - must also complete a form Y2200
- First year members - must fill out goals on Project Completion Record and turn in to Extension Office.

16. To participate in 4-H contests and to show in the 4-H division at fairs, the member must meet the “member in good standing” requirements as published in the 4-H Clover in the current 4-H year.

17. The Newton County 4-H Council will award up to four \$500 scholarships to graduating seniors who complete the Missouri State Award Application or form Y2200 and who are members in good standing. This form must be completed and turned in to the Newton County Extension office by the first Friday in February due date of the year of their graduation. Those chosen will then be required to submit their first semester grades to the Newton County Extension Office, at which time they will receive their scholarship monies.

18. This constitution may be amended by a proposal at any meeting and voted on at the following meeting. Majority vote carries the amendment.

_____	_____	_____	_____
Cathy McDonald, President	Date	Hanna Sloan, Secretary	Date

_____	_____	_____	_____
Susan Johnson, Vice-President	Date	Alicia Sloan, Treasurer	Date