CONSTITUTION

THE AGRIBUSINESS CLUB at The Ohio State University

--- Revised November 2023 —

**ARTICLE I. IDENTIFICATION**

Section 1. This organization shall be known as “THE AGRIBUSINESS CLUB at The Ohio State University”

**ARTICLE II. PURPOSE AND AFFILIATION**

Section 1. The purpose of this organization shall be: (a) To stimulate interest in and to provide information on the profession of agribusiness, and in the welfare of rural society and the commercial agricultural economy among students of agribusiness, applied economics, and related fields; (b) To foster a spirit of cooperation and mutual helpfulness in agricultural sciences; and (c) To provide an opportunity for wider acquaintance among students and professional workers in agricultural sciences

Section 2. This organization does not discriminate on the basis of age, ancestry, color, disability, gender identity or expression, genetic information, HIV/AIDS status, military status, national origin, race, religion, sex, sexual orientation, protected veteran status, or any other bases under the law, in its activities, programs, admission, and employment.

As a student organization at The Ohio State University, THE AGRIBUSINESS CLUB at The Ohio State University expects its members to conduct themselves in a manner that maintains an environment free from sexual misconduct. All members are responsible for adhering to University Policy 1.15, which can be found here: https://hr.osu.edu/public/documents/policy/policy115.pdf.

**ARTICLE III. MEMBERSHIP**

Section 1. Any student of The Ohio State University having an interest in the field of agricultural business is eligible for membership in the club and shall become a member upon payment of dues.

Subsection 1. A. This organization does not discriminate on the basis of age, ancestry, color, disability, gender identity or expression, genetic information, HIV/AIDS status, military status, national origin, race, religion, sex, sexual orientation, protected veteran status, or any other bases under the law, in its activities, programs, admission, and employment.

Section 2. This organization and its members shall not discriminate against any individual(s) for the reasons of race, color, creed, religion, sexual orientation, national origin, sex, age, handicap, or any veteran status.

Section 3. Privileges of membership: A member shall be eligible to vote at all regular meetings of the chapter.

**ARTICLE IV. ELECTIONS AND APPOINTMENTS**

Section 1. The annual election of officers shall be held two meetings prior to the annual banquet. Only members who have paid dues prior to the elections shall be eligible to vote.

Section 2. Officers to be elected shall include the President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, Historian, Recruitment Chair, and CFAES Student Council Representative. Only voting members with an accumulative grade point above a 2.0 shall be eligible to hold an office.

Section 3. Undergraduate student representatives to standing committees in the Department of Agricultural, Environmental, and Development Economics shall be appointed by Executive Committee as needed Spring Semester.

Section 4. There shall be an Executive Committee consisting of the officers specified in Article IV, Section 2.

Section 5. A faculty advisor(s) shall be appointed annually by the Chair of the Department of Agricultural, Environmental, and Development Economics upon recommendation by the Executive Committee and a majority vote by club members. Upon advisor changes, majority vote of the Executive Committee is required to confirm the nomination.

**ARTICLE V. MEETINGS**

Section 1. There shall be at least five regular meetings of the club each semester except Summer Semester. Additional meetings may be called by the President, Executive Committee, or by a vote of the club. The meetings shall be held on dates set by the President, Executive Committee, or by vote of the club.

**ARTICLE VI. REVISIONS AND AMENDMENTS**

Section 1. This constitution shall be revised and/or amended as needed during the school year if approved by a two-thirds affirmative vote of the members present. Amendments to the Constitution must be presented in writing at the preceding meeting before being voted upon.

Section 2. The organization shall be dissolved by a two-thirds affirmative vote of the members present. Motion to dissolve the organization must be presented in writing at the preceding meeting with approval from the current club advisor before being voted upon. Any assets or debt that exists shall be handled by the Chair of the Department of Agricultural, Environmental, and Development Economics.

Section 3. This Constitution shall be reviewed annually by the incoming Executive Committee.

BY-LAWS

THE AGRIBUSINESS CLUB at The Ohio State University

(1) Membership dues shall be $15.00 per academic year beginning Autumn Semester, or $10 per semester if paid each semester.

(2) Duties of the officers shall be:

**President:** Presides at all meetings of the club, acts as official representative for the club, appoints committees, and conducts all executive meetings. He/She may call a special meeting at any time. The immediate past President (or another immediate past officer) represents the club at the annual selection of the recipient(s) for the scholarship(s) donated by the club. The president shall also be responsible for printing and posting of flyers relating to club activities and meetings.

**Vice President:** Takes the President’s place in his/her absence, arranges meeting places, times, and programs, an ex-officio member of all committees, keeps a file of all committee reports, presents the business covered in executive meetings to the club, and is the chief organizer of the Farm Science Review operations and Club Banquet.

**Secretary:** Keeps the minutes of regular meetings, provides copies in a location accessible to all club members prior to the next meeting, keeps a record of attendance at meetings and special functions, and is responsible for all publications, such as notices in news publications, memos, and club mail.

**Treasurer:** Responsible for all finances of the club, collects dues, and other fees, and posts all receipts to club records. Develops a monthly statement with all transactions and presents a write-up to the club.

**Historian:** Takes pictures at club functions, compiles these pictures to put in the yearbook that is displayed at the annual club banquet, updates and manages club social media accounts, assists the Vice-President in organization of the Farm Science Review operations, and writes the annual club report.

**CFAES Student Council Representative:** Attends the regularly scheduled meetings of the council or sends an alternate, reports all activities of the club to the council, and reports all activities of the council to the club.

**Social Chair:** Responsible for club recruitment by planning at least one recruitment event ‘fall semester’, and in addition, a community service and a social event each semester (excluding summer semester), and assists the Vice-President in organization of the Farm Science Review operations.

(3) This organization shall be governed by Roberts Rules of Order except that a quorum shall be defined as the number of members present.

(4) Election of officers shall be by secret ballot with a majority of votes cast prevailing.

(5) If a vacancy occurs in any office, the Executive Committee shall present a list of candidates to fill the office at the first meeting after the vacancy occurs.

(6) If the office of the Social Chair is not filled, the Vice President, along with help from the Executive Committee, shall assume the responsibilities of said office.

(7) Officers shall be asked to resign their respective offices if found to be negligent in their duties as determined by the Executive Committee and approved by a two-thirds vote of club members present at a regular meeting. Cause for removal includes, but is not limited to: violation of the constitution or by-laws, failure to perform duties, missing 2 or more regular meetings in one semester without an excuse approved by the President, or any behavior that is detrimental to advancing the purpose of this organization, including violations of the Student Code of Conduct, university policy, or federal, state, or local laws. In the event that the reason for member removal is protected by the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) or cannot otherwise be shared with members (e.g., while an investigation is pending), the executive board, in consultation with the organization’s advisor, may vote to temporarily suspend a member or executive officer.

(8) If a member conducts themselves in such a manner deemed detrimental to advancing the purpose of this organization or is in violation of the OSU Student Code of Conduct, they can be removed through a majority vote of the other voting membership or unanimous vote of the officers, with the consultation of the advisor.

(9) These By-Laws shall be revised and/or amended as needed during the school year if approved by a two-thirds affirmative vote of the members present.

(10) Outstanding members shall be selected by the Executive Committee. No more than four outstanding members shall be chosen. The outstanding members will be announced at the annual banquet. The Outstanding Professor shall be chosen by a majority vote of club members present.

(11) There are only three individuals whose name may be on the club bank account. These individuals include the President, Treasurer, and club advisor. Upon their departure from office, they must remove their names from the club account and add their successor.

(12) In addition to the Executive Committee, there will be three standing committees within the club that will be filled by club volunteers annually, as the need arises. The committees and their duties are:

**Trip Committee:** Shall be responsible for the organization of the annual club trip taking place at the end of Autumn Semester.

**Banquet Committee:** Will aid in staging the annual Agribusiness Banquet.

**Social Committee:** Duties of this committee include but are not limited to, arranging club social events each semester and planning of club trips.