CONSTITUTION of the FOOD ANIMAL CLUB

at THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY COLLEGE OF VETERINARY MEDICINE
REVISED AND APPROVED FEBRUARY 2025

**ARTICLE 1: NAME, PURPOSE, & NON-DISCRIMINATION POLICY**

Section 1: The name of this organization shall be The Food Animal Club. The organization is housed at The Ohio State University, College of Veterinary Medicine.

Section 2: Purpose: The Food Animal Club (FAC) at The Ohio State University, College of Veterinary Medicine seeks to increase exposure of professional, veterinary students to all aspects of animal agriculture. This includes both further development of skills by food animal oriented students and exposure of students not currently food animal oriented to the opportunities of such practice. This is accomplished by weekly meetings on a selected topic, clinical Case of the Week presentations in the Hospital for Farm Animals, wetlabs, special lectures, the Food Animal Medicine Student Symposium, and/or other related activities.

Section 3: Non-Discrimination Policy: The Food Animal Club agrees that it will not engage in sexual misconduct nor any harassment or discrimination 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 basis in accordance with these guidelines.

**ARTICLE 2: MEMBERSHIP: QUALIFICATIONS & CATEGORIES**

Section 1: Rights of membership shall be open to all professional, veterinary students enrolled in the Doctor of Veterinary Medicine (DVM) program in the College of Veterinary Medicine at The Ohio State University.

Section 2: “Non-DVM Student” Membership is another membership type, available to any other Ohio State student who is “food animal oriented”. Non-DVM membership does not allow an individual to run for office. It may also limit the ability to participate in space-limited activities.

Section 3: Associate membership without voting privileges may be extended to faculty, administration, extension members, and graduate students of the College of Veterinary Medicine of The Ohio State University. Associate membership may be extended to members of other colleges and departments within The Ohio State University at the discretion of the executive committee.

Section 4: An individual eligible for active membership under the provisions of Article 2, Section 1 shall automatically become a member upon payment of dues by the date assigned by the Executive Committee and attendance of club meetings.

Section 5: Every person, on becoming a member, shall assume an obligation to accept this Constitution and the Bylaws thereon based.

Section 6: Yearly dues for each membership type will be set each Autumn Semester at the discretion of the Executive Committee.

Section 7: Active members shall be suspended until current and delinquent dues of the school year are paid.

Section 8: Members may leave the club at any time of their choosing. To be removed from the club, members must email the Secretary and ask to be removed from the listserv. The Secretary will also send out an email to the listserv at the beginning of each school year asking members if they would like to be removed from the listserv. Members will be removed upon graduation from the OSU CVM. If a member conducts themselves in such a manner deemed detrimental to advancing the purpose of this organization or is in violation of The Ohio State University College of Veterinary Medicine Honor Code, 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.

**ARTICLE 3: OFFICERS & FACULTY ADVISORS**

Section 1: The officers of this organization shall be: President, Vice Presidents (2), Secretary, Treasurer, Historian, Social Chairs (2), Merchandise Chairs (2), & Program Coordinators (2). As applicable, Robert’s Rules of Order Revised, not to conflict with the Constitution and Bylaws, shall govern all officers.

Section 2: The advisors of the organization shall be eligible for associate membership under the provisions of Article 2, Section 3 or a graduate student in the College of Veterinary Medicine with experience suitable for an advisor.

Section 3: The officers of the club shall constitute the Executive Committee. Executive Committee meetings shall be held as needed at the discretion of the President or Vice Presidents.

Section 4: The President shall preside at regular meetings. This person shall enforce the Constitution and Bylaws. The President shall develop an agenda for the next meeting. This person shall have the right to call executive meetings. This person shall have the deciding vote in case of a tie. This person shall oversee the club activities in an overall fashion and assist other Executive Committee or general members in creating or facilitating activities of the organization. The President will also chair the committee for the Food Animal Medicine Student Symposium for as long as it continues. This person will select a chair for the Food Animal Medicine Student Symposium if he or she (the President) is not willing or able to chair the committee.

Section 5: The Vice Presidents shall preside at meetings in the absence of the President. These persons shall also have the right to call executive meetings if so desired. They shall also make arrangements for any desired meeting refreshments. They will serve as the Lab Chairs for the Food Animal Medicine Student Symposium.

Section 6: The Secretary shall handle club correspondence and maintain a Roster of Membership. This officer is responsible for writing notes of gratitude for speakers and presenters within a timely manner after the presentation. The Secretary will compose a weekly email to distribute to the club members. They will head the registration system for the Food Animal Medicine Student Symposium.

Section 7: The Treasurer shall keep all financial records of the club. This person shall collect all money due the organization and shall disburse, subject to the approval of the organization. This person shall render a statement of the financial condition of the organization. They will head the sponsorship committee for The Food Animal Medicine Student Symposium.

Section 8: The Historian shall work to document the activities of the club and promote its purposes in the college. This officer is responsible for the club advertisement screens, taking pictures, updating social media, and any other related activities. If a historian is not able to be present at a club event, they can request another officer to perform their duties.

Section 9: The Social Chairs (2) shall organize at least one FAC social event per semester. They will be the Event Planning Chairs for the Food Animal Medicine Student Symposium.

Section 10: The Program Coordinators (2) shall coordinate club experiences such as labs and tours. They are responsible for providing the club with a slate of experiences across the full spectrum of food animal medicine and experience levels of the membership.They will oversee the committee of Donor Animal Coordinators and the Emergency Team and help facilitate participation in those programs. They will notify the executive committee of any needs of these programs and when a vacancy arises to have a replacement elected.

Section 11: The Merchandise Chairs (2) will organize and sell all merchandise that the club procures. They are responsible for keeping inventory and managing the appropriate amount of relevant merchandise. Merchandise Chairs will sell at sales such as the following, but not limited to: Open House, Convocation, Holiday Sale, Midwest Veterinary Conference, and Food Animal Medicine Student Symposium. They will be responsible for the merchandise and gifts at the Food Animal Medicine Student Symposium.

Section 12: An officer may step down from his or her position at any time throughout his or her term. In case of a vacancy, the office shall be filled by appointment by the executive committee. If majority agreement of the executive committee cannot be reached, the vacant position will be voted on by the membership.

Section 13: Committees may be created and maintained at the discretion of the executive committee.

Section 14: An officer can be chairman of any major or standing committee. The President will chair the Food Animal Medicine Student Symposium committee unless the President elects to find another person to chair the committee due to time or physical constraints.

**ARTICLE 4: FURTHER LEADERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES**

Section 1: Further leadership opportunities exist in the club outside of the executive committee. These positions will be elected upon vacancy. Once elected, members can continue in their roles until they leave for the start of their clinical program or choose to leave, whichever is sooner. Executive Committee members may hold these positions in addition to their current roles, if they believe they can balance both roles. However if members conducts themselves in such a manner deemed detrimental to advancing the purpose of this organization, is in violation of The Ohio State University College of Veterinary Medicine Honor Code, or fails to do their job they can be removed through a majority vote of the executive committee, with the consultation of the advisor

Section 2: The animal donor program coordinators and Food Animal Emergency Team coordinator will fall under the oversight of the Program Coordinators. The association representatives will fall under the oversight of the President.

Section 3: The Donor Cow Coordinator would be expected to know where the donor cows are housed, the location of all the equipment for caring for the cows, and the safety and biosecurity protocols. They would hold an orientation at the beginning of each school year in the Farm Animal Hospital to show new volunteers around, describe the program, and educate on the safety and biosecurity protocols. The officer would be expected to send out monthly sign-up registration and then create monthly schedules for 2 students to volunteer on each weekday. Print weekly login sheets to place in front of the stall. The officer should check on the cows weekly and notify hospital staff of any changes in the cow's behavior, health status, or any complications/concerns from student volunteers.

Section 4: The Donor Sheep Coordinator would be expected to know where the donor sheep are housed, the location of all the equipment for caring for the sheep, and the safety and biosecurity protocols. They would hold an orientation at the beginning of each school year in the Farm Animal Hospital to show new volunteers around, describe the program, and educate on the safety and biosecurity protocols. The officer would be expected to send out monthly sign-up registration and then create monthly schedules for 2 students to volunteer on each weekday. Print weekly login sheets to place in front of the stall. The officer should check on the sheep weekly and notify hospital staff of any changes in the sheep’s behavior, health status, or any complications/concerns from student volunteers.

Section 5: The Donor Alpaca Coordinator would be expected to know where the donor alpacas are housed, the location of all the equipment for caring for the alpacas, and the safety and biosecurity protocols. They would hold an orientation at the beginning of each school year in the Farm Animal Hospital to show new volunteers around, describe the program, and educate on the safety and biosecurity protocols. The officer would be expected to send out monthly sign-up registration and then create monthly schedules for 2 students to volunteer on each weekday. Print weekly login sheets to place in front of the stall. The officer should check on the alpacas weekly and notify hospital staff of any changes in the alpaca's behavior, health status, or any complications/concerns from student volunteers.

Section 6: The Food Animal Emergency Team (FAET) Coordinator shall organize the Food Animal Emergency Teams and manage them throughout the year. The officer is responsible to coordinate with the Veterinary Medical Center to arrange contacts and provisions for the emergency teams.

Section 7: The club will have formal student representatives from the: American Association of Bovine Practitioners (AABP), American Association of Small Ruminant Practitioners (AASRP), American Association of Swine Veterinarians (AASV), and American Association of Avian Pathologists (AAAP). These representatives will aid club members in accessing association membership and opportunities. They will also organize trips to the annual association meetings, including travel coordinations, hotel bookings, sponsorships, and fundraising plans. They will make relevant announcements to the club of happenings within their associations. They will report their position as appropriate according to the student representative guidelines in their association.

**ARTICLE 5: ELECTIONS**

Section 1: The President, Vice Presidents (2), Secretary, Treasurer, Historian, Social Chair (2), Merchandise Chairs (2), and Program Coordinator (2),shall be elected for a term of one year.

Section 2: All candidates shall be professional, veterinary students enrolled in the Doctor of Veterinary Medicine (DVM) program in the College of Veterinary Medicine at The Ohio State University and have been active members of the organization prior to the semester of election.

Section 3: Nominations can be taken from the floor during the election meeting. Nominations will also be accepted up to one week prior to the election meeting.

Section 4: Election of officers shall be held during a spring semester meeting.

Section 5: To be eligible to vote in elections a member must be present two meetings prior to elections that semester and must be an active member of the Club, Article 2, Section 4.

Section 6: Election of each office shall be held individually in the following order: (1) President; (2) Vice Presidents; (3) Secretary; (4) Treasurer; (5) Historian; (6) Social Chair; (7) Merchandise Chairs; (8)Program Coordinators ;

Section 7: Officers shall be elected by a majority vote of those members present.

Section 8: Newly elected officers shall take office directly following their election, set at the discretion of the sitting President.. The new officers will be assisted by outgoing officers as necessary. If an officer conducts themselves in such a manner deemed detrimental to advancing the purpose of this organization, is delinquent in performing their officer duties, or is in violation of The Ohio State University College of Veterinary Medicine Honor Code, they can be removed through a majority vote of the voting membership or unanimous vote of the other officers with consultation of the advisor.

**ARTICLE 6: GOVERNMENT**

Section 1: Only members in good standing according to Article 2, Section 4, may vote.

Section 2: A member must be present to vote.

Section 3: When possible, Club meetings shall be held weekly during Autumn and Spring Semesters. Actual meeting times and dates shall be set up at the discretion of the Executive Committee.

Section 4: This organization shall be governed by the Rules of Order (part 1) and the Organization and Conduct of Business (part 2) of Robert's Rules of Order Revised not to conflict with the Constitution and Bylaws.

**ARTICLE 7: CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS**

Section 1: This Constitution may be amended by a three-fourths majority vote of the members present at any one regular meeting of the club.

Section 2: Proposed amendments must be presented in writing or print and action thereon can be taken not sooner than the following regular meeting.

**ARTICLE 8: BYLAWS**

Section 1: The Bylaws shall be laws of current application enacted by the organization based on, and subordinate to, the Constitution.

Section 2: The Bylaws may be amended by a two-thirds vote of those present at any Club meeting.