**DEWITT 4-H COUNCIL**

 **STANDING RULES**

**1. NAME.** The name of this organization will be the DeWitt 4-H Council.

**2. PURPOSE**. The purpose will be to promote and encourage 4-H work and to coordinate 4-H activities.

The Council provides 4-H members the opportunity and experience of helping plan and conduct the county 4-H program. The Council provides for and protects the right of every 4-H club and group to be represented in the decisions that shape and mold the county 4-H program.

**3. MEMBERSHIP**. 4-H membership is open to all youth regardless of socioeconomic level, race, color,

sex, religion, disability, or national origin. The membership of the DeWitt 4-H Council will

consist of the Council Officers, and designated voting delegates from each 4-H club in the county (the president and council delegate(s) for each club. Only the Club with the County Council Chair will have the right to elect an additional delegate to serve on 4-H Council as a voting delegate.

**4. OFFICERS**. The officers of the DeWitt 4-H Council will consist of president, 1st Vice President,

2nd Vice President, 3rd Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Health and Safety Officer, and Parliamentarian. The President, 1st Vice President, and 2nd Vice President must be at least 14 years of age by the beginning of the term of office. To be eligible for an office, members must participate in good standing in DeWitt 4-H Council activities for one year immediately prior to election. The Executive Committee will appoint members to fill the Reporter positions. No club shall have more than two members elected to offices on the DeWitt 4-H Council, or at the advisor’s discretion under special circumstances.

**5. TERM OF OFFICE**. Officers will be elected annually and will not be eligible to serve more than two (2)

terms in the same office. The term of office will be from September 1 to August 31. No person shall

hold more than one office on the DeWitt 4-H Council.

**6. VOTING DELEGATES.** Each 4-H club in the county will have a minimum of two people representing each club on the county council as a voting delegate. They will consist of the President, and elected council delegate(s). For each additional 10 members after the initial 25 total club membership, a club will gain 1 additional voting delegate on council. The additional voting delegate will be designated from the club’s elected officers. If none of these elected officers want to serve as a delegate, then the additional delegate will be elected from the general club membership. Additional club members may attend and participate in the county council meetings but will not be eligible to vote, unless in the case the elected council delegates from their club are not represented.

**7. Election of Officers**. The election of officers will be held annually with the voting delegates for the current year. Elections shall be by ballot, and no gift offerings shall be offered for votes. A majority constitutes an election. In the event the offices are not able to be filled at the time of elections, the bylaws can be amended at that time, to facilitate filling the offices.

**8. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**. The Executive Committee will be composed of the President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer and Council Advisor.

**9.** **COMMITTEES.** Committees will be appointed by the president as the need arises. Members will be

 encouraged to volunteer on committees in which they have a particular interest. In the absence of

 volunteers, the President will make committee appointments as needed. The President will be

 responsible for defining the committee’s assignment. The President will also appoint the chairman of each committee. The president is an ex officio member of each committee appointed.

**10. DISTRICT COUNCIL DELEGATES**. The delegate from the DeWitt 4-H Council will be the

President, 1st Vice President, and 2nd Vice President. If one of the delegates is a

district officer, another delegate will be elected. If these officers are unable to attend a district

meeting, another member can be appointed to fill the position.

**11. MEETINGS**. The Council will hold regular meetings quarterly during the year. The president may call special meetings when necessary.

**12. VOTING BODY**. The voting body will consist of the membership as defined in Rule 3.

**13. QUORUM**. A quorum shall be a simple majority of the membership representing at least 50% of the 4-H clubs.

**14. AMENDMENTS**. These rules may be amended by two-thirds (2/3) vote at any regular or special called 4-H Council meeting at which a quorum is present or at the Council Advisors discretion.

**15. 4-H YEAR**. The 4-H year will be from September 1 to August 31.

**16. COUNCIL DISSOLUTION**. Upon the dissolution of the Council, all real property, including money, equipment, and land, shall become the property of the DeWitt 4-H Program for care and distribution. The last official duty of the advisor shall be to transfer the council property and turn over all records to the DeWitt 4-H Program.

Revised August 2023

Approved August 2023