

Constitution of the Cornell University Block and Bridle Club
Revised February 2011

We, the members of the Cornell University Block and Bridle Club, in order to promote the improvement of livestock, and to increase the interest among students of Animal Husbandry, do hereby ordain and establish this Constitution.

Article I – NAME

Section 1

This organization is the Cornell University Chapter of the National Block and Bridle Club, and shall be known as the Cornell University Block and Bridle Club.

Section 2

As stated in the constitution and bylaws, all references made to “The Club” or “Club” shall refer to the Cornell University Block and Bridle Club.

Article II – OBJECTIVES

The objectives of this organization are:

First: To promote Animal Husbandry, especially all phases of Animal Husbandry work at Cornell University.

Second: To bring about a close relationship among those persons interested in Animal Husbandry.

Third: To create and establish additional interest in all phases of Animal Husbandry through practical experience.

Article III – MEMBERSHIP

Section 1 – Eligibility

Any person duly enrolled, in good academic standing, in any college of Cornell University, and who shows interest in any phase of Animal Husbandry, and any alumni or faculty members meeting all other requirements, shall be eligible for membership.

Section 2 – Dues

No person shall be entitled to membership until he(he) has paid his(her) dues.

Section 3 – Active Membership

To be recognized as an Active Member, a member must satisfy the following requirements:

- a. He(he) must attend 50% of the Club meetings.
- b. He(he) must participate in at least two (2) of the following:
 1. Attend a farm tour.
 2. Attend a guest speaker event.
 3. Participate in halterbreaking.
 4. Serve on Special Committees (refer to Secretary).
 5. Show an (1) animal in the Student Livestock Show
 6. Participate in the Student Livestock Show Organization.
 7. Participate in Barnyard Fun Day Organization.
 8. Plan and serve on fund raising events.
 9. Work on a Block and Bridle Scrapbook.

Section 4 – Convention

To participate in the National Block and Bridle Convention, one must be an active member, fulfilling the qualifications under Section 3.

Section 5 – Resignation

No member shall be permitted to resign or honorably depart from this Club except by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the members present.

Section 6 – Expulsion

Paragraph a. Unbecoming conduct of a member may be punished by expulsion, as determined by the Executive Committee.

Paragraph b. Members who willfully obstruct the work of the Club and whose continued presence is injurious to the Club may be punished by expulsion.

Article IV – OFFICERS

Section 1

The officers of the Club shall be:

1. President
2. Vice-President
3. Secretary
4. Treasurer
5. Livestock Chair
6. Publicity Chair

Article V – ADVISORS

Section 1

The Club shall have one (1) advisor selected from the Department of Animal Science Faculty and Staff.

Section 2

An advisor must give two (2) months notice to the Executive Committee if he or she wishes to resign.

Section 3

Removal of an advisor from his or her position can be done by a two thirds (2/3) vote of the members of the Executive Committee.

Article VI – EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The Executive Committee shall be composed of the President, the Vice President, the Secretary, the Treasurer, the Livestock Chair, the Publicity Chair and the Advisors.

Article VII – AMENDMENTS

Section 1

Amendments to this constitution may be made by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the members present at a regular meeting, providing statements of such proposed amendments have been given at least (2) weeks previous to the vote.

Section 2

Any and all actions of the members deemed necessary and prudent to comply with amendments of the constitution and bylaws of the Cornell University Block

and Bridle Club must be initiated and completed within 30 days of acceptance of said amendments.

Section 3

The proposed amendments may be amended at the meeting at which proposed amendments are voted on, providing:

- a. The original intent of the amendment is not changed
- b. Two-thirds (2/3) of the members present agree on the change.

Article VIII – NECESSARY DEVIATIONS

Upon majority approval of a quorum of the Executive Committee, a section of Article III may be temporarily set aside or modified due to an extraordinary and unforeseeable set of circumstances.

BY-LAWS

Article I – REGULAR AND SPECIAL MEETINGS

Section 1

The Club shall meet on a regular basis during the spring and fall semesters of the State University of New York College of Agriculture and Life Sciences at Cornell University, as determined by the executive committee of the Club.

Section 2

Special meeting may be called at any time by the President, or at the request of at least five (5) members.

Section 3

Notice of meetings (regular and special) must be posted at least seven (7) days before the meeting.

Article II – NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS OF OFFICERS

Section 1

Elections shall be held at the regular meeting as determined by the Executive Committee.

Section 2

Elected officers shall be the President, the Vice-President, the Secretary, the Treasurer, the Livestock Chair, and the Publicity Chair.

Section 3

The Advisor(s) shall be elected at the same meeting.

Section 4

Election of officers shall be by simple majority of those active members present.

Section 5

Election of officers shall be by secret ballot, with all active members allowed to vote.

Section 6

The nominees shall be allowed five (5) minutes to speak on their behalf and be allowed to vote for the office they have been nominated for.

Section 7

Nominations shall be open from the floor at the regular meeting at which elections are held.

Section 8

Newly elected officers will take office at the last meeting of the Spring semester.

Section 9

In the event of a tie, both officers will serve as co-officers.

Article III – DUTIES OF OFFICERS

Section 1

It shall be by the duty of the President to

- a. Preside at all meetings
- b. Enforce a rigid observance of the Constitution and By-Laws of the organization
- c. See that officers perform their official duties
- d. Inspect the results of the balloting when deemed necessary
- e. Sign all orders drawn by the Secretary and other official documents of the Club.
- f. Register the Club with the Student Activities office.
- g. Plan for events such as barn tours and guest speakers.
- h. Register the Club for Clubfest.

Section 2

It shall be the duty of the Vice-President to

- a. Assume the duties of the President in the absence of that official
- b. Assist in the promotion of the best interests of the Club as the President may direct.
- c. Serve as Club representative to any meetings deemed necessary by the Club.

Section 3

It shall be the duty of the Secretary to

- a. Keep and publish the minutes of all meetings.
- b. Issue all orders and notices required.
- c. Conduct all correspondence of the club.
- d. Create a list of activities for each semester for the Club.
- e. Publicize activities and objectives of the club by any appropriate means.
- f. Maintain a roster of current members, and register them with the National Block and Bridle Club.
- g. Prepare the Club Abstract for the National Block and Bridle Club.

Section 4

It shall be the duty of the Treasurer to:

- a. Receive all member dues owed to the Club.
- b. Manage the bank account and keep an accurate account of all finances of the Club.
- c. Submit the semesterly budget to the Student Assembly Finance Commission (SAFC) and manage all funds allocated by the SAFC.
- d. Collect all National Block and Bridle dues and submit them to the National Block and Bridle Club.
- e. Arrange fundraisers for the club should the need arise.

Section 5

It shall be the duty of the Advisors to

- a. Advise the Club whenever such advice is needed.
- b. Update the Club website when requested by an officer.

Section 6

It shall be the duty of the Livestock Chair to

- a. Contacts the Beef Teaching and Research Barn to arrange for halterbreaking practice.
- b. Arrange for use of the Livestock Pavillion.
- c. Contact Show Chairs.
- d. Contact judges.
- e. Arrange chore dates for Show Chairs.
- f. Contact the Teaching and Research barns and private goat owner for use of animals.
- g. Prepare the Standard Operating Procedures for barn chores.

Section 7

It shall be the duty of the Publicity Chair to:

- a. Stand in for officers unable to attend regular meetings.
- b. Arrange for refreshments at regular club meetings.
- c. Manage Facebook groups, pages, and events.
- d. Prepare quartercards for the livestock show, Clubfest, and Ag Day.
- e. Advertise for the club and club events through classroom announcements and Denise Cassaro.

Section 8

All officers must notify the President should it be necessary that they miss a meeting.

Section 9

The Cornell University Block and Bridle Club constitution and by-laws shall be reviewed each year by the Executive Committee.

Article IV – FILLING OF VACANCIES

Section 1

In the event of an inability of the president to serve, his/her position shall be assumed by the Vice-President, and a special election shall be held to fill the vacancy of the Vice-Presidency.

Section 2

All other vacancies shall be filled by a special election.

Section 3

Election procedure shall be the same as outlined in Section III but that nominations shall be from the floor.

Article V – DUES

Section 1

Dues shall be five dollars (\$5.00) per member per term, payable to the Treasurer at the first regular meeting of each term.

Section 2

Failure to meet this financial obligation to the club may result in expulsion from the Club.

Article VI – QUORUM

Section 1

A quorum shall consist of two-thirds (2/3) majority of all active members.

Article VII – PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY

Section 1

The rules contained in Robert's Rules of Order, Revised shall govern in all cases in which they are applicable, and in which they are not inconsistent with this Constitution and By-Laws.

Article VIII – APPOINTED OFFICES AND COMMITTEES

Section 1

The following committees shall be appointed by the President, in conjunction with other officers, and announced at the regular meeting in October.

- a. Livestock Show Species Chairs
- d. Barnyard Fun Day Board

Section 2

Special appointments and committees may be made at any time by the President.

Article IX – COMMITTEE DUTIES

Section 1

It shall be the duty of the Livestock Show Species Chairs to recruit showers, prepare them for the show by teaching them to care for, groom, and show their species, and arrange barn chores.

Section 2

It shall be the duty of the Barnyard Fun Day Board to contact local schools, prepare handouts for attendees, and arrange activities for attendees at Barnyard Fun Day.

Article X – NATIONAL BLOCK AND BRIDLE MEMBERSHIP

Section 1

The Cornell University Block and Bridle Club shall remain members of the National Block and Bridle Club. To that effect, the Cornell University Block and Bridle Club will submit a new member report when new members are initiated, dues to the National Block and Bridle Club, a Chapter Abstract every year, and anything else that is required by the National Block and Bridle club, as outlined on the National Block and Bridle website. The Club will be responsible for ensuring that all Club information on the National website is accurate.

Article XI – LIVESTOCK SHOW AND BARNYARD FUN DAY

Section 1

The Block and Bridle Club will act to extend Agricultural Education to members of the Cornell and Ithaca community. To that end, they will hold a yearly livestock show, in which students can learn to show a farm species of their choice,

and Barnyard Fun Day, in which community members can learn about livestock and animal products.

Article XII – MISCELLANEOUS

Section 1

The Cornell University Block and Bridle Club shall provide at least fifty percent (50%) of the expenses of club officers attending the national Block and Bridle meetings, provided that those officers attend the annual meeting and convention conferences.