



Happy Thumpers 4-H Club Bylaws

ARTICLE I: Name and Objectives

- Section 1. The name of this organization shall be Happy Thumpers 4-H Club.
- Section 2. This shall be a nonprofit organization for the purpose of promoting education through 4-H club work.
- Section 3. The objectives of this organization shall be
- i. to provide learning situations for the development of leadership, responsibility and effective citizenship.
 - ii. to provide educational and challenging experiences that will enable young people to become knowledge able and skilled in their selected project areas.
 - iii. to provide information and training in other 4-H activities as members' interests dictate.
 - iv. to help each member experience personal growth and achievement, as well as be of service to others.

ARTICLE II: Membership and Requirements

- Section 1. Membership in this organization shall be open to all youth who have reached 5 years of age and have not reached their 18th birthday before September 1 of the current 4-H year and who reside in Indian River County regardless of socioeconomic level, race, color, creed, sex, national origin or disability.
- Section 2. New members and returning members must be enrolled annually through 4-H Online (<http://www.fl.4honline.com>) and be approved as an active member. All members must re-enroll annually.

- Section 3. The club is limited to 25 members. Once 25 members are enrolled a waiting list will be created. Enrollment priority will be given to members in good standing followed by new members and lastly members NOT in good standing.
- Section 4. All club members shall conduct at least one project and complete a record book for each project.
- Section 5. All club members shall give a demonstration presentation in front of the club. The demonstration is to be a how-to presentation on a subject other than their 4-H project. It shall be age appropriate in subject and length with a visual aid. Refer to <http://www.HappyThumpers4h.com/presentations> for specific requirements.
- Section 6. All members shall participate in **ALL** club fundraisers.
- Section 7. All members shall participate in **ALL** club community service projects.
- Section 8. All members shall participate in no less than 75% of club parties, outings and field trips.
- Section 9. ***ALL members shall have a current ethics certification.*** <http://www.floridastatefairag.com/ethics>
- Section 10. All members shall attend **ALL** mandatory Indian River County 4-H events and meetings.
- Section 11. All members shall work the buyer's dinner during their assigned shift.
- Section 12. All members shall abide by club bylaws, Indian River County Youth Livestock and Horticulture, Inc. Show and Auction Rules and the 4-H Code of Conduct to remain in good standing with the club and 4-H. Members who are NOT in good standing will be ineligible to show at the fair for the current and following year

Members NOT in good standing must complete a full 4-H year as a probationary member including a project and record book, presentation and active participation in the club and 4-H events before being reinstated as a member in good standing.

In the event a member NOT in good standing is unable to abide by the club bylaws they will receive a warning for the first violation. A second violation, failure to attend a mandatory event or violation of Indian River County 4-H Show and Auction Rules or the 4-H Code of Conduct will result in permanent removal from the club.

ARTICLE III: Fees

- Section 1. All members shall pay the 4-H enrollment and insurance fee.
- Section 2. All members shall pay a \$30 club fee (for club shirt, materials, etc.) no later than the club meeting on September 26th, 2017.
- Section 2. All members shall pay a project entry fee for ***each*** project/animal registered. This will be collected at project pickup for those showing poultry and citrus. Other projects will pay their fee at weigh-in or another designated Fair preparation event prior to the project registration deadline.

ARTICLE IV: Meetings

- Section 1. Regular club meetings are held at 6:30pm on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month from September through June. Special meetings, community service projects, fundraisers and field trips may be held in addition to the regular club meetings.
- Section 2. Each club member ***AND*** a parent or legal guardian are required to attend no less than 75% of the scheduled club meetings. Absence of a parent/legal guardian will count as an absence for the club member unless prior arrangements have been made.
- Section 3. Absence from a meeting or club event will only be excused if requested and approved in writing no less than 72 hours prior to the absence. In the case of an emergency contact the club leader as soon as possible.
- Section 4. Mandatory meetings, barn setup, barn tear down, health/report card check and buyer's dinner ***are not optional***. Failure to participate in any of these without prior written excused absence from Indian River County Youth Livestock & Horticulture, Inc will result in the member being NOT in good standing and ineligible to show at the fair.
- Section 5. Meetings will operate under basic principles of Robert Rules of Order.

ARTICLE V Officers and Elections

- Section 1. The officers of the club shall be a President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, Sargent at Arms, Reporter and Historian.
- Section 2. Officers shall be elected annually. Officers shall serve for a term of one year.
- Section 3. The officers of the club shall constitute an executive committee.
- Section 4. Any officer position that becomes vacant shall be filled by a vote with at least 51% approval of the members present.

ARTICLE VI: Duties of Officers

- Section 1. Duties of the President shall be
- (a) to preside at all meetings of the club, enforce the bylaws and exercise supervision over the affairs of the club.
 - (b) to appoint members and parents/legal guardians to committees as needed.
 - (c) to serve as delegate of the club to the County 4-H Council.
 - (d) to plan club educational programs.
 - (e) to help plan club recreational activities.

- (f) to keep the club informed of county 4-H activities and assist in the coordination of club and county activities.

Section 2. Duties of the Vice-President shall be

- (a) to assist the president.
- (b) to perform the duties of the president in the absence of that officer.
- (c) to help plan all club educational programs.
- (d) to plan club recreational activities.
- (e) to keep the club informed of county 4-H activities and assist in the coordination of local and county activities.
- (f) to encourage all 4-H members to become involved in county 4-H activities.

Section 3. Duties of the Secretary shall be

- (a) to keep a full and correct record of all proceedings of the club.
- (b) to have charge of club correspondence.
- (c) to keep the roll and read the minutes at each meeting.

Section 4. Duties of the Treasurer shall be

- (a) to work closely with the adult leaders in the handling of club funds.
- (b) to receive monies from club members from fees and fundraisers.
- (c) to preside over the fundraising committee.

Section 5. Duties of the Reporter shall be

- (a) to report activities of the club to local news media.
- (b) to report activities to the county Extension agent.
- (c) to prepare information and media for use on the club website and social media pages.

Section 6. Duties of the Historian shall be

- (a) to record activities of the club using various mediums including photography and video.
- (b) to create/maintain the club scrapbook with pages outlining the current year.
- (c) to provide information and media to the Reporter for use in their duties.

Section 7. Duties of the Sargent at Arms shall be

- (a) to call the meeting to order and to select club members to recite the pledges
- (b) to maintain order during the meeting
- (c) to enforce the club bylaws where necessary

ARTICLE VII: Leaders and Duties

Section 1. Adult leaders of the club shall

- (a) help members gain life skills such as decision making, problem solving, responsibility, accountability, communication, goal setting, citizenship, caring relationships, leadership, healthy lifestyle choices and career exploration skills in project work.
- (b) encourage youth leadership through committees, demonstrations, junior leadership and individual guidance.
- (c) provide feedback to members, letting them know when they are doing a good job and advising them when they need to improve. Praise youth for the progress they make.
- (d) inform and encourage members, parents and other volunteers to actively participate in 4-H opportunities.
- (e) work as close advisors and leaders with the President, Vice-President and committees to see that the club's program and activities are well-planned and executed
- (f) guide the club in setting goals, planning and carrying out activities.
- (g) assist the club in evaluating activities and implementing changes when needed.
- (h) work closely with county Extension Agent, Project Coordinators and other adult volunteers to coordinate club and county activities.
- (i) inform members and parents of project requirements and deadlines.
- (j) welcome parents' ideas, activity and project assistance, cooperation, support and attendance at 4-H activities.

- (k) collect enrollment and other information needed by Cooperative Extension and adhere to deadlines.
- (l) keep county 4-H Agent informed of club activities.
- (m) inform county 4-H Agent member of fundraising plans before implementation.
- (n) keep the best interests of each member foremost in the plans of the club.

ARTICLE VIII: Club Disbandment

Upon the disbandment of the club, all real property, including money, equipment and land, shall become the property of the Indian River County 4-H Program for care and disposition. The last official duty of the club's leader shall be to effect the transfer of club property and to turn over club records to the county 4-H Extension agent.

ARTICLE IX: Amendments

Section 1. These bylaws may be amended by a two-thirds vote of the members present, provided that the proposed amendments have been presented to the club in writing prior to the meeting. Amendments must not conflict with the basic 4-H philosophy.