

BRAZOS VALLEY FARMERS' MARKET ASSOCIATION

MEMBER BY-LAWS

1. PURPOSE

It is the intent of the Brazos Valley Farmers' Market Association ("the Association") to benefit both growers and consumers by assisting growers in offering consumers fresh produce, grown in Texas, without the expense of a middleman, and in a wholesome and neighborly atmosphere. By helping each other, we help our community flourish.

2. MEMBERSHIP

Membership is open to individuals who are residents of or grow produce in Brazos, Burleson, Robertson, Grimes, Madison, Milam, Leon, and Washington Counties. Individuals who grow produce in other counties in Texas must receive Executive Committee approval. "All members" must agree to an inspection of their farm to verify the produce is grown in Texas before the individual is allowed to become a member and sell at the market. The inspector(s) will be designated by the Executive Committee. All members must be able to prove that they actually produce the product that they propose to sell.

3. AGENTS OF MEMBERS

Any member of the Association may conduct sales at the Farmers' Market through an employee or family member. Identification in the form of a membership card must be presented to the market manager.

4. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The Association shall be managed by the Executive Committee which shall be elected from the general membership to represent the membership at large. There will be five (5) members (officers) elected to the executive committee: the President, Vice President, Market Manager, Treasurer, and Secretary.

5. ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Officers shall be nominated at the annual end of year meeting in November for a one year term to begin same calendar year from January 1 through December 31. Officers may be elected/re-elected by proxy.

6. POWER OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The Executive Committee shall be solely responsible for making all decisions concerning operation of the Farmers' Market including, but not limited to, establishing the Rules & Regulations of the market and determining the market location site. All Rules & Regulations must comply with local, state, and federal laws as well as the By-Laws of the Brazos Valley Farmers' Market Association. Decisions of the Executive Committee shall be determined by a simple majority vote of the Executive Committee.

7. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

The meetings of the Executive Committee shall be called by the President. A majority of the committee shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business at any meeting.

8. MEETINGS

There will be an annual meeting for the general membership in February or March for conducting business, orientation, and planning purposes. An end of year meeting will be held in November to elect officers. Financial reports will be presented at both meetings. Members will be notified of the time, date and location of all meetings.

9. TERMINATION OF MEMBERSHIP

The Executive Committee may for specific cause temporarily or permanently suspend a member after a hearing and a two-thirds vote of agreement. The member has the right to be notified of the specific violations and be present at the hearing and offer testimony.

10. REMOVAL OF OFFICERS

Any officer can be removed for cause by a two-thirds vote of the total membership present at a regular or called meeting. If an officer is removed or resigns, the other officers can select a replacement to fill out the term of office vacated.

11. AFFILIATIONS

On a case by case basis, the Executive Committee may allow other types of vendors or organizations to participate at the market. The Executive Committee will set the requirements of such participation.

12. QUALITY

All agricultural products sold at the market shall be of merchantable quality.

13. CHANGES

Any additions, deletions, revisions, or amendments of these By-Laws are subject to the approval of the Executive Committee and shall be presented to the general membership for a vote.

14. VOTING PROCEDURES FOR ALL MATTERS REQUIRING A VOTE

One vote shall be allotted to each paid membership. Voting on By-Laws and election of officers shall be by mail ballot and decisions shall be by a simple majority vote of those participating in the election or referendum. Ballots must be returned by the specified date to the address indicated in the ballot materials.

15. INSURANCE

The Association shall carry liability insurance on the market area to protect the members individually, the Association, the Executive Committee and its representatives for their actions on behalf of the Brazos Valley Farmers' Market Association.

16. ROBERT'S RULES OF ORDER, Newly Revised

Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised shall govern all meeting and By-Laws revisions when invoked by a member in the circumstance that procedures are not detailed in the By-Laws or Rules & Regulations of the Association.