



### **Article I - Name**

The name and position shall be Yell Leader.

### **Article II - Object and Purpose**

The object and purpose of the Yell Leaders shall be:

1. To promote and to perpetuate all Aggie traditions and Aggie athletics and to serve as an ambassador for Texas A&M University in everything that we do. This will be accomplished by the following:
  - a. Represent the University at athletic events by leading organized yells, encouraging the student body to support the team(s), and assisting and encouraging sportsmanship by the student body.
  - b. Organize and conduct yell practices on an "as needed" basis.
  - c. Promote the University and its traditions by speaking to and educating new students, transfer students, prospective students, former students, and other organizations and friends of the University.
  - d. Represent the University in meetings and associations with other universities in respect to the organization and conduct of Texas A&M students at athletic events.
  - e. Function as a liaison between the Texas A&M Athletic Department, Texas A&M athletic teams, and the student body.
  - f. Perform other tasks and duties as they arise that are otherwise consistent with the aforementioned objects and purposes.

### **Article III - Number and Classification**

1. There shall be five (5) Yell Leaders.
2. Three (3) of the Yell Leaders shall be Seniors and two (2) of the Yell Leaders shall be Juniors.
3. With regards to members of the Corps of Cadets only, classification will be determined by cadet class and rank.
4. The classification of the Seniors or Juniors who are not in the Corps of Cadets shall be determined by the class of the student upon the date that the student originally entered Texas A&M. For example, if a student enters Texas A&M in the Summer or Fall of 2008, he or she would be a member of the class of 2012. Classifications are not determined by the number of hours a student has successfully completed or actual age.
5. With regards to transfer students only, for the purpose of determining the classification of a transfer student solely with regards to his or her designated classification as a Yell Leader, the University Registrar shall determine the classification of such transfer student.

### **Article IV – Yell Leader Leadership**

1. The Head Yell Leader shall be one (1) of the three (3) Senior Yell Leaders.
2. The individual to serve as Head Yell Leader shall be recommended by the Head Yell Leader Recommendation Committee, but is not confirmed until approved by the Director of Student Activities.
3. The Head Yell Leader shall serve as the Yell Leader in charge at all events, functions, etc. at which Yell Leaders participate. He or she shall be the final authority with regard to participation and conduct of the Yell Leaders.
4. If the Head Yell Leader is unable to attend or participate at an event or function, he/she shall designate one of the other Yell Leaders to serve in such capacity in his/her absence.
5. Other titles and positions held within the Yell Leader organization include but are not limited to:
  - a. Association of Former Yell Leader Liaison: This position is to be maintained by one of the senior Yell Leaders other than the Head Yell Leader. He or she will serve as the director and primary contact in regards to any activities related to the Association of Former Yell Leaders.
  - b. Yell Practices: The position is to be maintained by one of the senior Yell Leaders other than the Head Yell Leader. He or she will coordinate and plan all yell practices such as Midnight Yell practice, away game yell practice, and other events.
  - c. Finance: This position is to be maintained by one of the junior Yell Leaders and is responsible to keep up the financial management and oversight of the Yell Leader budget. This consists of reconciliation of the various Yell Leader accounts, making deposits/withdrawals for the operation of the organization and purchasing Yell Leader materials.



- d. Laundry: This position is to be maintained by one of the junior Yell Leaders in order make sure that uniforms for the Yell Leaders are kept up and cleaned in a timely fashion so as to keep a strong image consistent with the Yell Leader image.
  - e. Risk Management: This position can be occupied by any of the Yell Leaders. He or she will be in charge of managing and monitoring the various risks the Yell Leaders face when serving out the Object and Purpose of the Texas Aggie Yell Leaders. He or she will also work closely with the Risk Management team within Student Activities.
  - f. Digital media/marketing: This position can be occupied by any of the Yell Leaders. He or she will be in charge of monitoring and updating our website and social media outlets. He or she will also control and filter posted content on the various forms of social media outlets in which the Yell Leaders use.
- 6. These positions will be decided by the three seniors of that year with the final decision resting in the hands of the Head Yell Leader.
  - 7. The positions of Finance and Laundry will be tasked only to the junior Yell Leaders.

#### **Article V - Sole Representative**

The Texas Aggie Yell Leaders shall be the sole University sponsored students who represent the University in accordance with Article II of these By-Laws. There will be no other groups, organizations, or students selected, elected, nominated, or otherwise chosen to represent the University in such manner or for such purposes. Because of the close nature of the relationship between the Texas Aggie Yell Leaders and Texas A&M University, the Texas Aggie Yell Leaders, both as a group and as individuals, will only participate in activities which are sanctioned by Texas A&M University and/or meet with the approval of both the Head Yell Leader and the Yell Leader advisor(s). While holding the position of Yell Leader, participation in any event or activity, in part or in whole, either formally or informally, that does not meet these criteria and/or is inconsistent with the goals, mission, and purpose of both Texas A&M University or the Texas Aggie Yell Leaders is prohibited.

#### **Article VI - Election**

- 1. Yell Leaders shall be elected by the student body in conjunction with the regular spring student body elections.
- 2. The Yell Leader elections shall be conducted at the same time and manner as the general student body elections, and supervised by the election commission.
- 3. Voting for Yell Leader shall be limited to all students who meet the Election Commission's voter qualifications. Each student may vote for three (3) Senior candidates and two (2) Junior candidates for Yell Leader.
- 4. The winners of the Yell Leader Election will be determined by a plurality.
  - a. For Senior Yell Leader, the three (3) candidates that receive the highest number of votes shall be declared the winners.
  - b. For Junior Yell Leader, the two (2) candidates that receive the highest number of votes shall be declared the winners.
- 5. If the general election concludes in a tie that does not result in exactly three (3) Senior Yell Leader candidates and two (2) Junior Yell Leader candidates with the highest number votes, the final winning candidate(s) will be determined by a tie-breaker round using the number of valid votes cast for each of the tied candidates by their respective class members (U3 for Senior Yell Leaders and U2 for Junior Yell Leaders). The tied candidate with the highest number of class votes will be declared the winner as described by the examples below:
  - a. **Senior Yell Leader** – If two (2) individuals receive the highest number of votes and two (2) individuals tie for the last remaining position, the two (2) tied individuals will proceed to the tie-breaker round. The candidate that receives the highest number of votes from the Junior (U3) class member ballots during spring student body elections shall be declared the winner.
  - b. **Junior Yell Leader** – If one (1) individual receives the highest number of votes and two (2) individuals tie for the last remaining position, the two (2) tied individuals will proceed to the tie-breaker round. The candidate that receives the highest number of votes from the Sophomore (U2) class member ballots during spring student body elections shall be declared the winners.



## **Article VII – Eligibility/Removal from Office (Amended/Effective January 1<sup>st</sup> 2018)**

- 1. To be eligible to run for Yell Leader, a student must meet the following requirements:**
  - a. Be classified and enrolled as a TAMU undergraduate student at the time of election and the subsequent semesters to follow.
  - b. Have a minimum cumulative grade point ratio (GPR) of 2.70 and have earned a minimum GPR of 2.5 the semester immediately prior to the election/appointment.
  - c. Be in good standing with the University as outlined in University Student Rules.
  - d. Be currently enrolled as a full-time student at Texas A&M University.
  - e. 2017-2018 Yell Leaders seeking reelection for the role of senior Yell Leader shall be subject to the “Eligibility to run” requirements in place at the time of their election in 2017.
- 2. To be eligible to serve as a Yell Leader once elected, a student must full-fill the following requirements:**
  - a. Be enrolled at Texas A&M University for at least six hours (half-time credits) during the fall and spring semesters, unless fewer credits are required to graduate in the fall or spring semester.
  - b. Successfully complete a minimum of six hours.
  - c. Maintain a minimum cumulative grade point ratio (GPR) of 2.50 and have earn a minimum GPR of 2.25 each Fall & Spring semester
  - d. Be in good standing with the University as outlined in University Student Rules.
  - e. Successfully fulfill the obligations and expectations of a Yell Leader as outlined throughout this document.
- 3. In the event a Yell Leader fails to meet any of the aforementioned standards, the following procedures will take place:**
  - a. The individual will be required to meet with the Head Yell Leader and the advisor(s) to discuss the situation in question
  - b. Outcomes could result but are not limited to any combination of the following:
    1. Informal Warning or Reprimand: An informal verbal or written notice that specific behavior is inconsistent with the expectations and standards of a Yell Leader.
    2. Final Warning or Probation: An official warning that the student’s behavior or performance is in violation of the standards and expectations of a Yell Leader, but is not sufficiently serious to warrant removal, and failure to consistently improve may likely result in removal. Probation may be for a designated period of time.
    3. Limited or Restricted Participation: Limited involvement in Yell Leader functions for a designated period of time.
    4. Educational Requirements: A provision to complete a specific educational requirement directly related to the violation committed. The provision will be clearly defined. Such educational requirements may include, but are not limited to, completion of an alcohol education workshop, essays, reports, etc.
    5. Mandatory Study Hours, Tutorials, or Grade Reports: A requirement to focus on academic performance and progress toward graduation.
    6. Removal from the organization. The loss of privilege to function and perform as a Yell Leader.



4. In the event a Yell Leader is under review for violating the standards and expectation as outlined throughout this document and his/her removal is a possible outcome, a special meeting will be called with all five Yell Leaders and the advisors. The Yell Leader shall be notified in writing within 3 business days of the meeting, and the charges/deficiencies which represent the basis for consideration for removal shall be outlined in the letter. The Yell Leader shall have the opportunity to submit written material on his/her behalf until one day prior to the meeting, and shall be provided the opportunity to speak on his/her behalf. The vote to remove a Yell Leader shall be made by the other four Yell Leaders. If there is a tie within the four voting Yell Leaders, the primary advisor will be the deciding vote. A decision of removal may be appealed to the Head Yell Leader and the advisor(s).

5. In the event a Yell Leaders fails to maintain a cumulative grade point ratio (GPR) of 2.50 and earn a minimum GPR of 2.25 each Fall & Spring semester they will be subject to an academic review conducted by the Department of Student Activities. It is likely that the student will be removed from the organization unless it is decided by the review board that unforeseen, extenuating circumstances significantly impacted the student's ability to perform. An appeals process will be made available, if necessary.

6. In the event a Yell Leader is removed from the organization or is unable to fulfill his/her duties for any reason, the decision to fill the vacancy or not shall be in the hands of the Head Yell Leader and the advisor(s). The timing of this decision will be a major factor in making this decision. If it is determined that it is in the best interest of the organization to seek a replacement, the Head Yell Leader and the advisors will develop the selection process.

#### **Article VIII - Appearance**

While representing Texas A&M University at official functions, Yell Leaders will wear either the white Yell Leader uniform, the Yell Leader overalls with a maroon shirt (Seniors) or a white shirt (Juniors), or the provided travel gear. Travel gear for the Yell Leaders consist of a maroon blazer, with khaki pants, and a button down shirt (tie is optional). Male Yell Leaders shall have a military style haircut with "whitewalls" and no facial hair. Female Yell Leaders with hair longer than their collar shall wear their hair in a single ponytail. Earrings will not be worn while in uniform or while attending any Yell Leader related function. Any variance or changes to the uniform or appearance of Yell Leaders must be approved in writing by all of the current Yell Leaders and the advisor(s). It shall be submitted as an amendment to the Constitution and By-Laws.

Yell Leaders are not allowed to drink alcohol while they are in uniform. Uniforms consist of Whites, Overalls, and Travel Gear. However, Travel Gear can be worn while consuming alcohol sparingly in accordance with the conduct expected of a Texas Aggie Yell Leader. Yell Leaders who are less than 21 years of age, are prohibited from consuming alcohol at any time. Reference the Guidelines Related to Travel and Conduct for further instruction.

#### **Article IX - Advisor**

The Yell Leader advisor(s) are appointed by and are responsible to the Director of Student Activities. The Yell Leader activities are considered to be University-wide and therefore are in the category of sponsored student organizations. The advisor(s) are responsible for facilitating the coordination and/or supervision of activities related to the Texas Aggie Yell Leaders and serving as chair of the Head Yell Leader Recommendation Committee.

#### **Article X - Financing**

All money belonging to the Texas Aggie Yell Leaders shall be deposited and disbursed through an account established for the Texas Aggie Yell Leaders at the Student Organization Finance Center and/or the Fiscal Office. All funds must be deposited within 24 hours after collection. The advisor(s) to the Yell Leaders must approve and sign each expenditure before payment.

#### **Article XI - Amendments**

This Constitution and By-Laws may only be amended by the unanimous vote of the current Yell Leaders, with the approval of the advisor(s) and the Director of Student Activities. Any such amendment shall be designated in writing and signed by all current Yell Leaders and the advisor(s).

This Constitution and By-Laws is reviewed annually and subject to the approval of the Department of Student Activities.