

Membership Handbook

2023-2024



Smithson Valley FFA Chapter
&
Smithson Valley Ag Booster Club

Table of Contents

2023-2024 FFA Chapter Officers and FFA Information

SVHS Ag Boosters Club General Information

SVHS Ag Booster Club/Ag Teachers Point of Contact

Scholarship Information

Letter Jacket Requirements

Important Dates

Register for email updates and find important information on our Chapter Website:

www.smithsonvalley.ffa.org

Check us out on Facebook: Smithson Valley FFA & SVFFA Ag Booster Club

Smithson Valley FFA Chapter 2023-2024 Officers

President	Camden Posey
Vice President	Kennedy Surratt
Secretary	Maryn Tschoepe
Treasurer	Maycee Moody
Reporter	Claire Schaeferkoeter
Sentinel	Alora Snowden
Student Advisor	Brooke Smith

The FFA Mission

The National FFA Organization is dedicated to making a positive difference in the lives of young people by developing their potential for premier leadership, personal growth and career success through agricultural education.

The FFA Motto

The FFA motto gives members twelve short words to live by as they experience the opportunities in the organization:

“Learning to Do, Doing to Learn, Earning to Live, Living to Serve”

Structure of FFA

The FFA operates on local, state and national levels. Student members belong to chapters organized at the local school level. Agricultural education instructors serve as chapter advisors. Chapters are organized under state associations headed by an advisor and executive secretary, often employees of the state department of education. States conduct programs and host annual conventions.

The National FFA Organization, governed by a Board of Directors and a Board of Student Officers, charters state associations; provided direction, programmatic materials and support; and hosts the National FFA Convention, which draws more than 45,000 attendees each October. The National FFA Alumni Association’s more than 40,000 members in 1,200 affiliates assist in the continued growth and development of active FFA programs.

Applied Learning

The agricultural education programs provides a well-rounded, practical approach to learning through three components: Classroom education in agricultural topics such as plant and animal sciences, horticulture, forestry, agrimarketing, etc; hands-on supervised agricultural career experience such as starting a business or working for an established company; and FFA, which provided leadership opportunities and tests students’ agricultural skills.

Programs and Activities

The FFA local, state and national programs and activities help members develop public speaking skills, conduct and participate in meetings, manage financial matters, strengthen problem-solving abilities and assume civic responsibility. Degrees earned at local, state and national levels recognize members' increasing accomplishments. Competitive events and awards programs in areas such as public speaking, commodity marketing and Agriscience recognize students' achievements, encourage them to excel beyond the classroom and develop career skills. Community service programs help students contribute to society.

Each degree of active membership requires commitment and a lot of hard work, but you don't have to be a gifted student or live on a large farm or ranch to reach your goals. The FFA degree system is organized so that all FFA members, no matter where you are from, have an equal chance of obtaining each degree of membership including the highest degree of membership within the FFA, the American FFA Degree. However, you must show progress in your Supervised Agricultural Experience (SAE) program to have a realistic chance of attaining this goal. If you are a freshman or sophomore in high school, now is the time to set your goal and create a roadmap on how you plan to achieve your goals within the FFA.

Junior FFA Membership

The Junior FFA is a statewide organization with the purpose of enhancing and encouraging the education of younger students who are interested in the future of the agriculture industry. The organization of the Junior FFA is entirely optional, with the need of such an organization to be determined by the local FFA chapter advisors.

1. To be eligible to participate in Junior FFA, the student must at least be in the 3rd grade and 8 years old.
2. Students initiate junior membership by participating in local functions designated by the advisors. Junior FFA members must meet the same requirements and follow the same rules as FFA members.
3. Junior FFA members are not eligible to participate in events in which Texas FFA Association has direct oversight including but not limited to leadership development events, career development events, state FFA rodeo, and Agriscience fair. Junior membership activities shall include exhibition of livestock and poultry projects.
4. All junior members have the same expectations as regular members. All members and parents must attend mandatory FFA Booster Club Meetings.

Greenhand FFA Degree

FFA members enrolled in their first year of high school credit agricultural science, who have satisfactory plans for a supervised agricultural experience (SAE) program and that have demonstrated their understanding of the history and purpose of the FFA may apply for their Greenhand Degree. This degree of active membership is awarded at the chapter level.

Chapter FFA Degree

Those FFA members that have received their Greenhand Degree may apply for the Chapter Degree. Members must be enrolled in an agricultural science class, have completed at least two semesters in agricultural science at or above the ninth-grade level, have in operation an approved SAE program, demonstrate leadership skills and be actively involved in the activities of the local FFA chapter. This degree of active membership is awarded at the chapter level.

State/Lone Star FFA Degree

This is the highest degree of membership the State FFA Association can award. FFA members that apply to receive the Lone Star Degree only after they have received the Chapter Degree. Those wishing to receive their Lone Star Degree must have been an active FFA member for at least two years, complete at least four semesters of agricultural science at or above the ninth-grade level, maintain a supervised agricultural experience (SAE) program, invest significant time and money in their SAE, demonstrate their leadership skills and show a commitment to the FFA through involvement at the chapter level and above. This degree of active membership is awarded at the state level during the Texas FFA Convention.

American FFA Degree

This degree of active membership is awarded by the National FFA Organization and is the highest level of active membership which can be achieved within the FFA. This final step in the FFA Degree system encourages members to grow and achieve personally toward establishing yourself in an agricultural career. Members may apply for their American Degree only if they have received the State FFA Degree, have graduated from high school at least twelve months prior to the national convention and meet the very high standards of the degree.

These requirements include an excellent record of involvement within the FFA, operation and maintenance of records to substantiate an outstanding supervised agricultural experience program through which a member has exhibited comprehensive planning, managerial and financial expertise, have earned and productively invested a specific amount of both time and money.

The American FFA Degree is a sign of great accomplishment for FFA members. Only a small percentage of FFA members even earn the degree (the greatest percentage of members ever to receive the degree in one year was less than one half of one percent).

(**For specific requirements necessary to attain each degree of active membership, please read Article VI of the Texas FFA Constitution.)

Smithson Valley Ag Boosters Club General Information

Purpose

The FFA Booster Club is an adult service organization dedicated to the promotion, encouragement and support of the agricultural science programs for students. The organization supports related matters not covered by the existing CISD budgets or directives. Only members in good standing may participate in business meetings or serve as elected officials.

Membership

Membership categories for FFA members are Junior members (3rd grade through 8th grade) and Senior members (SVHS students). Membership requires documentation of the child's name, address, date of birth, age, phone #, grade and social security number. Membership fees are \$25.00 for Junior & Senior members and are payable to SV Ag Boosters. Family membership (parents/guardians) is \$10.00 or \$5.00 for individual parents, payable to SV Ag Booster Club. Membership drives are held in September for the fiscal year of June 1 through May 31.

Meetings

Booster Club members will meet monthly, tentatively in February & March, during the school year at a designated location. Meetings are conducted to inform members of upcoming shows, validations and chapter activities. The Booster Club Reporter will be sending out notices about this. Please make sure to join the Smithson Valley FFA mailing list.

Smithson Valley FFA Chapter Show

The SV Ag Booster Club hosts Chapter Show for members of the Smithson Valley FFA and their immediate family members. The exhibitors show cattle, swine, goats and sheep. Awards are also given for Pee Wee, Junior, Senior and Old Timer's Showmanship for all species of the show. *Parents are encouraged to participate in organizing and running the event as well as assisting in the concession stand during the show.* Club members and many businesses donate generously to supply very sought-after awards for the Chapter Show. Participants must be active FFA members registered by October 1st of the current school year. If a student is entered in the Chapter Show then they must exhibit this species at the county show or one of the majors under FFA. The SVFFA Chapter Show will follow all rules and regulations of the Comal County Junior Livestock Show.

Livestock Projects

The raising of livestock as a project is an integral part of the learning experience provided to students through the agriculture science program at Smithson Valley High School. The project is a cooperative effort of the student, parent and teacher. The project they choose is designed as a training instrument to allow students the opportunity to apply information acquired in the classroom.

The following guidelines will help clarify these responsibilities and requirements for the student as well as the parent.

A couple of notes before a student undertake a livestock project:

1. Not all animals are suitable quality for exhibition purposes. Most animals are of commercial quality and therefore not suitable for exhibition in the show ring. Only those animals of superior confirmation should be selected. The agriculture instructor should assist in the selection of all projects.
2. A good percentage of the animals exhibited in the show ring will actually place and realize a profit. This is intended to be a money making proposition; however, not all exhibitors will place and sell for a premium. The ultimate purpose of the livestock project is to have the student learn and understand those approved practices which will allow an animal to reach its full genetic potential. Learning the true meaning of responsibility may be a secondary outcome of the project.

Selecting a Livestock Project

Teacher's Role: The agriculture teacher's role is advisory only. If you choose to have the Ag teacher buy your project he/she acts as an agent only. The selection and purchase of the project is a cooperative effort. The teacher will not dictate what to buy, how much to spend or from whom the purchase is to be made. The selection should however be coordinated with the teacher before the animal is purchased. The teacher wants to make sure you are purchasing the best animal for the price you are about to pay.

Expenses Incurred

The student and parent are responsible for the initial cost of the animal. Prices for all species vary widely. It is recommended that a parent be present when the actual selection and purchase is made. Any other expenses for the purchase of the animals must be paid by the parent. The parents will also be responsible for any expenses incurred by their child while feeding and caring for the animal during the school year.

Estimated Animal Expenses

Animal	Avg. Time Required	Initial Cost	Feed Cost	Misc. Expenses (Vet, entries, validation, supplies)	Total Estimated Cost	Possible Income (based on previous CCJLSA Points for blue ribbons)
Steer	10-12 months	\$2000 <i>MINIMUM</i>	\$2000-\$2500	\$300	\$4500-up	\$4,660
Swine	5-6 months	\$600 up	\$1,000-1,200	\$100	\$1,900-2,000	\$2,200
Lambs	6-10 months	\$750 up	\$1,000-1,200	\$100	\$2,050	\$3,000
Goats	6-10 months	\$500 up	\$1,000-1,200	\$100	\$1,800	\$2,300
Broilers	2 months	\$135	\$300	\$100	\$535	\$1500
Rabbits	4 months	Buck = \$40 Doe = \$30 Min. 1 Buck/2 Does	\$30-50	\$75	\$250	\$1,100
Turkeys	5-7 months	\$75	\$150-200 Depends on # feed	\$125	\$400 Depends on # feed	\$1,800

Ownership

No animal may be owned by one person and fed by another. Each student must feed and care for his/her own respective animal. Animals may be validated and registered for stock shows under more than one child's name in the same family so that a sibling may show the animal in case of an injury or illness. The teacher should be notified of any special arrangements where students are taking turns in feeding and caring for their animals. Normally this type of arrangement will be discouraged.

Recommendations for Feeding and Care of Animals

The feeding and care of the animals is a very important aspect of the livestock project. Many believe it is responsible for at least fifty percent of the success or failure of the project. Below is a list of practices which, if done consistently, will lead to success in the show ring.

Halter Breaking (Cattle, Lambs, & Goats)

One of the most important considerations which arise early in the feeding period is teaching the animal how to lead with a halter. The animal must be worked daily. This is no easy task and sometimes can be very time consuming. Consistency is the key. Normally this can be accomplished in the first several weeks.

Approved Livestock Surgical Practices

Many times, it will be necessary to perform surgical procedures on livestock. These procedures can consist of docking of tails, castration, dehorning, etc. These procedures should be done by a veterinarian. Regardless of who does the procedure, the parent must realize there is always the possibility for complications. The owner must accept all risks of illness or death of the animal.

Weighing on a Regular Basis

Knowing the animal's weight and weighing on a regular basis is very important. Weight gain or loss is the best indication of how well the animal is progressing. Animals should be weighed on a weekly basis. It is particularly important near show time, as weight limits and classes are critical to placing the animal. It is also very important to know the minimum and maximum weight limits for the category in which your animal will show. Weight limits may be found in the specific show catalogs or show rule summaries. Your advisor or someone on the contact list can give you valuable information on how to adjust your animal's weight near show time.

Exercise

Proper exercise will allow the animal to develop muscle tone and reduce the bulkiness of the underline (belly). This is time consuming but very important, especially near show time. Animals must be walked or run at least once daily. Normally, this should start around the first of October for sheep and cattle. Hogs may be exercised only in the last month of the feeding period. Exercising the animal is probably the area neglected most by young people first learning to care for show animals.

Equipment Use

Arrangements must be made with the Ag teachers for the use of any equipment belonging to the FFA. Clippers, blowers, etc. may not be removed from the Ag building and must be cleaned and turned in to the supervisor at the end of each day. Use of the livestock trailers will be limited to the agriculture teachers and supervisors. Any FFA equipment lost, stolen, damaged or destroyed while in the possession of a student will be replaced at the expense of the student and parent.

Grooming Livestock for Shows

Along with feeding your animal, time must also be devoted to grooming. Washing, combing and clipping are daily activities for cattle, sheep and goats. The animals must be trained to stand correctly and calmly. This is critical because in some cases the judge may want to handle the animal. Proper grooming is required for the Smithson Valley Chapter Show as well as Comal County Youth Shows and all major shows. The Ag advisors are available to help and educate students with their project. They will also have handouts available on each species which will detail more about the care for your animal.

Livestock Insurance

Special livestock insurance is available for those who are interested. Cost and other information may be obtained from the Ag teachers.

Validation

Validation is the identification & registration ID of an animal that is to be shown in Texas. In order to show at any county or major shows, your animal must be validated and registered with the county extension office. Validation tags may need to be ordered in the summer months. Contact the Ag science teachers for information on validation tags and dates. Students and parents or legal guardians must be present with their animals at validation for signature purposes. There is a charge for the tags and the tattoo ink. The charge is established by the county livestock validation committee and is subject to change each year. The cost will be per entry. In addition to Smithson Valley High School, Canyon High School and the Comal County Fairgrounds also host validation & registration sites. Requirements and validation dates for each animal will be announced by the Ag teachers. If an animal missed the validation deadline it will not be able to be shown under any circumstances! Validation dates vary and are different for each species: steer validation in June, goats and lambs in October, swine in November, Poultry is banded before purchase. Rabbits have ear tattoos.

♦ Validation costs are not entry fees to Stock Shows! ♦

Registration for Stock Shows

In order to attend any major show: Houston, Ft. Worth, San Antonio, Star of Texas, Comal County Junior Livestock Show and the Smithson Valley FFA Chapter Show, you must fill out entry cards. **It is ultimately the parent's and exhibitor's responsibility to complete all forms and pay all necessary fees for each show they wish to attend.** The teachers and Booster Club officers will organize a designated night in October or early November to distribute the necessary forms and collect the appropriate fees. Booster club members and Ag teachers will be on hand to answer questions and help fill out these forms. The student and parent or legal guardian must attend the registration meeting. Necessary items for the registration are student's social security number, CISD student ID number, Quality Counts number, entry fees (check book please), and signatures of parents/guardians and students.

Participation in any SV FFA, county or major show requires passing grades in all academic classes during his or her last regular grading period at the time of the show. NO EXCEPTIONS!!!!!!

Stock Show Websites

Each stock show has its own information and guidelines printed or available on the Internet. While we make every effort to inform our members of the requirements of stock shows, it is ultimately the exhibitor's and parents' responsibility to inform themselves of/adhere to all requirements and updates. *All major breeding stock shows require a health certificate which can be purchased from a veterinarian.

Comal County Junior Livestock Show
State Fair of Texas
Fort Worth
San Antonio
Houston
San Angelo
Austin

www.ccjlsa.org
www.bigtex.com
www.fwssr.com
www.sarodeo.com
www.hlsr.com
www.sanangelorodeo.com
www.rodeoaustin.com

You are responsible for reading ALL show rules!!

2023-2024 Smithson Valley Booster Club Officers**Executive Board:**

President Neil Dorsey - 210-393-1883

1st Vice President Dave Zedaker - 724-524-0625

2nd Vice President Kim Engquist - (210)275-3204

Secretary Koryn Gonzales - (210)363-7240

Treasurer Shelly Giesecke - (210)683-8841

Reporter Elizabeth Schaeferkoeter - (210)685-9905

Parliamentarian Jennifer Todd - (210)818-6530

Directors:

Jaime Biesenbach - (210)336-9753

Christine Blankenship - (210)414-4480

Shanna Dreibrodt - (830)832-8229

Crystal Laubach ***Shooting Sports*** - (210)723-6219

Mary Liggitt - (903)235-9637

Nicole White - (210)422-4546

Ag Department: 830-885-1003

Teacher	Voicemail Extension	Cell Number	Email Address
Josh DeWaters	ext. 4023	210-215-4155	joshua.dewaters@comalisd.org
Erin Hess	ext. 4020	512-618-2433	erin.hess@comalisd.org
Shannon Houy	ext. 1136	830-456-3893	shannon.houy@comalisd.org
Eric Koennecke	ext. 4021	830-342-7715	eric.koennecke@comalisd.org
Emily Reiley	ext. 4030	830-556-0583	emily.reiley@comalisd.org

Smithson Valley Ag Boosters Club Committee Examples:

CCJLSA Sale	Assist Committee Chairperson in contacting previous buyers and new buyers for the Comal County Jr Livestock Show & Sale: and/or assist in hospitality, buyer registration or auction spotter.
CCJLSA Fundraiser	Assist in preparation for the Kickoff Fundraiser held before the Comal County Youth Show.
Chapter Show	Assist in preparations and execution of all facets of the Smithson Valley FFA Chapter Show held before the major shows.
Concession Stand	Work scheduled times during Chapter Show and the Comal County Junior Livestock Show
Scholarship Fundraiser	Assist chairperson in promoting and executing the Smithson Valley Ag Boosters scholarship fundraiser held in the spring.
Animal Species	Assist the chairperson in presenting educational activities that pertain to each species to help increase the exhibitor's knowledge in fitting and showing. Assist in organizing, designing and executing any measures necessary to win the herdsman award at the CCJLS and at major stock shows as needed.
Membership	Assist chairperson in organizing, publicizing and executing the membership drive. Organize and input data into membership database, assist in creating an FFA directory and Handbook.
Publicity	Assist chairperson in photographing and collecting information of the various FFA and Booster Club activities for publication in newsletter and local newspapers; assist Reporter in meeting notice and newsletters.
Ag Mechanics	Assist mechanics team in organizing, preparing and delivering projects for display and/or competition as needed; publicize activities and achievements.
Leadership/Judging Team	Assist Ag teachers in organizing students and travel arrangements for various meetings and competitions throughout the state; record and provide publicity of activities and achievements.
Junior FFA	Assist Ag teachers and FFA Officers in organizing and overseeing age appropriate instructional activities during monthly meetings; and distributing information to all Junior FFA members.

Agriculture Science Scholarship Opportunities

Smithson Valley Ag Booster Club Scholarship

Financial assistance for post high school technical or collegiate education is available through fundraising efforts by the Smithson Valley Ag Booster Club. Numbers of Scholarships vary depending upon the success of the Booster Club Scholarship Fundraiser. In 2023, four \$1,000 scholarships were awarded. Students must be active FFA members and are required to be enrolled in Agriscience classes at least 3 years of high school. See the Ag teachers for specific requirements. Applications are due in February.

Comal County Junior Livestock Show Association Scholarship

This organization raises scholarship money through concession stand sales at the Comal County Jr Livestock Show. Recipients must be graduating seniors actively involved in 4-H, or FFA at Smithson Valley, Canyon, Canyon Lake, Davenport, or New Braunfels High School. See the Ag teachers for details.

National and Texas State FFA Scholarships

Over \$2 million in scholarships is available for **YOU** through the National FFA Collegiate Scholarship Program! All you have to do is have the right combination. Sure, grades are important, but the FFA combination takes into account the whole you! Your community service, your FFA involvement, your leadership skills, your SAE. Talk with your FFA advisor and download the application. Applications are available in November and due in February.

Texas A&M Floyd Collins Memorial Scholarship

This scholarship was established by the family and friends of Mr. Floyd Collins, a beloved Agricultural Science teacher at Smithson Valley from 1995-1998. The Smithson Valley Ag Booster Club raised additional funds to enable the scholarship to become a \$50,000 endowed scholarship.

Scholarship recipients must be Smithson Valley High School graduates, an active FFA member and have taken at least four semesters of agricultural science courses at Smithson Valley High School. This scholarship applies only to students enrolling in Texas A&M, College Station. See the Ag science teachers for more information

S.A.L.E and Houston Livestock Show Scholarships

The San Antonio and Houston Stock Show and Rodeos are 501c-3 non-profit organizations supporting Texas youth and education. To date, the San Antonio Stock Show educational commitment exceeds \$58 million. Students applying for a S.A.L.E scholarship must comply with several basic requirements to be eligible including: students must be a Texas resident; students must graduate from a Texas High School; students must attend an accredited Texas college or university; students must major in college in agriculture or an agriculture related field as determined by S.A.L.E. For additional information on S.A.L.E. scholarship opportunities, contact your local University, County Agent, FFA Chapter or Ag Science teacher for details and applications. Submitted in April and awarded in June.

Sam Womble Memorial Scholarship – This scholarship was established by the family of Mr. Sam Womble, a beloved Agricultural Science teacher at Smithson Valley from 1993 until 2003. Scholarship recipients must be Smithson Valley High School Graduates, an active FFA member and have taken at least four semesters of agricultural science courses at Smithson Valley High School. See the Ag teachers for more information.

For additional scholarship availabilities, please check with your Ag teachers and counselors

SVFFA Ag Booster Club Scholarship Application

The SVHS FFA Booster Club will award scholarships based on a points system to SVHS graduating Seniors. This scholarship is in recognition of their service, leadership, and academics and is for the purpose of the recipient to continue their education at a university, college or technical school. The scholarship amount and number of awarded scholarships will be based on allocated funds for each school year. All qualified applicants awarded this scholarship will be based on a scoring system and ranked from a scholarship committee. The funds award will be sent directly to the recipients continuing education establishment once a thank you letter has been received and verification of educational establishment.

- Applicants must score at least 70 points to be considered for a scholarship. Scores from the committee members are averaged out to get the final score.
- SVHS FFA Scholarship Committee has permission to pull up students' GPA / transcript and FFA participation, if needed, for verification.
- Scholarships will be awarded to as many students that qualify as funding permits.
- Thank you letters and verification of registration at a university, college, or trade school is required to receive awards and funds released to establish continuing education.
- Any false information will automatically remove students from the pool of scholarship applicants. Incomplete applications will not be considered for scholarship.

Only submit this application, your official transcript, and essay, All other attachments will not be included for consideration by the scholarship committee. No late applications will be accepted.

<u>Max Points</u>	<u>Requirements</u>
<u>5 points</u>	<p><u>ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS:</u> 1 Point: Must be graduating SVHS Senior with plans to attend a College or Technical / Trade School.</p> <p><u>ACADEMIC STANDING</u> - 4 points: = 1st Quartile, 3 Points = 2nd Quartile, 1 point = below 2nd Quartile. GPA must meet UIL criteria for extra curricular activities.</p>
<u>20 Points</u>	<u>PARENTAL MEMBERSHIP IN SVHS FFA BOOSTER CLUB:</u> 5 points per year.
<u>4 Points</u>	<u>STUDENT MEMBERSHIP IN SVHS FFA:</u> 2 years minimum and must be a member Junior & Senior year. 1 point per year.
<u>20 Points</u>	<u>FFA ACTIVITY:</u> Must have participated in Agricultural Science classes for 3 years, with 2 being at SVHS and must have Participated in an FFA project (animal project, LDE / CDE Team, AG Mech, Camps, Conferences, Degrees awarded) for at least 3 years with 2 being at SVHS FFA. 5 points per year.
<u>20 Points</u>	<u>FFA VOLUNTEER HOURS:</u> 5 points per year with a minimum of 5 volunteer hours per year.
<u>20 points</u>	<p><u>ESSAY:</u> “Tell how your participation, experiences, and/or membership with SVHS FFA has impacted your life.”</p> <p>Content: 10 points</p> <p>Presentation: 5 points</p> <p>Clarity, concise details, complete thoughts, grammar, spelling: 5 points</p> <p>Score 0 points if instructions are not followed, or if the essay does not</p>

	respond to the essay statement.
<u>7 Points</u>	<u>FFA LEADERSHIP ACTIVITY: 1 point per semester (not eligible to receive point 1st semester of Freshman year)</u>
<u>4 Points</u>	<u>INVOLVEMENT IN OTHER CLUBS OR ORGANIZATION DURING HIGH SCHOOL: 1 point per year.</u>

Scoring: A committee consisting of 5-7 members of the SVFFA Booster Club will determine recipients. All applications must be complete and received by the application deadline to be considered eligible. Winning applicants determined by the committee will be considered final.

Scholarship Selection Guidelines/Considerations:

(Also used for the State (Lone Star) and FFA Degrees)

1. **Leadership Development Events (LDE):** Participation in chapter conducting, skill demonstration, creed speaking, FFA quiz, public relations, agricultural issues forum or radio broadcast above the chapter level at an FFA sanctioned district, area, state or national event or at an invitational event. Participation in an FFA prepared public speaking, junior prepared public speaking, extemporaneous public speaking, or soil stewardship speaking at a FFA sanctioned district, area, state or national event or an invitational event sponsored by a FFA partner.
2. **Career Development Events (CDE):** Participation in any of the events classed as career development events by the Texas FFA Association including: agricultural communications, agricultural mechanics, agricultural sales, Agriscience fair, agronomy, farm business management, floriculture, food science and technology, forage evaluation, forestry, horse evaluation, land evaluation, livestock evaluation, marketing plan, meats evaluation, nursery and landscape, poultry, range and pasture, range plant identification, tractor technician, wildlife and recreation management and wool. These events may be FFA sanctioned events or invitational events hosted by FFA partners.
3. **Project Shows:** Exhibition of SAE or course-related projects in an organized show above the chapter level. This may include the exhibiting of market or breed livestock or projects built or produced by the student in an agricultural class or in a placement SAE supervised by the agricultural science teacher.
4. **Conventions and Meetings (FFA), Student Awards, Leadership and Service:** Participation in official FFA district, area, state or national conventions, meetings or banquets as an attendee or voting delegate. Application above the district level for star awards, proficiency awards, John Justin "Standard of the West" Award or work based learning/agricultural industry awards. Student activities that are expressly designed for leadership development: leadership camps, conferences and workshops, Greenhand camps and activities that are service-driven in nature such as district, area or state service projects or holding an

FFA officer position. Courtesy corps, talent, national band and chorus, and state chorus participation shall be classed in the activity area. Bonus points for an FFA degree.

The Ag teachers can help with any questions concerning application guidelines

SVFFA Letter Jacket Requirements

Students should submit a list of completed activities to their Ag-Science Teacher for approval

The following items are MANDATORY, no points will be awarded:

- Paid SV FFA member in Good Standing with Chapter
- 2 years of senior (high school) membership with completed record books
- Must hold the Chapter FFA Degree
- Must be an active participant in chapter fundraisers

Points system

The student must earn a total of **30 points**. The following are the activities and items the student can complete to earn points, all activities will be approved by the Ag-Science Teacher. Students will earn the full amount of points for each year completed. Students must keep track of their points, advisors will approve.

<u>Points</u>	<u>Activity</u>
5	Participate on an LDE team (Must compete at district)
5	Hold a chapter office
5	Hold a higher office than chapter (district, area, etc.)
5	Participate on a CDE (Must compete at area/state)
5	Raise an animal project. <i>5 point max per show season</i>
3	Attend State Convention
5	Attend National Convention
5	Member of SV Shooting Team
3	Fundraiser (per every 20 items sold)
3	Advisor Approved Activity
5	Placing Grand Champion, Reserve, or Breed Champion at Comal County JLS

Automatic Qualifying Events

** State Qualifier for any LDE or CDE at the Texas FFA Contests will automatically earn a letter jacket.

**Top 5 finish for shooting team at state contest will automatically qualify for letter jacket

**Top 10 individuals or top 3 teams placing at a Major Livestock show CDE contest, or a collegiate CDE contest will automatically qualify for letter jacket

**Top 3 finish as science fair participant at the State Convention will automatically qualify for letter jacket.

**Make the Premium Sale at a Texas Major Livestock Show.

