

Articles of Organization of _____ Club of Massachusetts

Article 1: These Articles of Organization hereby revokes any prior Articles of Organization or similar organizing document adopted by the organization.

Article 2: The name of the Organization shall be the _____ Club.
The organization shall hereinafter be referred to as club.

Article 3: The club is organized exclusively for educational, scientific and charitable purposes, specifically to provide the youth who comprise the membership with a nonformal 4-H Youth Development educational experience through the **University of Massachusetts Extension**.

Article 4: The membership shall be comprised of any young person in or below grade 12, who has indicated an interest in a 4-H Youth Development experience, has completed an enrollment packet, and who pays the 4-H program fee. The club will be organized and led by a 4-H volunteer who has been screened, approved and appointed by the **University of Massachusetts Extension**.

Article 5: No part of the net earnings of the club shall inure to the benefit of, or be distributable to its members, officers or other private persons, except that the club shall be authorized to make payments and distributions in furtherance of its purposes set forth in Article 3. No substantial part of the activities of the club shall be the carrying on of propaganda, or otherwise attempting to influence legislation, and the club shall not participate in, or intervene in (including the publishing or distribution of statements) any political campaign on behalf of or in opposition to any candidate for public office.

Article 6: Notwithstanding any other provision of these Articles of Organization, the club shall not carry on any other activities not permitted to be carried on by an organization exempt from Federal income tax under section 501c (3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or the corresponding section of any future federal tax code.

Article 7: The fiscal year of the club shall end on **June 30th**. An annual financial report for the club will be presented to the **University of Massachusetts Extension** Office for a financial review by July 30th. The financial report shall be accompanied by a required annual report of the club's activities for the year. A formal, financial review of each club will be conducted per 4-H policies and procedures every 4-5 years and at any time there is a change in the volunteer who has signature authority on the club's bank account or similar financial account.

Article 8: In the event of termination or revocation of a charter for, or dissolution of, this club, all of the principal, income, and assets shall be transferred and assigned, **subject to approval of the Massachusetts 4-H Director, to a 4-H club, Advisory Group or the Massachusetts 4-H Foundation** to be used to support future 4-H educational program efforts to include the formation of new 4-H clubs.



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Article 9: The club shall generate its federal tax exempt status under section 501 c (3) of the Internal Revenue Code through a Group Exemption Number (GEN) to be issued to the University of Massachusetts, and it shall undertake any action so required by the University and by Internal Revenue Service rules and procedures to ensure its inclusion in the GEN issued to the University. The club shall obtain an Employer Identification Number from the Internal Revenue Service irrespective of whether a bank account is maintained by the club. The club shall comply with requirements for, and file with the Internal Revenue Service, annual information returns on the Form 990 Series applicable to the club, and the club shall file all other returns required by applicable law including Federal, State and local law. No consolidated Form 990 for subordinate organizations (i.e. clubs) shall be prepared by the University of Massachusetts under the group exemption issued to it.

Article 10: It is the policy of University of Massachusetts Extension that all 4-H clubs and acknowledged 4-H groups shall have equal opportunity and access to programs and activities.

Article 11: No amendment to these Articles of Organization shall be effective without the written consent of the State 4-H Program Director at the University of Massachusetts or such person as may be delegated such authority by the said 4-H Program Director. The club may adopt or amend By-Laws or similar operational documents which may contain additional provisions as long as they do not contradict the provisions of this Constitution.

Date Adopted: _____

Signature: _____

Printed Name: _____

Title: _____



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