

**VERMONT STATE CHAPTER CONSTITUTION & BYLAWS  
FUTURE BUSINESS LEADERS OF AMERICA  
PHI BETA LAMBDA, INCORPORATED**

**\*\*Amendment proposed for approval by membership at the April 2007 Spring Leadership Conference.**

**ARTICLE I NAME**

The name of this organization shall be the Green Mountain State Chapter of the FUTURE BUSINESS LEADERS OF AMERICA – PHI BETA LAMBDA, INCORPORATED, hereinafter referred to as “the Chapter.”

**ARTICLE II PURPOSES AND OBJECTIVES**

Section 1

The purpose of the Chapter shall be to further the goals of FBLA within the State of Vermont. The Chapter shall provide as an integral part of the instructional program additional opportunities for secondary students, grades 7-12, in business and/or business-related fields to develop vocational and career supportive competencies and to promote civic and personal responsibilities.

Section 2

The specific goals of FBLA are to:

- a. Develop competent, aggressive business leadership
- b. Strengthen the confidence of young men and women in their work
- c. Create more interest and understanding of American business enterprise
- d. Encourage members in the development of individual projects which contribute to the improvement of the home, business and community
- e. Develop character, prepare for useful citizenship, and foster patriotism
- f. Encourage and practice efficient money management
- g. Encourage improvement in scholarship and promote school loyalty
- h. Assist students in the establishment of occupational goals
- i. Facilitate the transition from school to work

Section 3

The Chapter shall not have any purpose; engage in any activity, which would be inconsistent with the status of an educational and charitable organization, as defined in section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 or any successive Provision there to. Provided that none of the said purposed shall at any time be deemed or be other than the public purpose and objectives consistent with such educational and charitable status. Nor shall the Chapter adopt goals nor engage in any activity inconsistent with the goals and policies of FBLA-PBL, Inc.

**ARTICLE III MEMBERSHIP**

Section 1

The members of the state chapter shall be those members of FBLA-PBL, Inc. going to school within the State of Vermont.

Section 2

The membership in FBLA-PBL shall be of three kinds: (1) Active (2) Professional and (3) Honorary Life

### Section 3

Active members shall be students who are or have been enrolled in business and/or business-related fields or who accept the purpose of FBLA-PBL, Inc., subscribe to its creed, demonstrate willingness to continue good school-community relations, and possess qualities for employment. Active members shall pay dues as established by FBLA-PBL, Inc. and may participate in state events, serve as voting delegates to the State Leadership Conference, hold state offices in accordance with Article VI and represent their local chapter.

### Section 4

Professional members shall be persons associated with or participating in the professional development of FBLA-PBL, Inc., as approved by local chapter. Such members may include local and state chapter advisor, business teachers, business teacher educators, state supervisors of cooperative worktraining students, advisory council members, businesspersons, and other persons contributing to the growth and development of FBLA-PBL, Inc. Professional members shall pay dues as established by FBLA-PBL, Inc., but shall not participate in events, serve as voting delegates, or hold office.

### Section 5

Honorary Life members may be elected to the state or local chapter by a majority vote. They shall be persons who are assisting in the advancement of business and office education and/or who are rendering outstanding service to FBLA-PBL, Inc. Honorary Life members shall not vote or hold office or be required to pay dues.

## **ARTICLE IV DUES AND FINANCE**

### Section 1

The Chapter of the FBLA-PBL, Inc., subscribes to Section 2 and 3 of the Uniform State Chapter Constitution.

### Section 2

The Chapter may assess dues from the members in addition to dues assessed by FBLA-PBL, Inc. State dues are to be paid to the State Treasurer by October 20. Late dues will be accepted March 1. The only exception will be if you are a newly chartered chapter.

### Section 3

Only members in good standing, having paid both state and national dues, shall be permitted to compete in events at the State Leadership Conference.

### Section 4

Upon dissolution, all the assets of the Chapter shall be and remain the assets of FBLA-PBL, Inc.

### Section 5

The fiscal year of FBLA-PBL, Inc. shall be July 1 to June 30.

## **ARTICLE V OFFICERS AND ELECTIONS**

### Section 1

State offices: State elected officers of FBLA-PBL, Inc. shall be President, Northern Vice-President, Southern Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, Reporter, Historian, and Parliamentarian.

## Section 2

### Qualifications:

- a. Only those active members acknowledged by the state and national FBLA-PBL offices may be elected to state office.
- b. Only those active members having one full year or more remaining in his or her high school program may be elected to state office.
- c. Only those active members who are recommended by their local chapter advisor and endorsed by their local chapter may be elected to state office.
- d. Only those active members who have appropriately applied for candidacy and signed the official pledge and contract may be elected to state office.
- e. Only those active members who follow the Green Mountain State Chapter Officer's Guidelines may be elected to state office.
- f. A maximum of three candidates from the same chapter can run for a state officer position.
- g. Informing all delegates of their duties and responsibilities. During the opening general session, all delegates should be advised to evaluate each candidate thoroughly and to voice their opinions to the appropriate delegates.
- h. Informing voting delegates of their duties and responsibilities. The voting delegates must attend a workshop that is designed to make them aware of the impact of their decisions and how they must go about making those decisions. Oral instructions will be administered, in addition to a responsibilities worksheet.

## Section 3

Elections: Elections of all eight (8) state officers will be held at the State Leadership Conference by a roll call vote of the two local chapter delegates. A simple plurality shall be required for election. The Regional Vice-Presidents will be elected at regional meetings at the State Leadership Conference. If for some reason the election of officers is tied at the third ballot, the person receiving the lowest vote on the third ballot will be dropped from the election. The preceding procedure will be followed if there are more than three candidates.

## Section 4

In the event an office is vacant after the State Leadership Conference elections, any qualified candidate may send his or her state officer candidate application to the state advisor. All Chapters will be notified of the Executive Committee meeting and may send one voting delegate. Within 45 days of the State Leadership Conference, the Green Mt. Executive Committee and chapter delegates will meet, interview the candidates, and choose an officer for the vacant office.

## Section 5

Term of office: Newly elected officers shall be elected for one year. They shall be elected at the State Leadership Conference with their term of office to begin at the end of the National Leadership Conference and end at the subsequent National Leadership Conference or until their successor has been elected.

**\*\*While serving his/her term of office an officer transfers to a different school/chapter, in order to remain in his/her office the new school must have a state recognized FBLA chapter in good standing. Within 30 days of the officer's transfer, a determination will be made regarding the officer's eligibility to remain in office. If the office becomes vacant, the State Executive Committee will determine the need for filling the vacancy and state membership will be notified.**

Section 6

Vacancy in office: While at the State Leadership Conference, in the event the office of president is not filled, the two vice presidents will run against each other at that time. Candidates will give speeches, members will caucus, voting delegates from each chapter will ask one question of each candidate, and delegates will vote. If the office of President becomes vacant, the Regional Vice-President of the area of the President shall become President. All other vacancies shall be filled by the President (with the approval of the State Executive Committee) at any State Chapter meeting.

**ARTICLE VI DUTIES OF OFFICERS**

Section 1

The President shall preside over all meetings of the Chapter, appoint all committees and serve as an ex-officio member of these committees, and promote the growth and development of FBLA-PBL, Inc.

Section 2

The Vice-Presidents shall preside in the absence of the President, and assist the President in other ways as appropriate. The Regional Vice-Presidents shall preside over all regional meetings. The regions for the upcoming fiscal year in FBLA shall be announced 30 days prior to the State Leadership Conference.

Section 3

The Secretary shall keep an accurate record of the chapter and executive committee meetings, and submit the required reports to the State Chapter and National Office.

Section 4

The Treasurer shall act as custodian of the funds (with the State Advisor and State Chairman) of the organization, collect dues, and give financial reports, and publish the local membership lists.

Section 5

The Reporter shall act as public relations officer for the Chapter, see that news stories and photographs are delivered to the school paper, the local newspapers, and the state news bulletin and the national Tomorrow's Business Leader, and cooperate with the school officials concerning assembly, radio, and television programs.

Section 6

The Historian shall maintain records of the Chapter, including an annual report of its activities, awards, and publicity.

Section 7

The Parliamentarian shall serve in any capacity as directed by the President and advise the President or presiding officer on points of parliamentary procedures.

**ARTICLE VII MEETINGS**

Section 1

State meetings will be held three times per year during the Fall and Winter Leadership Conferences (if possible) and at the State Leadership Conference. The Regional Vice-Presidents will call regional meetings at various times throughout the year. Other meetings will be held as necessary.

Section 2

The FBLA Pledge will be recited by the members at each state meeting.

### Section 3

Each local chapter in good standing shall be entitled to send two voting delegates and one alternate from its active membership to the State Leadership Conference.

### Section 4

A quorum for all business meetings of the Chapter shall be a majority of the registered local chapters.

## **ARTICLE VIII EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

### Section 1

The elected State President of the Chapter, the State Advisor, the Assistant State Advisor(s), and the State Consultant for Business and Office Occupations (State Chairman) shall constitute the Executive Committee.

### Section 2

The Executive Committee shall have general supervision of the chapter between state meetings, leadership conferences, and perform other duties as directed by the delegates at state meetings. The Committee shall prepare a program of work for approval at the Annual State Leadership Conference.

### Section 3

The Executive Committee shall meet as necessary to plan for leadership conferences, state meetings and to perform other duties. Executive Committee meetings may be called by the State Chairman, State Advisor, Assistant State Advisor(s) or on request of local advisors, state officers, and local delegates.

### Section 4

The State Committee made up of the State Chairman, State Advisor and Assistant State Advisor(s) will over see the Executive Committee and make necessary guidelines for all conferences and state functions of FBLA.

## **ARTICLE IX COMMITTEES**

The President, in consultation with the State Chairman and State Advisor, shall appoint all committees as authorized by the Executive Committee. Duties of the committees shall be determined by the Executive Committee and the adopted parliamentary authority.

## **ARTICLE X EMBLEMS & INSIGNIA**

The Chapter emblems shall be the emblems of the national organization. Only members in good standing may use the official emblems and insignia.

## **ARTICLE XI PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY**

The rules contained in Robert's Rules of Order newly revised shall govern the Chapter in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with the rules of FBLA-PBL, Inc., these By-laws, or any special rules of order the Chapter may adopt.

## ARTICLE XII AMENDMENTS

Proposed amendments to this Constitution and Bylaws shall be submitted in writing 45 days before the State Leadership Conference. The amendment must be approved by the State Committee. The amendment then will be published (if approved) and sent to the local chapters at least 30 days before the State Leadership Conference.

A vote of an amendment to this Constitution will require a two-thirds vote of voting delegates present at the State Leadership Conference. The vote will be taken by voting delegates.

Votes on other functions not dealing with amendments will take a simple plurality and be done by voting delegates.

Amended April 1999

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**Proposed Amendment 2007**