CONSTITUTION

NEBRASKA
VOCATIONAL INDUSTRIAL CLUBS OF AMERICA

Revised April 24, 1995

Article I — NAME

Section 1.

The official name of this organization shall be "Nebraska Association of Vocational Industrial Clubs of America," and may be referred to as "Nebraska Association of VICA."

Article II — PURPOSES

The purposes of this organization are:

* To assist local chapter members in the growth and development of VICA

* To unite in a common bond without regard to race, creed, or national origin, full-time students enrolled in classes with vocational trade and industrial objectives

* To foster a deep respect for the DIGNITY OF WORK

* To develop leadership abilities through participation in educational, vocational, civic, recreational, and social activities

* To assist students in establishing realistic vocational goals

* To help students attain a purposeful life

* To create enthusiasm for learning

* To promote high standards in trade ethics, workmanship, scholarship and safety

* To develop the ability of students to plan together, organize and carry out worthy activities and projects through the use of the democratic process

* To foster a wholesome understanding of the functions of labor and management organizations, and a recognition of their mutual interdependence

* To develop patriotism through a knowledge of our nation's heritage and the practice of DEMOCRACY
Article III — ORGANIZATION

Section 1.

The Nebraska Association of VICA shall be affiliated with the National Vocational Industrial Clubs of America. The State Association shall operate in accordance with its Charter granted by the National Executive Council.

Section 2.

The administration of the State Association shall be vested in the State Director and the Executive Council comprised of State Officers, Chapter Advisors, and the State Advisor, who shall also act as the Corporate Member.

Section 3.

The Executive Council shall serve as the policy making body for the Nebraska Association of VICA. Specific duties of the Executive Council shall be defined in the policy guide.

Section 4.

The Executive Council shall be comprised of the following:

* State Director or designee who shall serve as the Council Chair with non-voting status
* Six elected Local Advisors
* The Nebraska Association of VICA State President
* Two industry representatives as selected by the Council
* The Nebraska VICA State Officer Advisor
* The Nebraska VICA Assistant State Officer Advisor
* Three ex-officio non-voting members:
  The State Leadership Conference Coordinator
  The Nebraska Skill Olympics Coordinator
  Site representative for future SLC/NSO events

Section 5.

The six elected Local Advisors shall be nominated by Local Advisors and elected by Local Advisors, two each year for three-year terms, in accordance with the nominating and voting procedures determined by the Executive Council.

Section 6.

Any vacancy occurring on the Executive Council other than by expiration of the term of the member shall be appointed by the Executive Council.
Article IV — MEMBERSHIP

Section 1.

Membership of the State Association shall consist of full-time preparatory students enrolled in Trade and Industrial Education of Nebraska.

Section 2.

State Association membership shall be open to all students regardless of race, color, or national origin.

Section 3.

State and National Membership shall be permitted only through the local Chapter, and all members of the State Association must be members of the National Organization.

Section 4.

Classes of Membership which will be recognized are:

**Active Membership** — Full-time preparatory students enrolled in secondary vocational courses offered in Trade, Technical, Health and Industrial Education meeting the requirements of the State Plan for Vocational Education.

**Direct Membership** — Full-time preparatory students enrolled in secondary vocational courses offered in Trade, Technical, Health and Industrial Education meeting the requirements of the State Plan for Vocational Education and residing in states without a State Association to serve them. This classification will only be recognized if application for membership is made as part of an organized local Vocational Industrial Club sponsored by the appropriate Board of Education and with the consent of the State Director. Direct members may not serve as National Voting Delegates or hold National Office.

**Associate Membership** — Cooperative employers and/or training station sponsors, advisory council members and lay persons, associated with and contributing to the improvement and development of the organization and Vocational, Trade and Industrial Education. They are not eligible to hold office or vote.

**Professional Membership** — Persons associated with or participating in the professional development of VICA as approved by the State Association. Such members shall include club advisors, teacher educators and supervisors. Professional members will pay dues as established by VICA, but members will be ineligible to serve as a State or National Voting Delegate, hold state office, or otherwise represent the State Association in State or National VICA.

**Honorary Life Membership** — Individuals who have made significant contributions to the development of VICA and Vocational, Trade, Industrial, Technical and Health Occupations Education whose membership has been approved by the Executive Council upon the recommendation of a local chapter. Such membership shall not require payment of National dues.

Section 5.

A membership year shall be from September 1st through August 31st inclusive.
Article V — VOTING

Section 1.

Members shall exercise their franchise at State and National meetings or conferences through duly elected representatives or delegates of the chartered chapters or State Associations.

Section 2.

All official delegates and alternates must be certified by the chapter advisor of each chapter to the State Director not later than two days prior to the State Leadership Conference.

Section 3.

Voting on State Officers and honorary positions shall be done by secret ballot.

Section 4.

The House of Delegates shall consist of two Voting Delegates from each active local chapter plus an additional Delegate for each ten members or major fraction thereof in clusters with more than ten members. Each delegate shall have one vote and must be present to vote. It shall be the duties and functions of the House of Delegates to:

a. Enact Bylaws, rules and regulations, necessary for carrying out the affairs and activities of the organization.

b. Elect State Officers of the organization.

c. Act upon items of business as requested by the Executive Council and the State Director.

Section 5.

No student delegates, contestants or participants at a State Leadership Conference shall be recognized or seated unless they are accompanied by one or more adult advisors from their respective chapter.

Article VI — MEETINGS

Section 1.

A meeting shall be held for the State membership at least once each year during the school year; this shall be the State Leadership Conference.

Section 2.

Special meetings may be called as deemed necessary by the State Director or by members of the Executive Council.

Section 3.

Parliamentary Procedure of all meetings will be governed by Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised.
Article VII - OFFICERS

Section 1.

The officers of the Nebraska Association of VICA shall consist of a President, Vice-President, Post Secondary Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Reporter, Parliamentarian, Historian and each shall exercise the usual duties of the office to which he/she has been elected.

Section 2.

State Officers shall be elected by the House of Delegates at each annual State Leadership Conference and shall serve from their date of election through the State Leadership Conference the following year.

Section 3.

Candidates for State Office shall have:

a. Active membership status
b. Endorsement of their school and local chapter
c. At least one full school year remaining in a secondary preparatory vocational program.

Candidates for Post Secondary Vice President shall meet the following criteria:

a. Have active membership status.
b. Enroll in a Post Secondary institution with official VICA Chapter.
c. Have the endorsement of their current VICA chapter.
d. If the candidate is a graduation secondary senior, they must have the endorsement of their current VICA chapter and must communicate their intentions to run for office in writing to the Post Secondary VICA chapter at the institution that they intend to enroll.

Section 4.

All candidates for a State Office must file their candidacy for office with the State Director not later than ten days prior to the date of the annual State Leadership Conference.

Section 5.

No chapter is eligible to provide the State President for two consecutive years.

Section 6.

a. In the event a State Officer cannot fulfill their duties of office, the Executive Council shall appoint a replacement to assume the duties of the office vacated.
Section 7.

a. Responsibilities for State Officers of the Nebraska Association of VICA include representing Nebraska VICA at the following events:
   * State Leadership & Skills Conference/Nebraska Skills USA Championships
   * Vocational Officers Workshop
   * Fall Leadership Conference

Officers are also encouraged to attend:
   * Region IV Leadership conference
   * National Skills USA Championships

b. In the event a state officer cannot fulfill their duties at the listed events/conferences the executive council will determine their eligibility to retain their office.

Article VIII — DIRECTOR

Section 1.

The State Director shall be the State Supervisor for secondary Trade and Industrial Education.

Article IX — FINANCES

Section 1.

The Local Chapter will be responsible for State and National VICA dues, according to the number of individual members claimed in each membership classification, times the amount established for that classification. State and National dues are to be forwarded directly to the National Office by the Local Chapter.

Section 2.

The State Director shall be responsible for the finances and will furnish an annual audit to the Executive Council.

Section 3.

Annual State dues shall be $4.00. National dues shall be established by the National Vocational Industrial Clubs of America.

Article X — EMBLEM AND COLORS

Section 1.

The emblem of the Nebraska Association of VICA shall be that of the National organization. The wearing and use of this emblem will be governed by the National organization.
Section 2.

The colors of the Nebraska Association of VICA shall be red, white, blue and gold.

Article XI — AMENDMENTS

Section 1.

The Constitution and Bylaws may be amended as follows:

a. A proposed amendment must be prepared in writing to the State Director 60 days prior to the State Leadership Conference.

b. The amendments shall be reviewed by the Executive Council.

c. Amendments must be submitted to each local chapter as soon as possible, but not less than 15 days before the annual meeting of the House of Delegates at the State Leadership Conference.

d. It must then be presented for vote at an official business meeting of the House of Delegates of the State meeting. Amendments to the Constitution shall be adopted upon two-thirds affirmation vote of the House of Delegates. Amendments to the Bylaws shall be adopted by a majority of the House of Delegates.