

# BEING AN FFA OFFICER



## Competency 2 - Team Player

**Demonstrates the ability to work in a team setting, values diversity of opinion, and works to be inclusive in the process, and is willing to put others above self.**

### Competency Builders and Indicators:

2.1 - Demonstrate the ability to work in a team pursuing a common goal

2.2 - Demonstrate the acceptance of differing viewpoints during group or individual interactions

2.3 - Demonstrate the ability to put team before self

When you serve as a national officer, you must remember that you are a member of the team. It is important to consider others' feelings, opinions and beliefs at all times.

### **In her own words...**

Amy Rasmussen, National FFA Central Region Vice President 2003-2004

When working on the national officer team, there comes a time when you need to step up and be a leader but follower should not have a negative connotation. With everyone in the team mindset, there really is not one designated leader for all the time. The main thing is to have respect for your teammates and trust in your teammates. You will follow through and help bring the idea to fruition. Once you know each other's strengths, (we made that the focus with little discussion of weaknesses) interactions become easier. Being really honest with each other is important.

As an officer, it's also very important to have a high sense of responsibility to take care of yourself: physically, emotionally and mentally. Understand that you are a member of the team. *We* before *me* is a theme that needs to be reinforced. Be encouraging and helpful to your teammates. There may be six strong personality types on one team. Help each other out and be there to share the successes and failures of the team together.

Being a team player is essential for your team's success. Regarding visits with leaders in business and industry, you are selling FFA not yourself. Work together with your teammates to share key message of the FFA.

As with any national or state officer team, everyone comes to the table with different opinions. We do things way differently in Nebraska than in Mississippi. With six strong personalities coming together, accepting each others' ideas are important. I remember being paired for NLCSO; the national officers are in three groups of two. We travel through out the summer to train the newly elected state officers. That was one of the times where I had to put aside my own philosophy and ideas on teaching to work with another officer in harmony and provide the most dynamic presentation for the state officers.



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