

Cambridge Climbing and Caving Club

Constitution

1. Name

- 1.1 The Club shall be known as the Cambridge Climbing and Caving Club, hereafter referred to as the Club.
- 1.2 There will be various Sections of the Club, hereafter referred to as a Section, subordinate to the Committee of the Club, each devoted to a particular activity.

2. Objectives

- 2.1 The aims of the Club are to provide an introduction to climbing, caving and other outdoor pursuits for those interested; a centre of interest and corporate activity for those already acquainted with these activities, and a means by which members may assist in furthering the interests approved by the Club.

3. Membership

- 3.1 The Club shall be open for membership to any person of 18 years of age and over.
- 3.2 Membership of the Club shall only be open to individuals who recognise that climbing, mountaineering, caving and other outdoor activities involve a danger of personal injury or death. Members shall be aware of and accept these risks and agree to be responsible for their own actions and involvement.
- 3.3 The Committee shall have the power to confer Honorary Membership on any individual for his or her service to the Club, subject to ratification by a General Meeting.
- 3.4 The Committee can recommend the expulsion from the Club of any member whose conduct they consider to be unacceptable, subject to ratification by the General Meeting following the Committee meeting at which this recommendation is agreed. Any member who is the subject of a meeting of the Committee to discuss disciplinary action shall be entitled to be present and/or represented at that Meeting.
- 3.5 Applicants for full membership should have their application considered by the Secretaries of the Sections they wish to join (in consultation with other members of the Section) who have the power to accept or reject that application.
- 3.6 Prospective new members may join the Club for a probation period, to allow them to attend club trips before committing to full membership (subject to rule 3.6), by paying a temporary subscription rate as set by the Committee.

- 3.7 Each member, unless an Honorary Member, shall pay the annual subscription. The membership year will run from 1 January to 31 December. Membership fees are due before 31 December. New members joining after 1 July shall pay half the annual subscription for the remainder of the year. No member may attend an outdoor meet if their subscription is still outstanding after 31 December unless specifically authorised by the Committee
- 3.8 All applications for membership must be submitted on the official Club membership form.

4. Committee

- 4.1 The Committee shall perform the duties of the Club save those required to be exercised by a General Meeting and save that a resolution of a General Meeting shall override a resolution of the Committee. The Committee shall deal with matters arising from General Meetings and prepare the business for subsequent General Meetings. In an emergency, in the event of the Committee being not readily available, the President shall exercise plenary powers, subject to report to a General Meeting.
- 4.2 The Committee shall consist of the following members: President, Secretary, Treasurer, Social Secretary and one member elected as Secretary by each Section of the Club. These members to be elected by a show of hands at the Annual General Meeting.
- 4.3 In the event of the resignation of any Committee member, a temporary Committee member may be co-opted by the Committee until an election can be held.
- 4.4 The quorum for a Committee shall be half of the Committee with the exception of the Chairman.
- 4.5 The Chairman of the Committee shall be the President or, in the absence of the President, a Chairman shall be elected by those present from members of the Committee.
- 4.6 The Committee has the power to co-opt further Committee members and vest powers in sub-committees where appropriate.
- 4.7 The agenda of a forthcoming Committee Meeting shall be available from the Secretary 14 days prior to the Committee Meeting. Copies of the minutes of a Committee meeting shall be available on request to any Member of the Club.
- 4.8 Committee Meetings shall be open to attendance by any Member of the Club, but these members shall have no voting rights and shall only participate in the meetings at the invitation of the Chairman.

5. Sections

- 5.1 A Section of the Club shall be represented upon the Committee by a Secretary elected by the members of that Section at the Annual General Meeting.
- 5.2 Each Section will have the power to appoint other officers, make regulations and appoint Instructors as they think fit, subject to the overall control of the Committee.

- 5.3 An Instructor is deemed to be a person considered by the Section as a fit person to supervise and assist with the training of members of that Section.

6. Elections

- 6.1 The term of office of the members of the Committee shall extend from the day after the Annual General Meeting to the next Annual General Meeting.
- 6.2 Each candidate shall be nominated and seconded by Full Members of the Club. Nominations for all posts shall be submitted to the Secretary at or before the Annual General Meeting,
- 6.3 Any Full Members who cannot attend the Annual General Meeting can appoint a proxy vote by written application to the Secretary.
- 6.4 Contested posts will be put to a vote by a show of hands of paid up members of the Club.

7. Privileges And Conditions Of Membership

- 7.1 Every member shall be entitled to:
- a. Attend the meetings of any Section, subject to the regulations of that Section.
 - b. Use of the equipment of the Club in accordance with the regulation of each Section of the Club.

8. General Meetings

- 8.1 A General Meeting shall be the supreme body of the Club and may override decisions of the Committee.
- 8.2 The Quorum for all types of General Meetings shall be one third of the Club Membership. In the event of a quorum not being present the meeting will be rescheduled within one month. At the rescheduled meeting a quorum will be those members present.
- 8.3 There shall be two types of General Meetings:
- a. The Annual General Meeting shall be concerned with all matters of Club affairs and shall be held no earlier than 11 months from the date of the last AGM, and no later than 13 months after the last AGM (unless an alternative date is agreed at an AGM). Members shall be notified of the meeting and business to be discussed at least 14 days beforehand.
 - b. An Extraordinary Meeting may at any time be called by the President or by resolution of the Committee. In addition an Extraordinary Meeting shall be called by the Secretary on receipt of a request in writing from one third of the Club Members, stating the business to be discussed; such a Meeting to be called within 21 days of receipt of the request.

9. Finance

- 9.1 The Annual membership subscription for the following year shall be fixed by the Annual General Meeting.
- 9.2 At the Annual General Meeting the Club may set different subscription levels for different Sections of the Club to reflect the differing costs of running those Sections. In this event, a special rate will be set for those members who wish to participate in more than one Section of the Club

- 9.3 The Committee shall, through the Treasurer, control all finances of the Club.
- 9.4 There shall be a "General" fund for administering the club. Each Section may also have a separate fund, for use solely by that Section, for such things as equipment usage.
- 9.5 The financial year of the Club shall be 1st January – 31st December.

10. Dissolution Of A Section

- 10.1 A Section can be dissolved or separated from the Club by a two-thirds majority vote of all paid-up members of the Section concerned and also a two-thirds majority vote of all paid-up members of the Club. Notice of a motion to dissolve or separate a Section must be given to all members at least 60 days in advance of an AGM or EGM called for that specific purpose.
- 10.2 In the event of a Section separating from the Club for exceptional reasons, all the assets and funds of that Section, plus a proportion of the general fund prorated according to the number of members in that Section may be transferred into a new Club formed by the members of that Section. In the event of a Section ceasing to exist entirely, the funds of that Section will be transferred to the 'General' fund from 1st January of the following financial year.

11. Dissolution Of The Club

- 11.1 The Club can be dissolved by a two thirds majority vote of all paid-up members. Any liabilities at the time of dissolution shall firstly be covered by any assets of the Club and then will become the joint responsibility of all Members.
- 11.2 The Committee will arrange to discharge any remaining assets of each Section equally amongst the members of that Section (or, at the discretion of the committee, donate them to charity).
- 11.3 Notice of a motion to dissolve the Club must be given to all members at least 60 days in advance of an AGM or EGM called for that specific purpose.

12. Constitutional Amendments

- 12.1. The Constitution may be amended by a majority vote of the members present at an AGM or EGM. Any intention to modify the Constitution of the Club must be notified to the members at least 7 days prior to the AGM or an EGM called for that purposes. All proposed amendments must be formally proposed and seconded by members of the Club.

As agreed at the Annual General Meeting held on 29 November 2006