



Norwich Climbing and Mountaineering Club

Constitution

The primary purpose of the club is to promote the enjoyment of climbing by its members and all members are invited to contribute to and take part in the activities of the club.

The name of the club shall be **Norwich Climbing and Mountaineering Club**.

1. Committee and Meetings

1.1 The club affairs shall be administered by an elected committee.

1.2 The committee will undertake to:

- Maintain a record and details of club members
- Collect subscriptions and maintain accounts of expenditure
- Secure club funds within a reputable banking institution
- Maintain the club equipment in good order and keep a record of its use
- Organise events for its members in accordance with the spirit of the club
- Communicate information of interest to the members
- Promote the club

1.3 The committee of the club shall comprise a minimum of:

Chairman

Secretary

Treasurer

and additional offices as deemed necessary, as and when determined by a vote of the existing committee.

1.4 The committee members shall be elected at an Annual General Meeting.

1.5 An Annual General Meeting shall be held each year, before the end of April, which all club members may attend.

1.6 Election of committee members shall take place in accordance with the following terms:

- Committee members must be proposed and seconded by two other club members.
- Club members may also nominate themselves, but they still need to be proposed and seconded by two other club members.
- Nominations or proposals must be made at least two weeks in advance of the AGM date. Seconds must be before the start of the AGM to the Club Secretary.

- Nominees shall have been members of the club for at least one year.
- Should there be more than one proposal for any post, there will be an election for that post at the AGM.
- Proposers shall speak briefly at the AGM in support of their nominee.
- The nominee receiving the majority vote of those members present at the AGM at the time a vote is requested by the Chairman shall be elected to the committee post for the coming year.
- Committee members can hold the same position for a maximum three consecutive years.
- After the maximum term is up, should no one be proposed for a vacant committee position, the committee member leaving the position can continue to serve on a temporary basis. A majority vote is required of those members present at the AMG to approve the committee member continuing in post.
- Any vacant committee position, including a position temporarily being held, can be filled after the AGM by a majority vote by the existing committee members. An election would be held for the position at the next AGM and would continue each year until a new committee member was elected.

- 1.7 Should a committee member stand down between AGM's, the committee may choose to either continue with a reduced number of members or call a Special General Meeting at their discretion.
- 1.8 A Special General Meeting may be called by 6 club members and shall be deemed quorate if more than 50% of the club membership are present. A Special General Meeting shall take place not earlier than one month after it is first publicised to the club membership.
- 1.9 Motions for debate at an Annual or Special General Meeting should be received in writing by the Chairman at least two weeks before the meeting.
- 1.10 This constitution may only be changed by a majority vote by the club membership, provided that 50% or more of the membership participate.

2. Finance, Subscriptions and Insurance

- 2.1 The club accounts will be reported at the AGM.
- 2.2 An annual budget for planned club income and expenditure shall be approved at the AGM.
- 2.3 Subscription fees shall be agreed at the AGM and will be due for payment on 1st October.
- 2.4 The club shall maintain affiliation with the British Mountaineering Council to allow members to enjoy the full benefits of club membership of the BMC to include third party liability insurance for club activities.

3. Provision of Club Equipment

- 3.1 Members use club equipment at their own risk.
- 3.2 The club will provide a limited amount of equipment for use by club members. The committee shall determine the nature and extent of the equipment held and will review its suitability and condition on an annual basis.
- 3.3 Club equipment will be made available to club members on a basis of occasional usage. Club members are expected to purchase their own equipment for long term, regular use.
- 3.4 A log will be kept of the use made of club gear for the purpose of reviewing potential wear and tear.

4. Members Entitlements and Responsibilities

- 4.1 Members are entitled to use the club gear.
- 4.2 Arrangements to book and collect any gear required need to be made with the tacklemaster and the equipment should be returned promptly after use.
- 4.3 Members using club gear shall do so responsibly and with consideration for the safety of others.
- 4.4 Any potential damage to equipment must be reported to the tacklemaster, along with any leader falls. If hardware, such as carabiners, cams or helmets (in particular) have received any significant impact or if fabric items and ropes have suffered cutting or significant abrasion, these incidents need also to be reported so that the equipment may be checked.
- 4.5 Members are encouraged to organise club events in addition to those suggested by the committee. Events should be coordinated through the committee.
- 4.6 Members will receive a periodic newsletter reflecting the activities of the club and its members and are encouraged to contribute items of interest for the newsletter.
- 4.8 The club website will be maintained for the information and interest of members and for the purpose of publicising the club and its activities. Members are also invited to contribute to the content of the website.
- 4.9 Members are entitled to propose motions for debate at an AGM and are entitled to vote on all motions debated at an AGM.

5. Membership Participation

- 5.1 Membership of the club is not open to any persons under the age of 18 years.
- 5.2 Acceptance of membership entails acceptance of the terms laid out in the constitution.
- 5.3 Membership of the Club shall only be open to individuals who recognise that climbing and mountaineering are activities with 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. (BMC Participation Statement)
- 5.4 The Club and its members cannot charge for training or sharing their experience. Where a member is a trained and a professionally qualified Guide/Instructor, they can arrange paid instruction for club members, but this will be carried out by the Guide/Instructor as part of their business and under their businesses insurance and legal responsibility.

6. Dissolution of the Club

- 6.1 The club can be dissolved by a two thirds majority vote following the debate of a specific motion tabled at an Annual or Special General Meeting. Upon dissolution of the club, the committee will arrange to discharge any assets equally amongst the members. Any liabilities at the time of dissolution shall be the joint responsibility of all members.