

CONSTITUTION OF THE PEAK CLIMBING CLUB

This constitution was approved at the Annual General Meeting on 25th October 2012
This Constitution supersedes all previous Constitutions.

1. NAME: The Club shall be called the "Peak Climbing Club" hereinafter referred to as "the Club".

2. OBJECTS: To stimulate interest in rock climbing, hill walking mountaineering, and kindred pursuits, to encourage the pursuits of climbing and walking, to serve as a bond of union for all interested in the above pursuits, and to pool knowledge, to protect the amenities of the district, and to guard and promote the interests of mountaineers.

3. PARTICIPATION STATEMENT: The Club recognises that climbing, hill walking and mountaineering are activities with a danger of personal injury or death and all participants in these activities should be aware of and accept these risks and be responsible for their own actions and involvement. All Club members must understand their own level of competence and must behave responsibly and appropriately in a hill, crag or mountain environment or any other indoor or outdoor environment, having due regard to the safety of themselves, other Club members and third parties.

4. AFFILIATION TO THE BRITISH MOUNTAINEERING COUNCIL: The Club shall be affiliated to the British Mountaineering Council. All Members shall be Club Members of the BMC and the Club shall pay the appropriate subscription of each Member included in the return filed by the Club with the BMC. In the event of the BMC being wound up, the Club shall pay the sum of not more than £1.00 on behalf of each Member included in a return filed by the Club with the BMC at any time within the preceding period of one year pursuant to the guarantee comprised in clause 6 of the Memorandum of Association of the BMC. The Members shall be bound by the Memorandum and Articles of Association of the BMC

The club will support the Mission Statement of the BMC and will conduct its affairs in order to maintain its status as an affiliated club. The Club will promote active participation in the BMC's activities and ensure that Club Members have access to any benefit which may accrue.

5. OFFICERS: The Officers of the Club shall be, the President, who is to be elected bi-annually, and Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer, Membership Secretary, and Meets Secretary, who are to be elected annually at the Annual General Meeting.

6. MANAGEMENT AND COMMITTEE: The management of the Club shall be vested in a Committee consisting of the Officers, together with three members elected annually at the Annual General Meeting.

A quorum of the committee shall consist of four members. Every question shall be decided by a majority of votes and in the case of equal voting the Chairman shall have a second or casting vote. The committee shall have power to fill any vacancy amongst their number until the next Annual General Meeting. The committee shall hold at least four meetings each year.

The Committee shall nominate a representative to attend BMC Area Meetings and represent the views of the Membership.

7. ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE: Nominations for the Officers and Committee together with written consent of the nominee must reach the Secretary duly proposed and seconded seven days before the Annual General Meeting. The Committee shall be empowered to add to the nominations should they consider the nominations received to be inadequate.

8. PROPERTY: The property of the Club shall be vested in the committee who may appoint trustees in whom shall be vested such part or parts of the property of the Club as the committee shall direct. Such appointments are to be minuted. The trustees shall be members of the Club and shall be indemnified against claim, question, act of God, and expense, out of the Club. The trustees shall hold permanent office unless removed from office by a resolution of a General Meeting.

9. ELECTION OF MEMBERS: The election of members of the Club shall be at the sole discretion of the committee. Applicants for membership must support the Objects of the Club and the Participation Statement and will have made themselves known to members of the club through attendance of at least three meets. The application for membership must be endorsed by a member of the club who has personal knowledge of the candidate. Applications must be sent to the Membership Secretary together with the correct subscription.

Club Membership is not open to persons who have not yet reached their 18th birthday unless written parental consent is obtained.

10. SUBSCRIPTIONS: Members of the club will pay an annual subscription; the amount of this subscription to be determined at the Annual General Meeting. This will be payable on 1st January of each year.

Any member whose current subscription is unpaid shall not enjoy the privileges of the club. The Committee shall have the power to determine the membership of any member who is up to three calendar months in arrears. The membership of any member whose subscription is six months in arrears shall automatically expire. The Committee in either case shall have the power to reinstate him/her on such terms as it decides.

11. RESIGNATION OF MEMBERS: Any member of the Club may resign his membership by giving notice in writing to the Secretary to that effect.

12. **EXPULSION OF MEMBERS:** If at any time the Committee considers that the interests of the Club require it they must invite a member to resign from the Club, by a letter specifying the reasons for their request and offering the member an opportunity to provide an explanation either in writing or in person and the date before which the reply should be received. If the member concerned requests a meeting to provide an explanation, the committee must arrange a meeting at a suitable time and place and within a reasonable period of time and must provide the member with not less than seven days written notice of it.

The Committee must consider the explanation provided by the member in good faith and have due regard to all available evidence and may confirm or vary their original decision. If the Committee confirms their original decision and the member concerned does not resign the Committee must submit the question of his expulsion to an Extraordinary General Meeting to be convened for the purpose, whether or not the member requests such a meeting. Not less than four weeks' notice of the meeting must be given to all the members.

The Honorary Secretary must inform the member in question of the time and place of the meeting and the nature of the complaints against him in sufficient time to afford him a proper opportunity of offering his explanation. At the meeting the member must be allowed to offer an explanation of his conduct verbally or in writing and if after that two-thirds of the members present vote for his expulsion he will immediately cease to be a member of the Club. The voting at any such Special General Meeting must be by ballot if not less than five members present at that meeting so demand.

The Committee may exclude from the Club until the Extraordinary General Meeting is held any member whose resignation has been requested.

13. **ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING:** An Annual General Meeting of the Club, of which one month's notice shall be given, shall be held in October of each year. The business at such a meeting shall be the election of the officers and elective members of the committee for the ensuing year and the passing of accounts for the previous financial year, and any other business given to the Secretary by any two members of the Club before the meeting. The Secretary shall deliver to each member of the Club before the A.G.M. a copy of the accounts made up to 31st December, and the Agenda for the ensuing meeting.

14. **EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING:** An extraordinary general meeting may be called by the Secretary on instructions from the Committee, or at the written request of at least ten members.

15. **PROCEDURE:** At all the General Meetings every question shall be decided by a majority of votes. Each member of the Club present shall have one vote, and in the case of equal voting the Chairman shall have a second or casting vote. Voting shall be by ballot if not less than five members present so demand.

16. HONORARY MEMBERS: Persons who have shown by their outstanding ability or by their exceptional interest that they can influence the Club in its objects may be elected as Honorary Members by nomination and vote at the A.G.M.. Honorary Members shall be exempt from paying subscriptions to the Club.

17. CHILD PROTECTION POLICY: The Club shall adopt and comply with the BMC Child Protection Policy.

18. RULES OF THE CLUB: The Committee shall have the power to set Club rules. Such rules shall be in accordance with the articles of the Club's Constitution and the policies of the BMC.

19. AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION OF THE CLUB: This Constitution shall only be amended by a two-thirds majority vote at a General Meeting. Any proposals for amendments to the constitution must be sent, in writing, duly proposed and seconded, to the Secretary at least two weeks prior to the General Meeting at which they are to be considered.

20. DISSOLUTION OF THE CLUB: The Club can be dissolved by a two-thirds majority vote at a General Meeting, whereupon the Committee will arrange to discharge any assets equally amongst the Members. Any liabilities at the time of the dissolution shall be the joint responsibility of all Members.

21. INTERPRETATION: In these rules the words importing males shall include females.