



THE CLIMBERS' CLUB – Membership Applicant's Pack

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About The Climbers' Club

Founded in 1898 from origins in Snowdonia, the Club has matured into one of the largest mountaineering clubs of Great Britain. It is a truly national Club with widespread membership and currently owns climbing huts in Scotland, Cornwall, Pembrokeshire, Derbyshire and Snowdonia. Club members may also use the huts of other clubs through reciprocal arrangements. Membership is open to any experienced, committed and competent climber/mountaineer and currently stands at about 1600; there is no upper limit on membership. Besides managing eight huts, the Climbers' Club produces a Journal, Newsletters, organises dinners and social events and a full program of climbing meets, both in the UK and abroad. The club produces a portfolio of over 20 climbing guidebooks covering the SE SW, Pembroke, Mid and North Wales. The Club is a founder member of and is affiliated to the British Mountaineering Council.

Joining the Climbers' Club

Membership of the club is not granted automatically; the membership application process requires some effort on behalf of the applicant but is neither difficult nor arduous. All successful applicants will have the support of a number of existing members who consider they meet the membership criteria. In all cases brief details of each application will appear in the next available club newsletter to give the wider membership the opportunity to comment prior to consideration by the committee. All the necessary documents and information can be obtained either from the club's website www.climbers-club.co.uk/ or by contacting the Membership Secretary at membership@climbers-club.co.uk. There are two ways of getting the support of existing members:

1. By attending an Aspirants Meet.

The club offers two Aspirant Members' Meets each year, details are on the club website. Any climber/mountaineer who feels they meet the membership criteria may come to one of these meets. At the meet they have the opportunity to climb with existing club members who can express their support by signing a completed application form provided that they consider the applicant meets the membership criteria. With the support of two members, an application for provisional membership (of up to 12 month's duration – no extension is possible) can be made; it is wise to submit this application as soon as possible after attending the meet.

During the Provisional membership period they can use the huts and get involved in the life of the club, ideally by attending at least three other meets, but other involvement such as climbing with members will be taken into account. This will allow them to get the support of a further four members prior to applying for transfer to full membership.

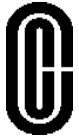
2. By personal knowledge of existing members.

Those applicants who meet the membership criteria and already have the support of 6 club members may apply directly for full membership.

Both pathways to membership are summarised in the table on page 2

Climbers' Club Application Process Summary

STEP	APPLICATION FOR FULL MEMBERSHIP	APPLICATION FOR PROVISIONAL MEMBERSHIP
1	Obtain a copy of the applicant's pack, preferably either by downloading it from www.climbers-club.co.uk or by writing to the membership secretary. Complete the membership form (preferably on your PC). Print a copy of your completed form.	Obtain a copy of the applicant's pack, preferably either by downloading it from www.climbers-club.co.uk or by writing to the membership secretary. Complete the membership form (preferably on your PC) on-line. Print a copy of your completed form
2	Ask members you know to support you and sign your form. Post the completed and signed application form plus your completed direct debit mandate to the address on the form.	Book onto and attend an aspirants' meet. Further details are on the club's website.
3	Your proposer and second complete and submit their pro-forma letters of support. This may be by e-mail or post.	Climb with members on the meet, provided they feel that you meet the criteria they may sign your <u>completed</u> form.
4	Committee review the application leading to full membership <u>if criteria met.</u>	Post the signed copy of your application form with the two members' signatures of support to the Membership Secretary (address on the form). You should also include your completed direct debit mandate
5		Your two supporters complete and submit their pro-forma letters of support. This can be by post or e-mail.
6		Committee review application leading to 12 months provisional membership <u>if criteria met.</u> At this stage you will be asked to pay 12 months membership by cheque.
7		Ideally attend 3 more meets and or climb with other members in the next 12 months and use huts as much as you want – get the support of a further 4 members – print out a second copy of <u>p1</u> of the application form for the extra four signatures. Please note that between the 6 signatories one must propose and another second you and they must each complete the necessary pro-forma. Post your fully signed copy of Application Form Page 1 to the address on the form
8		Committee review leading to transfer to full membership <u>if criteria met.</u>



Detailed Guidance for Applicants

Application forms are available on the club's website (www.climbers-club.co.uk/about-apply.html); if you are unable to access them then paper copies may be obtained from the membership Secretary. Applicants should complete both sides of their form, preferably on their PC. **A copy of the form should be printed out and submitted by post to the membership secretary (address is at the top of the form) once it has the necessary signatures.**

Page 1

1a) Subscription is set annually. Members over 65 years of age or under 25 years old may apply to pay a concessionary rate based on half the annual club subscription.

Current membership fees are:

Period	Full Sub	Concessionary Sub
July 2011 – June 2012	£46.00	£30.00

Your first subscription will be required to be paid by cheque or other appropriate means; you will be notified once your application has been approved.

Members of the club are entitled to an electronic key that allows access to all the huts and some controlled hut car parks. These cost £16 and are available from The Membership Secretary; Provisional Members may have a key which will be issued with an expiry date commensurate with their provisional membership. Their electronic key will be upgraded, without charge, to unrestricted access on attaining full, membership.

Do not send cash or cheques for membership subscription or a hut key with your application

1b) Please indicate your preferred name by underlining or by enclosing it in brackets e.g.

William James Smith

William (Bill) Smith

1c) All applications need the support of existing members who must sign the form. This helps to ensure that all applicants are sound climbers with a genuine interest in mountain activities and that the club facilities (huts in particular) are used for the purposes for which they were intended.

To attain full membership one member must propose you and another second that proposal, both must be members of at least two years standing and must sign the application form **and** write in support of your application. They should have personal experience of your climbing abilities i.e. have climbed with you. The words of support are to be submitted on the standard pro-forma for both proposer and second. Please note that applications can be considered only when the support has been received.

Page 2

2a) The box for indicating CC huts and meets attended is obvious. It is highly desirable but not essential that you have attended CC meets or huts – given the wide geographical spread of club members it is not always possible – however information about *any* prior links to the club (i.e. using huts, attending meets, climbing with members, help with guidebook work or other aspects of wider club activities) can show that you have a real interest in the club's activities.

2b) A space is provided where you may also indicate any other climbing club memberships, please note that individual or affiliated club membership of the BMC does not class as a club membership.

2c) *“Please write relevant climbing/mountaineering experience below or any other information relevant to this application for membership”.* An applicant is normally expected to show evidence of considerable mountaineering and/or rock climbing experience gained over several years.

This is the key section of your application which outlines your climbing experience; as such it should be completed carefully (you should not exceed 1000 words). False modesty and over inflation of achievement have no place here.

You should show **how long** you have been climbing, **how often** you climb outdoors, **which climbing areas** you have visited in the last couple of years and your **current leading** standard.

High rock climbing grades are not a requirement of membership but a degree of technical competence is required as well as a genuine and active participation in climbing activities. We are looking for a good CV of adventurous climbing; adventure climbs in the UK would typically be multi pitch, naturally protected and have access or route finding challenges (e.g. tidal sea cliffs with tricky access or large high mountain crag routes). Examples of the minimum standard of confident leading expected include:

- adventurous UK rock climbs of at least VS 4c
- UK winter climbs of at least Grade IV
- multi-pitch water ice climbs of at least WI3
- alpine style rock climbs of UIAA grade V or 5.7 US
- several seasons of alpine climbing with ascents of significant peaks/routes of at least AD+

N.B. We do not expect applicants to match all five of these bullet points; they are listed as a guide!

In all cases examples of climbs done in the last few years are a great way to give us the flavour of your experience.

Any wider experience will be taken into account.

Outline any other experience or skill that you feel would be of use/benefit to the club. (What are you able to offer the club?)

Page 3

3a) Both the annual subscription and hut fees are collected by Direct Debit. Please complete the direct debit form and return it with your application. The completed form will only be sent to your bank once your application is approved.

Membership subscription Direct Debits are collected once per subscription year, normally in July, hut fees are collected more regularly (every 2-3 months). You will be notified before any hut fees are collected.

Members' details, including bank details, are held in a computer database. It is the policy of the club that these details are not released to any commercial organisation but contact details are published for distribution to all current members as part of the member's handbook. Changes in contact details may be published in the club newsletter.



THE CLIMBERS' CLUB MEMBERSHIP

DETAILED GUIDANCE FOR PROPOSER AND SECOND

MEMBERS ARE REQUESTED TO PROPOSE ONLY GENUINELY STRONG CANDIDATES

Members of at least two years standing may propose or second a competent candidate for membership, **such applicants should normally be introduced to the club at a meet**. Providing there is support from four other members the Committee may elect them to full membership. There is no probationary period. Before proposing or seconding a candidate members should read the applicants' guidance that is included in the pack with the Application Form; this can be downloaded from the club's website at www.climbers-club.co.uk or paper copies may be obtained from the Membership Secretary. Members may not propose or second Candidates who are related to them. Under no circumstances should a member sign an application form that has not been fully completed and signed by the candidate. Proposers should be aware that they have some responsibility for their protégés during the first two years of membership.

In addition to signing page 1 of the completed application form both proposer and second are expected to write why they consider the candidate is suitable for membership. This should be completed on-line using the provided pro-forma; if you are unable to access it on-line a paper copy may be obtained from the Membership Secretary to whom it should be returned.

The following details will be required:

- (i) The name, membership number and postal address of the member
- (ii) The extent of their personal knowledge of the candidate as a climber and companion i.e. how long they have known them and in what context(s).
- (iii) They must have climbed with the candidate and should indicate when, where and how often they have done so including naming some routes that the candidate led while they were climbing together. They **must** consider that the applicant meets the criteria outlined in section 2c of the applicants pack
- (iv) A comment on their leading and general mountaineering skills.
- (v) A comment on their general character and how they will fit in to club meets and hut life.

The application cannot be considered until **all** of this information has been received.

GUIDANCE NOTES FOR MEMBERS SUPPORTING APPLICATIONS (for full or Provisional Membership)

Supporters should read the applicants' information pack (this can be viewed/downloaded from the club's website at www.climbers-club.co.uk) before signing any forms and must only sign forms that have been fully completed and signed by the candidate.

Members expressing their support for an applicant should have knowledge of the candidate's climbing/mountaineering experience and abilities and consider that it is consistent with part 2(c) of the guidance to applicants.

In the case of support for Provisional Membership application at an Aspirants' Meet two members should have direct experience of the applicant's climbing during the meet prior to signing the form. They should sign the completed application form **and** submit copies of the completed pro-forma for the support of applications for Provisional Membership.



**THE CLIMBERS' CLUB
APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP (CONFIDENTIAL)**

*Return pages 1 and 2 to
Andy Bullock, CC Membership Secretary, 2 Abbots Way, Yeovil, Somerset, BA21 3HX.*
To be completed with reference to attached notes and policies

Subscription Rate to June 2012	£ (see note 1a)	Key £16 (Note 3a)
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(Note 1)

Personal Details

Surname	
Forenames (Note 1b)	
Address	Date of Birth
	Home Telephone
	Work Telephone
	Mobile
	Occupation
Postcode	
E-mail	

Supporting Members (Note 1c)

Members supporting the application are reminded that the applicant must be known to them and that proposers/second should normally have climbed with the applicant

	Name PRINT	Memb. No.	Signature	Date
Proposed Letter required				
Seconded Letter required				
Support 1				
Support 2				
Support 3				
Support 4				

Administration (please leave blank)

Received		Newsletter		Committee	
PropLet		SecLet		Notification	
Sub		DD man		File	

Notes

Notes					
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Experience

CC Huts Attended <i>(See note 2a)</i>
CC Meets Attended <i>(See note 2a)</i>
Other Climbing/Mountaineering Club membership(s) <i>(See note 2b)</i>

Please write relevant climbing/mountaineering experience below or any other information relevant to this application for membership. You may continue on a separate sheet if you wish. *(See note 2c)*

I apply for membership of The Climbers' Club and I undertake to abide by the Rules as determined by the Club in General Meeting. I confirm that all the information I have provided is correct and understand that my application may be declined if there is any omission or inaccuracy in the particulars relating to the description of my experience.

I understand and agree that my details, including bank details, are held in both hard and electronic forms for the purpose of running the club.

I understand that is the policy of the club that these details are not released to any commercial organisation but contact details are published for distribution to all current members as part of the member's handbook. Changes in contact details may be published in the club newsletter.

Signature of Candidate: _____ Date: _____

Signature of parent if applicant under 18 _____



**Climbers'
Club**

Instruction to your
Bank or Building Society
to pay Direct Debits.



Originator's Identification Number

9 5 5 4 9 6

The Manager _____

Address _____

Postcode _____

1. Name and full postal address of your bank or Building Society Branch

2. Name of account holder(s) (as on cheques)

3. Branch sort code
(From the top right corner of your cheque book)

		—			—		
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4. Bank or Building Society account number.

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Climbers' Club reference number
(To be completed by the Membership Secretary)

5. Instruction to your Bank or Building Society

Please pay The Climbers' Club Direct Debits from the account detailed on this instruction subject to the safeguards assured by The Direct Debit Guarantee.

This instruction supersedes all previous Direct Debit or Standing Order instructions in favour of The Climbers' Club.

(Banks and Building Societies may not accept Direct Debit instruction for some types of account.)

Please fill in parts 1 - 5 of this form and return completed to:

**Andy Bullock
2 Abbots Way
YEOVIL
Somerset
BA21 3HX**

___ Fold ___

Member's Name

Member's Date of Birth

Signature(s) _____

Date _____

Name of Applicant _____



Proposer/Second* letter of support pro-forma

* delete as appropriate

Your details

Member's Name	
Membership Number (in handbook)	
Address	
Postcode	
E mail (optional)	
Date	

Please type your responses to the questions in the spaces provided (the space will expand as required).

- 1) How long have you known the applicant?
- 2) In what context(s) have you known the applicant?
- 3) How frequently have you climbed with the applicant (please name some routes you have completed with them where they took the lead)
- 4) How would you describe their general mountaineering skills (e.g. ease of movement in the hills, ability to find the crag and follow route descriptions!)
- 5) How well do you think that they will fit into club life and activities?

Declaration

By submitting this form to the Membership Secretary I confirm that all the details I have provided are correct and understand that any errors may render the application void.

Once completed this form should be e-mailed or posted to the membership secretary. You do not need to send a signed copy as you have signed the candidate's application form.



Name of Applicant for Provisional Membership _____

Provisional membership application pro-forma for supporters

This form **should only be used when a member is supporting a candidate applying for Provisional membership** after attending an aspirant's meet.

Your Details.

Member's Name	
Membership Number (in handbook)	
Address	
Postcode	
E mail (optional)	
Date	

Please type your responses to the questions in the spaces provided (the space will expand as required).

- 1) Had you met the applicant prior to the Aspirants' meet? If so please provide details.
- 2) Where did you climb with the aspirant?
- 3) Which routes did you climb when the applicant took the lead?
- 4) How confidently did they climb?
- 5) How competently did they arrange protection, belay etc
- 6) How would you describe their general mountaineering skills (e.g. ease of movement in the hills, ability to find the crag and follow route descriptions!)
- 7) Any other comments e.g. character and companionability of applicant.

Declaration

By submitting this form to the Membership Secretary I confirm that all the details I have provided are correct and understand that any errors may render the application void.

Once completed this form should be e-mailed or posted to the membership secretary. You do not need to send a signed copy as you have signed the candidate's application form.

USE OF CLUB HUTS

As a member of The Climbers' Club you have the right to use any of the Club's eight huts:

Ynys Ettws and **Cwm Glas Mawr** in the Llanberis Pass, North Wales;

Helyg in the Nant Francon, North Wales;

R.O. Downes Memorial Hut below Froggatt, Peak District;

May Cottage, near Pembroke, South Wales;

The Count House, Bosigran, Cornwall.

Riasg at Roy Bridge, Scotland

Grange Old School in Borrowdale, Lake District

Full details regarding hut use are given in the members' handbook. The following is a summary.

You may bring up to 3 guests with you (including any family members – see handbook about U18's in huts). Larger groups must book in advance and then **all** guests are liable for the full external booking hut fees.

Guidance for the use of the Club Huts is included in the relevant section of the Handbook; these points to observe when staying in huts are little more than common sense and are aimed at ensuring the security of huts, their cleanliness and an friendly atmosphere. **The guiding principle is respect for fellow hut users.**

PLEASE ENSURE THAT ON ARRIVAL ALL PERSONS IN YOUR GROUP IMMEDIATELY SIGN THE HUT REGISTER, GUESTS MUST INDICATE THE NAME OF THEIR SPONSOR.

The information from the register will be used to raise a direct debit for your hut fees. Please note that members are responsible for their guest's hut fees. People camping, where permitted, must also fill in the hut register and note that they are camping. This is of prime importance as it announces your rights to be there and helps introductions. Members are asked to check that others are signed in so please don't resent it if you are asked.

Please do your bit to keep the hut tidy and wash, dry (using tea towels provided) and put away all utensils. You are requested to use a clean pillowcase from the stock provided in the hut.

During your stay you are required to contribute to the general tidying of the hut even if you are not the last to leave, so that the next occupants do not need to clean and wash up to make it habitable. You do not need to leave the cleaning tasks until just before you leave, by this time you will be in a rush.

Examples of the kinds of tasks you should do include;

- Wash and dry all crockery
- Clean out all fridges prior to switching off and leaving the doors open (if you are last to leave).
- Clean cookers, microwaves, hobs, sinks, work tops and table-tops.
- Take home all your waste materials that are recyclable in your home area
- Leave fireplaces clean
- Clean all floors including your bunk room and dispose of all used pillowcases.
- Ensure that bathrooms and toilets are clean.
- Check that you have not left any of your possessions in the hut. The Club accepts no responsibility for lost property which will normally retained by the custodian for a month prior to disposal.
- Follow the instructions posted in each hut with regards to switching off, or not, the mains electricity, water and gas supplies
- Check that all windows, fire doors and outside doors are closed and locked/bolted.