

RULES

1. **TITLE.** The Club shall be called 'THE CLIMBERS' CLUB'. Its objects shall be to encourage mountaineering and rock-climbing and to promote the general interests of mountaineers and the mountain environment.

2. **MEMBERSHIP.** All people interested in the objects of the Club, as defined in Rule 1, shall be eligible as Members. This shall be regardless of sex, age, disability, ethnicity, nationality, sexual orientation, religion or other beliefs.

Management of the Club

3. **OFFICERS.** The officers of the Club shall be the President, two or three Vice-Presidents, the Honorary Treasurer, the Honorary Secretary, the Honorary Membership Secretary, and the Honorary Meets Secretary.

4. **COMMITTEE.** The affairs of the Club shall be managed by a Committee which may appoint Sub-Committees for which any member of the Club shall be eligible. The Committee shall consist of the Officers as defined in Rule 3, eight ordinary members, and the Chairman or one nominated representative from each current Sub-Committee. The Committee shall have power from time to time to co-opt up to three extra Members and such other of the Officials as defined in Rule 6 as it shall decide. No ordinary elected member shall be a member of more than one Sub-Committee. At meetings of the Committee five shall form a quorum. The Committee shall, in so far as it shall manage the affairs of the Club in accordance with the objects of the Club defined in Rule 1, be indemnified against any claim, question, risk and expense out of the property of the Club.

5. **PERSONAL INTEREST.** Any member of the Committee or any Sub-Committee having a personal interest of whatsoever nature in any matter under discussion must declare that interest to the meeting giving full particulars. Such a member shall not be entitled to vote on that matter and may, at the discretion of the Committee or Sub-Committee, be debarred from discussion of that matter or be requested to withdraw from the meeting during discussion of that matter.

6. **OFFICIALS.** The Committee shall appoint a member as Club Archivist. The Committee shall have power to appoint one or more members of the Club to such offices other than

those referred to in Rule 3, and that of Archivist, as the Committee may determine. The holders of such offices shall be Officials of the Club and shall not be eligible to serve on the Committee as ordinary or co-opted members during their period of office.

7. **ELECTIONS.** All Officers of the Club and all ordinary members of the Committee shall be elected by the Club at the Annual General Meeting for one year; they may be re-elected subject to the following limitations, namely, that no President or Vice-President shall serve as such for more than three years consecutively and no ordinary member of the Committee for more than four years consecutively, reckoned from one Annual General Meeting to another. Co-opted members and Officials shall cease to be members of the Committee at the Annual General Meeting each year; they may be reappointed by the Committee subject to the following limitations, namely, that no co-opted member shall serve as such on the Committee for more than two years consecutively and no Official for more than four years consecutively. All appointments of Officials and Sub-Committees shall be subject to confirmation each year by the Club at the Annual General Meeting.

8. **COMMITTEE VACANCIES.** The Committee shall have power to fill, until the next Annual General Meeting, any vacancy occurring among the Officers or the rest of the Committee. For the purpose of Rule 7, such ad interim service shall not be counted.

Membership

9. **ELECTION OF MEMBERS.** The election of members shall be in the hands of the Committee, which shall decide upon a candidate's qualifications.

10. **CANDIDATE REQUIREMENTS.** Every candidate for admission shall be proposed and seconded by members of not less than two years standing, who must have personal knowledge of the candidate. Both the proposer and the seconder shall submit a written report to the Committee in regard to the candidate. The candidate shall supply on the proposal form such details as are requested by the Committee, including particulars of his/her mountaineering experience and any other grounds on which eligibility is claimed. Any omission or inaccuracy in the particulars relating to the description of a candidate shall render the election voidable at the option of the Committee.

11. **ON ELECTION.** The Honorary Membership Secretary shall send notification to a new member of election to the Club and forward a copy of these Rules. Payment by such new member of the subscription for the current year shall constitute an acceptance of the Club Rules. A new member shall not enjoy any of the privileges of the Club until this subscription is paid, and, if the same is not paid within three months of the date of election, the election shall be null and void.

12. **ELECTION OF HONORARY MEMBERS.** The Committee is empowered to elect as Honorary Members people who have rendered eminent service to the objectives of the club. An honorary member shall have all the rights of an ordinary member but is entitled to exemption from the annual subscription. Honorary members remain liable for hut and other fees as they become due.

13. **SUBSCRIPTION.** The annual subscription shall consist of the British Mountaineering Council subscription and the Club subscription. The British Mountaineering Council subscription shall be as set at the Annual General Meeting (or subsequent General Meeting) of the BMC. The Club subscription shall be determined by the club in General Meeting from time to time, subject to the Committee being empowered, without reference to a General Meeting, to increase the subscription to an amount no greater than that as last decided in General Meeting, plus the increase in the Retail Price Index since that Meeting and rounded up to the nearest pound. Members elected after 30th December in any subscription year shall pay half the annual subscription for that year. Members over 65 years of age or under 25 years old may elect to pay half the Club subscription. The annual subscription will be collected as a single item.

14. **SUBSCRIPTION IN ARREARS.** No member shall vote or enjoy any of the privileges of the Club until the subscription has been paid. The Committee is empowered to remove the name of any Member not having paid the subscription within three months from the time when it became due, but may re-admit him/her on such terms as it shall think fit.

General Meetings

15. **ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.** The Annual General Meeting of the Club shall be held during February or as soon thereafter as possible, to receive the Statement of Accounts, to elect the Officers and Ordinary Members of the Committee for the ensuing year and to transact general business.

16. **NOTICE OF AGM.** At least one month's notice shall be given of the date fixed by the Committee for the Annual General Meeting and 14 days at least before the Meeting, the Honorary Secretary shall send to each Member of the Club a copy of the Statement of Accounts and notice of the Meeting, which shall include particulars of the motions to be brought forward.

17. **EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING.** The Committee shall at any time, upon the requisition in writing of not less than 25 Members stating the motion or motions to be brought forward, call an Extraordinary General Meeting of the Club.

18. **NOTICE OF EGM.** Not less than 21 days notice shall be given of an Extraordinary General Meeting; the notice convening the Meeting shall state the business to be transacted thereat and no business shall be transacted at such Meeting other than that specified in the notice.

19. **GENERAL MEETING.** A General Meeting shall have power, by a majority of not less than two-thirds of the Members present and voting, to alter or add to the existing rules of the Club.

20. **NOTICE OF MOTIONS.** No vote shall be taken on any original motion affecting the rules or finance of the Club at a General Meeting, or at any adjournment thereof, unless notice in writing of that motion, signed by two Members, shall have been received by the Honorary Secretary at least 28 days before the time of such a Meeting.

21. **VOTING.** The voting on all resolutions submitted to a General Meeting shall be by a show of hands, but a ballot shall be taken if demanded by not less than three Members.

22. **QUORUM.** At any General Meeting 20 shall form a quorum.

23. **EXPULSION.** A Member may be expelled by the votes of two-thirds of the Members present at an Extraordinary General Meeting of the Club, called for that purpose, of which due notice shall have been sent to that Member.

Misconduct

24. **MISCONDUCT.** Any complaint by one Member against another must be in writing and addressed to the Honorary Secretary. If in the opinion of the Committee the alleged misconduct appears to have been prejudicial to the interests of the Club and/or its members,

the Honorary Secretary shall by letter request an explanation from the member complained against. If no explanation acceptable to the Committee is received by the Honorary Secretary within a reasonable time, then the Committee shall have the power to take any disciplinary action which it considers appropriate, but excluding expulsion from the Club, and without rebate of subscription. In serious cases, where it seems essential to take immediate action, the Officers shall consult among themselves to decide on the interim action to be taken pending the next Committee Meeting at which the matter will be determined. If in a particular case, expulsion of the member or members concerned is deemed by the Committee to be appropriate, the Committee shall call an Extraordinary General Meeting of the Club for this purpose.

Regulations

25. **REGULATIONS.** The Committee may make regulations from time to time for the Code of Practice for the operation of the Club, and for the use of Club huts and other facilities.

Dinners

26. **DINNERS.** The Committee may arrange entertainments, including Dinners, for the Club, to which it may invite guests on behalf of the Club. Members may, so far as space permits, introduce guests at their own expense. The members of the Club shall dine together at least once in every year and, except under special circumstances, the Annual Dinner shall take place on the same day as the Annual General Meeting. Notice of the date appointed for the Annual Dinner shall be sent by circular to each Member at least one month before such day.

Notice to Members

27. **NOTICE TO MEMBERS.** Every notice to a member shall be considered as duly delivered when posted to or delivered by hand at the last notified address.

Trustees and Guarantors

28. **TRUSTEES.** The President, Treasurer and Secretary for the time being of the Club shall be ex officio Trustees of any account which requires Trustees and of any investment excluding real property and leaseholds and the income arising therefrom upon trust to deal with the same as the Committee of the Club shall from time to time direct.

29. **PROPERTY.** The property of the Club, except real property and leaseholds and any accounts that require trustees, shall be vested in the Committee for the time being. The Committee shall appoint Trustees in whom shall be vested real property and leaseholds and the income arising therefrom, and may from time to time appoint Trustees in whom shall be vested such part or parts of the property of the Club as the Committee shall direct. Separate Trustees may be appointed for any part of the property of the Club. All such Trustees shall deal with the property so vested in them as directed by resolution of the Committee from time to time (of which resolution an entry in the minute book shall be conclusive evidence), and they shall be indemnified against any claim, question, risk and expense out of the property of the Club. The Trustees shall be either members of the Club (in which case their number shall not be more than 4 nor less than 2, and they shall hold office until death or retirement unless removed from office by a resolution of the Club in General Meeting) or a company or other incorporated body competent to act as a Trust Corporation (in which case they shall hold office until retirement or resignation unless removed from office by a resolution of the Club in General Meeting) and may be remunerated for their services in accordance with their scale of charges for the time being in force.

30. **GUARANTEES AND INDEMNITIES.** The Committee shall have power to appoint guarantors to give indemnities to the London Clearing Banks, the Scottish Clearing Banks and the Irish Banks, as the Banks may request in connection with the scheme known as the 'Direct Debit Scheme' for the collection of member subscriptions by way of direct debit. The guarantors shall be entitled to be indemnified in respect of any claim question risk or expense arising out of the giving of the indemnities to the Banks out of the property of the Club.

The Journal

31. **JOURNAL.** The Committee shall be responsible for the Journal and appointing its Editor. It will ensure that journals of conventional standards established since the 1930s are published at least three times in every five years and preferably every year.

Archive and Library

32. **ARCHIVE AND LIBRARY.** The Club shall maintain an Archive of all its published

material including Annual Reports, Guidebooks, Journals, Newsletters and all Hut Log Books and a Library of all Books, Journals and Periodicals acquired for or on behalf of the Club, or donated to it. The Committee shall act as ex-officio trustees of the Archive and Library and shall be responsible for ensuring that they are housed in secure locations and accessible for reference to all Members and other bona fide researchers. No disposal of the whole or any part of the Archive and Library shall take place unless the Committee are so authorized by a resolution of the Club in General Meeting of which due notice has been given and passed by a majority of not less than two-thirds of the Members present and voting.

REGULATIONS AND CODES OF PRACTICE (2001)

The Regulations are made by the Committee from time to time (Rule 25) and may be changed as need dictates.

1. Full job descriptions and limits of authority shall be given to all Club Officers, Officials and Sub-Committees by the Committee.
2. All Sub-Committee Chairmen shall attend meetings of the Committee at least twice a year to report on the activities of their Sub-Committee. They shall submit to the Committee by the end of September each year a full Annual Operating Plan for the following year, including all items of expenditure in priority order. Sub-Committee Chairmen shall provide the Honorary Secretary with a detailed report for the Annual Report. Each Vice-President should have an oversight of, and help provide liaison between, one or more of the following: Publications, Huts, meets and BMC etc.
3. Once the Committee has ratified the Annual Operating Plans of a Sub-Committee, they may be implemented by the Officers and Officials concerned.
4. All Committee members shall attend Committee meetings whenever possible. When unable to attend they shall communicate their views on the topics under discussion to the Committee prior to the meeting. Members who fail to attend 3 consecutive Committee meetings shall not

normally be eligible for re-election to the Committee.

5. All Committee members shall be prepared to undertake work helping the Officers and Officials of the Club in their activities. The Ordinary Members of the Committee shall be encouraged to have 'areas of responsibility' (jobs) within the Committee — to be defined from time to time by the Committee. Such jobs may include Subscriptions Secretary, Newsletter Editor, Hut Dues Treasurer, Handbook Editor, Grants Officer etc.
6. Every effort should be made to ensure that the Committee reflects the overall membership of the Club. The majority of the Committee shall be active members.
7. No membership application shall be considered by the Committee unless the criteria of Proposer, Seconder and sufficient support has been satisfactorily presented to the Committee via the Membership Secretary.
8. The Committee may, at its discretion, grant a one-year provisional membership to an individual on payment of the annual subscription. This regulation is to enable that person time and opportunity to meet members and fulfil the normal criteria for full membership. Such provisional membership shall not entitle the prospective member to voting rights, the purchase of a hut key or reciprocal rights. A provisional member is entitled to attend meets, to use huts at member rates and receive publications, mail-outs and guide book discounts. Provisional membership is not renewable and full membership will only be granted by meeting the usual membership criteria.
9. The Handbook and Membership Lists should be revised and circulated at least biennially. Updated membership addresses and information will be published in the Newsletter from time to time.
10. At least four Newsletters shall be published each year.
11. Hut fees shall be determined the Huts Management Sub-Committee and ratified by the Committee.
12. All Sub-Committees shall meet at least four times a year.
13. The Club Archivist shall maintain a collection, or collections, of literature and other material relevant to the Club as described in his job description.

Club Membership

Membership criteria are that members may propose a competent candidate and providing adequate support is obtained from other members, the Committee may elect them to full membership. There is no probationary period. The route to membership is therefore a very simple one; get to know as many Club members as possible.

Committee Policy

MEMBERS ARE REQUESTED TO PUT FORWARD PROPOSALS ONLY FOR GENUINELY STRONG CANDIDATES

In deciding elections, the Committee will be guided by the following considerations:

(a) An applicant is normally expected to show evidence of considerable rock-climbing/ mountaineering experience.

(b) The Committee will attach particular importance to support from members other than the proposer and seconder who have been with the candidate on the hills, or who have met him/her in Huts. A minimum of four such supporters is normally required. Proposers should ensure that sufficient support of their candidate will be forthcoming.

(c) The Committee may defer a decision on a candidate, or offer provisional membership (see Regulation 8) pending an increase in his/her experience or further information.

(d) The Proposer or Secunder should usually introduce the candidate at a Club meet. Members are reminded that they should not propose or second candidates who are related to them. Proposers should be aware that they have some responsibility for their protégés during the first two years of membership.

(e) No membership application shall be considered by the Committee unless all criteria of proposer, seconder and supporters have been satisfactorily presented to the Membership Secretary.

(f) Members writing of a candidate should state:

1. How long and well the Candidate has been known.

2. Whether the writer has climbed with the candidate.

3. Whether the writer wishes the candidate to be elected or not.

4. Which meet the candidate has attended, or, will attend. (Copies of the above text on a printed form are available from the Honorary Secretary and Membership Secretary).

The Current annual subscription is £30, due on January 1st. New members are expected to pay by direct debit.

Competence

It is expected of any candidate that they will be competent climbers at an appropriate level. The applications from candidates should stress their competence level. The Club is not in the business of teaching climbing to novices. Others do that better.

Club Huts

Responsibilities and privileges of members

As a member of The Climbers' Club you have the right to use any of the Club's seven huts. This right is accompanied by a **shared responsibility** for the maintenance, security and upkeep of our huts. Huts are an important part of the Club, they are crucial to the Club and the camaraderie that the Club offers to its members. Using them should be a pleasure for everyone. Tolerance is essential, as is consideration of others' needs, comfort and even bad habits. We are a club of over 1,200 members; we are all different.

We are a diverse Club, comprising climbers of all ages, drawn from a broad cross section of society. We have a wide range of lifestyles. Some members enjoy a convivial stay in a hut whilst others value the peace and quiet of the hills. Some come from a long distance and may visit huts infrequently and prefer to book their bunks, whilst others visit huts regularly and take pot luck at getting a bed. At Meets' weekends all the bunks are booked out for that meet and very often the adjacent huts (in North Wales) also. If you intend using a hut that weekend it is advisable to book on to the Meet. Additionally the club supplements its revenue and encourages young climbers and others by making beds available to groups from outside clubs by block booking. These, however, never take all the bunks in a hut and certain beds and rooms are reserved for members. In order to achieve a friendly use of our huts by such a wide variety of users various Codes of Practice have developed over the years.

It is important to try to add to the atmosphere of friendliness in a hut. This is most easily done by introducing yourself and anyone else in your party to other hut users and by welcoming guests. Whilst 'over' clubiness is irksome, a sullen and introspective approach can be equally unnerving and spoil

Leaving for the day

When you leave a hut for the day make sure it is left in reasonable order. It is not reasonable, for example, to expect someone to come in and have to clean the kitchen or have to move your washing up from the sink, to make themselves a cup of tea. Nor should they have to move your equipment off a spare bunk to gain access to it. Make sure that the hut is securely locked up. The club is not insured for theft of your property and whilst we take all reasonable precautions it is, ultimately, up to you.

At the end of your stay

Complete the hut books and pay your dues. Children are charged at the following rates.

Babies free up to the age of 2.

Up to 12 years old: £2 per night

12-16 years: member's rates

All campers pay members' hut rates.

Payment envelopes are in all the huts and fees should be paid by cheque — we do not want cash in our safes.

Cheques should be made payable to 'The Climbers' Club'.

Leave the hut as you would wish to find it, that is, clean and tidy with all refuse removed from the huts to the dustbins provided. Take your milk and wine bottles home — no one is collecting them. Do not encourage rodents, of any kind. Finally, if you haven't already done so, do a bit of cleaning even if you are not the last occupants, they will probably be in more of a rush than you are.

The following is a task tick list:

- Wash all crockery and dry it if possible.
- Remove all perishable food and clean out all fridges to discourage rats or mice.
- Leave fireplaces clean and switch off all fires and heating and hot water boilers.
- Clean stoves, work tops and tabletops.
- Clean all floors.
- Leave bathrooms and toilets clean.
- Get rid of all used pillowcases.
- Switch off mains electricity, stopcocks (where and when appropriate) and check that all windows are closed and locked.
- Check that all fire doors are closed and outside doors are locked/bolted.
- Write in the hut maintenance book a note of any repairs that need to be done.

This may seem a long list. It isn't, if everyone does a share.

The Hamish Nicol Accord

Members of The Climbers' Club are able to use the Wayfarers' Club Robertson Lamb Hut (RLH) in Langdale under the terms of this memorandum. Wayfarers' Club members are able to use Climbers' Club huts on the same basis.

This arrangement is a fitting tribute to Hamish Nicol, Past President and Honorary Member of The Climbers' Club. The agreement permits CC members to use a Lake District hut without prior arrangement except at those times, which will be well-publicised, when the Wayfarers' are holding a meet there.

Members are asked to be meticulous in their observance of the RLH rules. The rules are on prominent view on the RLH notice board and the looseleaf binder in the hut. There are 18 bunks upstairs for men. The annexe contains 12 bunks which may be used by women and men. Children under seven years of age are not permitted to sleep in RLH. Dogs should be kept outside and should not be permitted to disturb hut users. CC members should sign the visitors' book immediately on arrival and see that others do the same. Members should identify themselves to others using the hut and diplomatically invite reciprocation. Non members of the Wayfarers' Club may be asked to produce identification such as a membership card. Climbers' Club members are asked to assist in seeing that no unauthorized persons use the hut. Current rates for use of the hut will be found posted in the hut and must be strictly observed.

Climbers' Club members are permitted to take one guest (paying the guest rate) at a time or more by arrangement with the hut secretary. Access to the hut is by a key which resides in a padlocked box which can be opened with a CC hut key. To the right of the hut as you face the front door and down two steps is a small lean-to with a green latched door. This is the gas bottle house. The bins are in front of it. The key box is on the wall on your left as you enter. Note that there is no light switch and a torch may be useful if you are not familiar with the set-up. You are requested to return the RLH key to its box immediately after gaining access to the hut. Do not take the RLH key with you when leaving the hut — other CC members may wish to use it.

CC members may turn up without prior arrangement — except on Wayfarers' Meets dates. These are publicised in the CC Newsletter. To avoid disappointment at other times, it is advisable to contact the RLH Custodian, Dave Shufflebottom, Tel: 01942 719189.

The Committee particularly asks CC members to be welcoming and helpful to Wayfarers' members using CC huts.

The Memorandum

This memorandum sets out the arrangements made by The Climbers' Club and the Wayfarers' Club in respect of the use of each other's huts.

1. Except as mentioned in point 2 below, the members of each club will be permitted to use the huts at present and in future belonging to or controlled by the other, subject to compliance with the same rules as apply to the members of the other club.
2. Members of each club will not be permitted to use a hut of the other club when there is a meet of the other club at the hut, unless that meet is a joint meet between both clubs, or the prior agreement of the meet organiser has been obtained.
3. Members of each club are not obliged to inform the other club before using a hut but, if they do not make enquiries in advance, they risk being unable to use the hut, either because the other club is holding a meet at the hut or because all the bunks have been reserved or occupied.
4. Members of the Wayfarers' Club will on application to The Climbers' Club be sent a key which will admit them to all the huts of The Climbers' Club. Such keys will remain the property of The Climbers' Club and are intended for the personal use of those Wayfarers' members issued with them. Keys to The Climbers' Club huts will open a box fitted at RLH inside which will be a key to RLH.
5. The hut fees payable by members of each club for use of a particular hut will be the same as the hut fees payable by the members of the other club for use of that hut.
6. These arrangements continue for a fixed period unless renewed by a memorandum signed by the authorised representatives of both clubs. They may be cancelled at any time, provided that the cancellation is preceded by at least three months written notice given by the authorised representative of either club to the other club.
7. There will be no legally binding obligations arising from these arrangements. All previous correspondence or understandings were merely part of negotiations and are

superseded by this memorandum. Any amendments will be of no effect unless they are contained in a further memorandum signed by the authorised representatives of both clubs.

Explanatory note

Members of each club shall have a list of times when the huts of the other club are not available on account of a meet being held there by the other club. However, places will be available to the other clubs' members when outside bookings have been made.

Using other club's huts

Treat others huts as if you were a guest in another's house. Clubs have different customs and ethics. What is acceptable to one club may not be acceptable to another. Make sure you follow their codes of conduct — if in doubt, ask. Sign-in immediately on arrival and introduce yourself to those present, telling them who you are and what club you are in. Make sure that they would like to meet you again. Finally, if you find some of their customs strange do not be so gauche as to say so in their company, in their hut, or on their property. Like us, they have very good reasons for their customs and practices; until you understand all of them as a guest it is not for you to comment.