



The GMC Constitution – 18<sup>th</sup> April 2015

## **GUERNSEY MOUNTAINEERING CLUB** **CONSTITUTION**

### **1. NAME**

1.1. The name of the organisation is the “Guernsey Mountaineering Club” (hereafter referred to as “the GMC”).

### **2. OBJECTIVES**

- 2.1. To promote the interests of rock climbing and general mountaineering pursuits amongst the members of the GMC, both on Guernsey and overseas;
- 2.2. To provide an opportunity for members of the GMC to meet and participate in climbing, mountaineering and any other activities together;
- 2.3. The GMC may acquire and/or rent property and equipment and accumulate or borrow funds to further the GMC’s objectives;
- 2.4. To promote awareness of the need to maintain access, conserve and protect the cliff and mountain environments.
- 2.5. To act on behalf of and in the interests of the GMC members

### **3. MANAGEMENT OF THE CLUB**

3.1. The management of the GMC shall be entrusted to the GMC Committee, hereinafter referred to as "the Committee".

### **4. MEMBERSHIP**

- 4.1. Membership of the GMC 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.
- 4.2. Membership of the GMC shall be divided into two classes, Adult and Junior;
- 4.3. All applications for membership shall be subject to the approval of the Committee;
- 4.4. Members under the age of 18 (eighteen) years shall be deemed to be junior members, and shall only be permitted to become members with express written parental consent;
- 4.5. All members of the GMC shall have full voting rights, may become a member of the Committee, and may call an Extra-Ordinary General Meeting;
- 4.6. All members shall be entitled to borrow property and equipment owned or rented by the GMC;
- 4.7. All members shall be required to wear safety helmets on outdoor climbing oriented GMC meets.

### **5. CHILD-PROTECTION POLICY**

5.1. The GMC adopt and comply with the BMC Child Protection Policy. This can be obtained from [www.thebmc.co.uk](http://www.thebmc.co.uk).

### **6. SUBSCRIPTIONS**

- 6.1. The Committee shall have the power to set membership subscription levels for the GMC on an annual basis;
- 6.2. Subscriptions shall be payable between 1 December and 31 January, and both classes of membership shall be deemed to have lapsed if the subscription is not renewed by 31 January. Such members shall be re-admitted at the discretion of the Committee upon payment of the full subscription;
- 6.3. Subscriptions for membership admission after 30 June in any year shall be payable at reduced rates (also set by the Committee on an annual basis as per item 6.1);
- 6.4. Weekly subscriptions for the use of the climbing wall at Rue Maingy (Scout H.Q.) or St Sampsons High shall be payable at rates based around the respective hire charges. These rates will be advised on the club website. The GMC members will be given reasonable notification of any changes to these.
- 6.5. Non-members may attend GMC activities for a maximum of 4 (four) weeks before being required to apply for membership.

### **7. RULES OF THE GMC**

7.1. The Committee shall have the power to set additional club rules. Such rules shall be in accordance with the articles of the GMC's Constitution and the policies of the BMC.

### **8. COMMITTEE**

- 8.1. The affairs of the GMC shall be administered by a Committee of officers comprising a President, Secretary, Treasurer, , Youth Officer, Quartermaster and other members elected as deemed necessary at the Annual General Meeting;
- 8.2. The Committee shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting;
- 8.3. The Committee shall arrange the activities of the GMC, and shall have power to delegate the organisation of activities to GMC members who are not on the Committee;
- 8.4. The Committee shall have power to fill vacancies that occur from time to time during an elected term;



- 8.5. The Committee shall meet as often as deemed necessary to conduct the affairs of the GMC;
- 8.6. A quorum for Committee meetings shall be 50% of the Committee;
- 8.7. The President of the GMC will normally preside at and chair all meetings and shall be responsible for reporting to the Membership at the GMC's AGM.
- 8.8. The Secretary shall be responsible for all correspondence relating to Club affairs and for announcing Committee meetings, and the production and distribution of minutes from those meetings. The Secretary shall keep records about the Membership of the Club and shall report to the BMC the size of the Membership.
- 8.9. The Treasurer shall be responsible for the collection of subscriptions and will account for any other income and expenditure made on behalf of the Club. The Treasurer shall be responsible for the payment of the membership subscription to the BMC.
- 8.10. The Youth Officer will need to be Disclosure and Barring Enhanced Service (DBS) checked. In the event this is not already held, the GMC will cover the costs of this check for the elected committee member.
- 8.11. The Committee shall have the power to co-opt additional non-voting members
- 8.12. All activities will be attended by a member of the Committee, or such person who has been delegated as the activity's organiser.

## **9. ACCOUNTS**

- 9.1. The financial year of the GMC shall run from 1 December to 30 November;
- 9.2. The Treasurer shall keep books of account and prepare an annual statement of account;
- 9.3. The GMC shall maintain an account or accounts with such Bank as the Committee shall approve;
- 9.4. All cheques and other orders for payments on behalf of the GMC shall be signed by any two officers of the Committee;
- 9.5. All members shall have the right to inspect the books of the GMC.

## **10. GENERAL MEETINGS**

- 10.1. The GMC shall hold its Annual General Meeting around the month of December, when the Committee shall present its report and accounts for the preceding year, the officers and members of the Committee shall be elected and such other business transacted as is deemed necessary;
- 10.2. An Extra-Ordinary General Meeting of members may be called at any time by the Committee or upon a requisition to the President signed by at least 25% of members. The Meeting shall be called within 60 days of receipt of such requisition, and only the business stated in the requisition shall be discussed in the meeting;
- 10.3. Fourteen days' notice of General Meetings shall be given to members. A notice on the GMC website and/or Facebook page shall be deemed to have informed members of the meeting and business to be transacted;
- 10.4. In a vote on a resolution, a simple majority shall be required. In the event of a tie the President shall have the casting vote, and if the President abstains then the motion shall be defeated;
- 10.5. A quorum for General Meetings shall be 25% of members.

## **11. TERMINATION OF MEMBERSHIP**

- 11.1. Any member who in the opinion of the Committee has been guilty of conduct prejudicial to the interests of the GMC shall be liable to expulsion, subject to a right of appeal to an Extra-Ordinary General Meeting. The provision shall also apply to conduct during a period of membership, or previously to membership if the Committee were unaware of such conduct at the time of admission.

## **12. CHANGES TO THE CONSTITUTION**

- 12.1. No changes shall be made in the Constitution unless approved by a two thirds majority of those members present at a General Meeting or those returning votes within two weeks in a postal ballot.
- 12.2. Notice of any amendment must be delivered to the Secretary at least 14 days prior to the General Meeting.

## **13. LIABILITY**

- 13.1. By applying for and accepting membership of the GMC, members acknowledge and accept that rock climbing and other activities of the GMC may be potentially hazardous, and that there is a danger of personal injury or even death. Members therefore agree that they will at all times hold the GMC, its officers and members harmless from and against all loss liability and damage whatsoever or howsoever caused, in connection with any GMC activity;
- 13.2. The GMC shall maintain third party liability insurance through the British Mountaineering Council for all members on GMC activities. Members shall be responsible for maintaining their own personal accident and accidental damage insurance and to pay the necessary premiums as they fall due.

## **14. DISSOLUTION OF THE GMC**

- 14.1. The Club can be dissolved by two-thirds majority vote carried out in accordance with Article 9 whereupon the Committee will arrange to discharge any assets equally amongst the Members (or donated to Charity). Any liabilities at the time of dissolution shall be the joint responsibility of all Members.