

CONSTITUTION OF THE OCHILS MOUNTAINEERING CLUB

1) Name

The Club shall be called the Ochils Mountaineering Club.

2) Aim

To promote an interest in mountaineering by providing the opportunity for members of the Club to participate in hill walking, climbing and general mountaineering activities.

3) Form.

The Club shall consist of a committee, members, family members and honorary members.

The committee shall consist of:

- President
- Vice President
- Secretary
- Treasurer
- Meets convenor
- Hut convenor
- co-opted members, as required by the above.

4) Entry

- a) Applicants shall be 16 years of age, or over. Entry is open to men and women.
- b) Every candidate for membership must be proposed and seconded by two members of the Club who have climbed or walked with the candidate. If an objection should be raised, a vote will be taken and a majority decision upheld.
- c) Applicants shall complete an 'Application for membership' form which shall be lodged with the Membership Secretary.

5) Members

- a) The Club is committed to equal opportunities and actively encourages participation and membership from all sections of the community.
- b) All applications for membership/employment will be considered on an equal basis without regard to the gender, ethnic background, disability, religious belief or nationality of the applicant.
- c) Membership shall be maintained by payment of the annual subscription, due by 31 August each year. Each member will be entitled to one vote at general Meetings of the Club.
- d) Family membership will comprise of a maximum of two adults, plus children under sixteen if applicable, and give entitlement for each adult to one vote at general Meetings of the Club.

- e) The Club at its discretion may offer honorary membership to any individual.
- f) No member of the Club will be in good standing if in debt to the Club after 31 October.
- g) Members in bad standing after 31 October will forfeit their membership of the Club.
- h) The Club regards all paid up members as being affiliated to the Mountaineering Council of Scotland (MCofS) and will pay the relevant affiliation fees.

6) Subscription

- a) The subscription shall be reviewed at each AGM.
- b) All continuing members must pay their annual membership fee by 31 October in each year.
- c) In the event of a lapsed subscription, re-entry to the Club will be in accordance with 4. b) above.
- d) All new members must pay their first membership fee within the period allowed for in the MCofS Civil Liability Policy during which individuals can participate in Club affairs on a trial or 'come and try it' basis. As at May 1999, this is within 4 months of first registering as potential members of the Club.

7) Annual General Meeting

This shall be held in June each year and shall not be constitutional unless 20% of members are present.

8) Meets

- a) The committee shall draw up as full a programme of meets as possible.
- b) Members' opinion shall be considered in the choice of dates and venues.
- c) Each meet shall be organised by and in the charge of the Meets Convenor. The Meets Convenor may delegate this responsibility to another member, as appropriate.

9) Liability of members.

- a) Notwithstanding any rule of law, presumption or practice to the contrary, every member of the Club (save for any honorary members) shall be jointly and severally liable with the other members of the Club for all or any costs, claims, damages or other liabilities incurred or sustained while that member remains as a member of the Club, either by the Club or by any member(s) or group of members (including any committee or sub-committee) acting in the due and proper performance of the duties or functions undertaken by them in connection with the affairs of the Club or otherwise acting within the authority (actual, ostensible or apparent) granted to them under the

constitution of the Club or by the members or any duly authorised group of members of the Club.

- b) Without prejudice to the generality, for the purposes of Clause a) above 'liability' shall include, but shall not be limited to, liability arising under contract, delict, statute or common law.
- c) [Without prejudice to the provision of Clause 9. a)] any liability incurred or sustained for the purposes of that clause shall be settled firstly out of the proceeds of any insurance cover taken out by the Club or any member(s) of the Club covering such liability ('the insurance cover') and secondly out of the proceeds of any funds held and available for Club purposes from time to time ('the Club Funds'). The members of the Club shall be responsible for settling any residual liability in terms of Clause 9. a) only once the insurance cover and Club proceeds have been exhausted for this purpose.

10) Club's Premises at Crianlarich

- a) The Committee shall have authority on behalf of the Club and all of the members of the Club from time to time to enter into and execute agreements regulating the terms and conditions under which third parties shall be entitled to occupy the Club's premises situated and known as Inverardran Cottage, Crianlarich or any other premises owned by the Club.
- b) Any decision to sell, lease, dispose of, use as collateral, or otherwise substantially change the use of premises owned by the Club can only be made at an AGM, by a majority of two-thirds of all members of the Club.

11) Badge

The official badge is a symbolic snow-capped mountain. It takes the form of a blue triangle with a white apex on a red field. In the lower third it is crossed by a gold bar with the letters 'OMC' in red. It may be worn only by full members.

12) Conduct

The members of the Club will at all times respect the amenities of the countryside, private property and the preservation of wildlife. Members should in no way besmirch the good name of the Club and of mountaineering.

If, in the view of the committee, a member acts in a manner that is deemed to be unacceptable, the member shall be required to explain his/her actions to the committee at a meeting specifically arranged by the committee. If the

committee considers the explanation unsatisfactory, it can recommend to a general meeting that the member be expelled. The member shall be entitled to address the membership during that general meeting. The membership shall have at least a four-week notice of the general meeting at which the motion of expulsion shall be moved. The membership has the right to expel the member, by two-thirds majority vote, of those members present, provided the meeting is quorate. (Quorum shall consist of 20% of the membership.)

13) Constitution Amendments

No amendment may be made to this constitution except at an AGM or at an EGM. Proposals for amendments to be received not less than 21 days in advance of the meeting by the secretary. Notification of amendments must be sent to members not less than 14 days in advance of the meeting.

14) Accounts

- a) The Treasurer shall maintain proper Accounts for the Club.
- b) Club financial year is 1st April to 31st March.
- c) The Club Accounts will be audited annually as at 31st March.
- d) Operations on the Club's Bank Account(s) by way of cheque, withdrawal or other order to be signed by two officials, one of whom must be the Treasurer.
- e) The Committee is authorised to borrow by way of overdraft, loan or other credit facility, subject to ratification by the members, whatever sums may be deemed necessary from time to time for efficient running of the Club.

As approved at the AGM, June 2002