

# **The Gentian Mountaineering Club**

## **Constitution 2009**

### **1. NAME**

1.1. The name of the Club shall be "The Gentian Mountaineering Club". Hereinafter referred to as "The Club".

### **2. OBJECTIVES OF THE CLUB**

2.1. The objects of the Club shall be to arrange a programme of mountaineering, climbing and similar activities and to arrange social activities to promote good fellowship amongst its members.

### **3. MEMBERSHIP OF THE CLUB**

3.1. Membership shall be open to anyone over the age of eighteen years upon payment of the current subscription. The subscription will be refunded to any member who resigns within three calendar months of the date of joining.

3.2. In addition to 3.1 above membership of the Club 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.

3.3. The committee shall have the power to suspend or cancel membership of any person. The suspension or cancellation of membership shall only be effective if decided by the Committee, with the number of votes in favour being no fewer than the quorum as defined in section 6.11 . The annual subscription shall be refunded to any member whose membership is cancelled.

3.4. Officers, Committee members and all other members of the Gentian Mountaineering Club acting as its agents and with its authority shall be indemnified against any claim, question, risk or expense, out of the property of the Gentian Mountaineering Club.

### **4. ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

4.1. An Annual General Meeting shall be held within five months of the end of the Club's financial year. The business of the Annual General Meeting shall be:

4.1.1. To receive reports on the year's activities;

4.1.2. To receive from the Treasurer the audited accounts for the year;

4.1.3. To elect the Chairperson, Secretary, Treasurer, Membership Secretary, Hut Booking Secretary, Meet Booking Secretary and up to two lay members of the Committee;

4.1.4. To appoint an auditor or auditors who shall not be members of the Committee; they shall have the right of access to the minutes and account books of the Club at all reasonable times;

4.1.5. To conduct any other business of which due notice has been given to the members.

4.2. Nominations for Officers and lay members of the Committee may be made to the Secretary in writing prior to the meeting, and such nominations must be signed by two Members of the Club and have the consent of the nominee.

4.3. Any other items for inclusion in the agenda must be sent to the Secretary at least sixty days before the date of the meeting.

4.4. Notice of the meeting shall be sent to every member at least thirty days before the date of the meeting. This notice shall give the date, time and place of the meeting and shall include an agenda setting out the business for consideration.

4.5. Eight members shall form a quorum.

4.6. The Chairperson shall have a second or casting vote only to be used in the event of a tie. All other members shall have a single vote that shall be cast by either ballot or show of hand. A motion shall be adopted by simple majority vote, except for motions governed by Section 9 (constitutional changes) and Section 10 (dissolution).

4.7. In the absence of the Chairperson the meeting shall elect one of its number to occupy the chair.

## 5. EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING

5.1. An Extraordinary General Meeting shall be called at any time by the Secretary within sixty days of being requested either by the Committee or in writing by one-sixth of the members, who shall sign the requisition, and state the purpose of the meeting.

5.2. The notice convening the meeting shall state that it is an Extraordinary General Meeting and specify the purpose for which it is being held.

5.3. Members shall receive at least thirty days notice of such a meeting.

5.4. Eight members shall form a quorum.

5.5. The Chairperson shall have a second or casting vote only to be used in the event of a tie. All other members shall have a single vote that shall be cast by either ballot or show of hand. A motion shall be adopted by simple majority vote, except for motions governed by Section 9 (constitutional changes) and Section 10 (dissolution).

5.6. In the absence of the Chairperson the meeting shall elect one of its number to occupy the chair.

## 6. MANAGEMENT OF THE CLUB

6.1. The Club shall be managed by a Committee consisting of a Chairperson, Secretary, Treasurer, Membership Secretary, Hut Booking Secretary, Meet Booking Secretary and up to two lay members all of whom shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting, when they shall be eligible for re-election. If more than one nomination is received for a post, this shall be decided by a secret ballot.

6.2. The Chairperson of the Club will normally chair all meetings of the Committee and shall be responsible for reporting to the Membership at the Club's AGM.

6.3. In the absence of the Chairperson the Committee may elect one of its number to occupy the chair.

6.4. The Club Secretary shall be responsible for correspondence relating to Club affairs and for announcing Committee meetings, and the production and distribution of minutes from those meetings.

6.5. The Secretary shall also be responsible for announcing the AGM, in accordance with section 4.3 and 4.4

6.6. The Membership Secretary shall keep records about the Membership of the Club and, if appropriate, shall report to the BMC the size of the Membership.

6.7. The Membership Secretary shall be responsible for the collection of subscriptions.

6.8. The Treasurer will account for any income and expenditure made on behalf of the Club. The Treasurer shall be responsible for the payment, if appropriate, of the membership subscription to the BMC.

6.9. The Hut Booking Secretary shall be responsible for booking the accommodation used in connection with the programme of meets and activities organised by the committee.

6.10. The Meet Booking Secretary shall be responsible for receiving requests for places on meets, allocating them in accordance with current policy, and allocating catering and other duties associated with meets.

6.11. If the committee comprises eight elected members, five members shall form a quorum.

If the committee comprises either six or seven elected members, four members shall form a quorum.

6.12. The Committee shall have the power of co-option. Co-opted members shall not have a vote at committee meetings unless co-opted to fill a vacancy arising amongst the elected committee.

6.13. The Chairperson shall have a second or casting vote only to be used in the event of a tie. All other members of the Committee shall have a single vote, which shall be cast by a show of hand. A motion shall be adopted by simple majority vote, except as in section 3.3.

## 7. CLUB SUBSCRIPTIONS

7.1. The Committee shall have the power to set membership subscription levels for the Club on an annual basis.

7.2. A subscription shall be due on the first of January and valid for the year up to the end of the following December. Two months shall be allowed for payment after which period, if the subscription has not been paid, membership shall be deemed to have lapsed.

7.3. Any new member who applies for membership of the Club and pays a subscription after the first of November shall have that subscription allocated to the following year, commencing on the first of January.

## 8. CLUB PROCEDURES

8.1. The Committee shall have the power to establish procedures for the effective running of the Club. Such procedures shall be in accordance with the articles of the Club's Constitution.

## 9. AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION OF THE CLUB

9.1. This Constitution may be amended by a two-thirds majority at an Annual or Extraordinary General Meeting. Notice of any amendment must be delivered to the Secretary at least 60 days prior to the Annual or Extraordinary Meeting.

## 10. DISSOLUTION OF THE CLUB

10.1. The Club may only be dissolved by a two-thirds majority vote carried at an Annual or Extraordinary General Meeting whereupon the Committee will arrange to discharge any assets equally amongst the Members. Any liabilities at the time of dissolution shall be the joint responsibility of all Members.

Constitution as amended and approved at the AGM on 16 May 2009