

ScottishPower British Energy Mountaineering and Hillwalking Club Constitution and Rules

1. Title

The club shall be known as the ScottishPower British Energy Mountaineering and Hillwalking Club hereinafter referred to as “the Club”.

2. Objectives

The principal objective of the Club will be to actively encourage members to participate in hillwalking and mountaineering. From time to time the Club may also encourage members’ participation in other related outdoor pursuits such as cycling and mountain-biking

3. Membership

The membership of the Club shall be any of the following;

3.1 Ordinary Member

All current and retired members of the ScottishPower and British Energy Social and Recreational Associations are eligible for membership of the Club as Ordinary Members provided they are fully paid-up members of the relevant Social and Recreational Association.

3.2 Associate Member

The Club shall have the right to enrol members who do not meet the eligibility criteria for Ordinary or Family membership. These members shall be known as Associate Members.

3.3 Family Member

Family membership shall be restricted to the spouse/partner and children (up to age 18) of members.

3.4 Membership

On admission, each member shall receive a copy of the Constitution and Rules of the Club.

Acceptance of the membership binds the applicant to observe the Constitution and Rules.

3.5 Number of Members

The number of Ordinary and Family members of the Club will not be limited. The Committee reserves the right to limit the number of Associate memberships available.

3.6 Obligations on Members

Each member shall be bound to further to the best of his/her ability the objectives, interests and influence of the Club.

Each member acknowledges that by their nature, the activities of the Club involve an element of personal risk and to this end undertakes not to bring or join in any action, claim or other proceedings against the Club, its officers or members on account of their bona fide actions carried out in the course of fulfilling the Club's Objectives.

Members acknowledge their responsibility for the safety of any children whom they bring to participate in Club activities and undertake to assess the suitability of the activities and provide supervision at all times.

4. Resignations

Any individual resigning from membership shall intimate this action in writing to the Membership Secretary before the Annual General Meeting.

5. Subscriptions

Subscriptions will run from 1st April to 31st March and shall be determined by the Committee.

6. Suspension of Members

6.1 Should the conduct of a member be, in the opinion of the Committee, injurious to the character and interests of the Club, the Committee, having taken all reasonable steps to ascertain the facts, shall be empowered to suspend all rights and privileges of that member, who must be notified in writing of the Committee's decision.

6.2 An individual member having such action taken against them shall have the right to appeal to a Special Meeting of the club, provided that a written notice of appeal is received by the Membership Secretary within 21 days of receipt of the notice of suspension from the Committee. Notice of the Special Meeting must be given 14 days before the appeal.

6.3 Any individual whose membership form and subscription is not submitted to the Membership Secretary by 1st June shall have all rights and privileges of membership suspended until these actions are completed.

7. Management

7.1 The Office bearers shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting.

7.2 The Office Bearers shall be: the Chair, Membership Secretary, Outings Convener and Treasurer.

- 7.3 The Committee shall comprise the Office Bearers and up to four members such that the overall Committee contains at least one Ordinary Member.
- 7.4 The Committee may co-opt any member to fill any vacancy on the Committee subject to 7.2 and 7.3 above.
- 7.5 A quorum of the Committee shall be 3 members including at least one Office Bearer.
- 7.6 Decisions shall be taken by a simple majority of those present at any meeting of the Committee. The Chair at any such meeting shall have deliberative vote as well as casting vote.
- 7.7 The Committee shall be responsible to the membership for fulfilling the Objectives of the Club, and shall have the necessary powers to regulate and administer the affairs of the Club.
- 7.8 The Committee (and any sub-committee they appoint) shall provide and keep proper records of business conducted at their meetings, AGM and maintain financial accounts based upon the financial year of 1st January to 31st December.
- 7.9 The Treasurer shall be responsible for opening a bank account in the name of the Club, to be operated by the signature of any two members of the Committee, at least one of whom shall be an Ordinary Member. The Club is hereby expressly prohibited from obtaining or operating any overdraft or other credit facility.
- 7.10 The Committee shall meet as often as necessary and hold an AGM within three calendar months of the end of the financial year.

8. Annual General Meeting (AGM)

- 8.1 The AGM shall be open to all members. All Ordinary and Associate Members are eligible to vote on the business of the Club. A quorum is 15 Ordinary and Associate members. The Chair at any meeting shall have an additional casting vote, and decisions will be taken by a simple majority of those present.
- 8.2 Resolutions changing the Constitution shall be decided by two-thirds majority of the members present and voting at the AGM.

9. Special Meetings

Any member of the Club may convene a Special Meeting of the Club on written request, signed by at not less than five members, to the Membership Secretary, specifying the purpose of such meeting. Such meetings shall be held within 28 days of such a request being received but shall be convened on not less than 14 days notice. No business other than that specified in the members' written request may be discussed at such a

meeting. All Ordinary and Associate Members are eligible to vote at a Special Meeting of the Club

10. **Dissolution of Club**

A decision to dissolve the Club may be taken by the membership at a Special Meeting convened for that purpose, which shall also decide upon the method of meeting outstanding liabilities and the distribution of assets and any other relevant matters.

In the event of dissolution of the Club, ownership of all Club equipment shall revert to the Social and Recreational Association who will decide on the method of disposal.

James Anderson, Chairman
18 February 2014