

# Cambridge University Caving Club

## Constitution

1. This organisation shall be called the “Cambridge University Caving Club”.
2. The object of the Club shall be to promote active interest in all aspects of speleology.

### 3. Membership

- (a) The membership of the Club shall be open to all past and present members of the University of Cambridge, students pursuing a course of full-time study at a college of higher education in Cambridge or at a research institute approved by the University of Cambridge, employees of the University of Cambridge or of a college of higher education in Cambridge, and other people accepted by the committee, regardless of religion, nationality, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, stature, lardiness or lack of personal hygiene. The words “in Cambridge” shall be taken to mean “within fifteen miles of Great St. Mary’s”.
- (b) Honorary members may only be elected by a two-thirds or greater majority vote at a general meeting. Honorary membership shall be for life, on the condition that members provide any details required for the club’s smooth running and fulfil any safety requirements.
- (c) Membership is available until the end of the current calendar year, on the condition that members provide any details required for the Club’s smooth running, fulfil any safety requirements and pay their membership fees.
- (d) Temporary membership is open for 17 consecutive days to anyone participating for the first time in speleological activities with CUCC, on the condition that they have provided the necessary details the Club requires for insurance and safety purposes.

### 4. Committee

- (a) The officers of the Club shall consist of:
  - i. Senior Treasurer.
  - ii. The following principal officers, who are also voting committee members:
    - President;
    - Secretary;
    - Junior Treasurer;
    - Tackle Master.
  - iii. Up to four other voting committee members.
- (b) The Senior Treasurer must be a member of the Regent House, the roll of which is published each Michaelmas Term in ‘Reporter’ or, exceptionally, a person approved by the Junior Proctor.
- (c) The majority of the principal officers must be *in statu pupillari*.
- (d) The committee must have a majority of membership *in statu pupillari* or members of the Regent House.
- (e) The committee shall have the power to assign posts of authority to the non-principal committee members, but its four principal officers may only be reassigned by a majority vote at a general meeting.
- (f) Management of the Club shall be the responsibility of the committee.
- (g) Five voting committee members, or two-thirds of the voting committee members, whichever is smaller, including at least three principal officers, shall constitute a quorum at a committee meeting.

- (h) No member may serve on the committee for more than one year without re-election.
- (i) Club members may be co-opted onto the committee by its majority vote to fill casual vacancies, or as non-voting members.

## **5. Finances**

- (a) The Junior Treasurer shall manage the Club funds and produce accounts for presentation at the AGM for approval. They shall also submit the previous year's accounts to the Junior Proctor as and when required.
- (b) No officers of CUCC shall be liable for any debt or other obligation of the Club, except where they have personally authorised it in writing.
- (c) Officers of CUCC should not authorise any transaction involving financial liability, unless they are sure it is *intra vires* and that sufficient funds are available. Funds should only be used for purposes consistent with this constitution.
- (d) The signatories to the Club bank accounts shall be the Senior Treasurer, the Junior Treasurer and the President.

## **6. General meetings and elections**

- (a) The AGM shall be held on a date between the division of Lent Term and the end of Full Lent Term. Fourteen days' notice shall be given to members of the date and the agenda.
- (b) An EGM may be called by the committee, and shall be called upon the receipt of a petition signed by at least five Club members. Fourteen days' notice shall be given to members of the date, which shall be in University Full Term, and agenda.
- (c) Members and honorary members are entitled to vote at general meetings. Temporary members are not entitled to vote.
- (d) Ten voting members, or one half of the voting membership, whichever is the smaller, shall constitute a quorum at a general meeting.
- (e) The officers of the Club shall be elected at the AGM, or a subsequent EGM should the AGM not be quorate.
- (f) Nominations for the officers of the Club may be made to the Secretary both at the AGM, and during the two weeks preceding the AGM.
- (g) Anyone may be nominated for any number of principal officer positions, but may only be elected to one, unless a total of fewer than four people have been nominated for the principal officers, in which case the rôle of Tackle Master may be taken on in addition to another rôle.
- (h) The order of election of the principal officers of the committee shall be the order in which they are listed in clause 4a, followed by the election of other voting members.
- (i) A secret ballot shall be held if requested by a voting member.
- (j) The election shall be by the majority of votes cast. In the event of a tie, the retiring President shall have the casting vote.
- (k) There shall be no postal or proxy voting at general meetings.

## **7. Disbarring members from participating in Club activities**

- (a) The committee shall have the right to disbar on grounds of safety any member or non-member from participation in CUCC's speleological activities.

## **8. Constitutional amendments**

- (a) The constitution may be amended at a general meeting by a two-thirds majority vote, providing that the changes are advertised 14 days before the general meeting.

- (b) No amendment to this Constitution intended to remove the position of Senior Treasurer, to alter its prerogatives and duties, or to change the criteria and procedure for the appointment of a Senior Treasurer can be put to a vote without the prior written agreement of the Junior Proctor of the University of Cambridge.

#### **9. Dissolving the Club**

- (a) Should the Club be dissolved, its equipment and funds shall be given to the Societies Syndicate for the benefit of other outdoor clubs.
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