

The Castle Mountaineering Club Constitution & Rules

Revisions incorporated in these Rules passed by AGMs on 25 Nov 1971, 16 Dec 1982, 8 Dec 1983, 27 Nov 1986, 30 Nov 1989, 5 Dec 1991, 23 Nov 2012 & 23rd Nov 2017

1. **Name:** The club shall be called “the Castle Mountaineering Club”.
2. **Objects:** The objects of the club shall be to foster the love of mountains and to afford opportunities to its members of acquiring knowledge of all aspects of climbing and mountaineering.
3. **Membership**
 - 3.1 The club shall consist of ordinary members and honorary members.
 - 3.2 **Ordinary membership** shall be open to all persons who have reached the age of 18 years
 - 3.3 **Honorary membership** may be given to any ordinary member or other person, in the absolute discretion of the committee, in recognition of that member or person’s outstanding contribution to the club.
4. **Election of Members**
 - 4.1 Any person aged 18 years or over shall be eligible to apply for admission as an ordinary member.
 - 4.2 Any person applying for admission as an ordinary member of the club must attend a minimum of two outdoor meets and submit a completed application, on a form approved by the committee, to the membership secretary counter signed by two existing ordinary members of the club. The application shall include a declaration
 - (1) recognising that mountaineering, rock climbing and associated activities of the club are potentially dangerous activities
 - (2) that they agree to participate in such activities in the full knowledge of the risks involved and without thereby entering into legal relations
 - (3) that they will henceforth be bound by the Constitution and Rules of the club.
 - 4.3 Receipt of the application for membership shall be notified to all existing members of the club by the Membership Secretary with a notice that any member who wishes to object must notify his or her objections to the Membership Secretary or any member of the committee within 14 days.
 - 4.4 After the period of 14 days has elapsed the committee shall consider the application at the earliest opportunity and decide whether to accept the application or refuse it.
 - 4.5 Once the application for membership has been accepted or refused the Membership Secretary shall notify the applicant accordingly. Successful applicants shall be sent a list of current members, the current meets list, a copy of the club’s Constitution and Rules and notification that the membership fee for the current year is now payable
5. **Privileges and Duties of Members**
 - 5.1 Members shall be entitled to avail themselves of all the facilities afforded by the club, to obtain advice and assistance from those qualified to give

these and to attend all meets, meetings and social events of the club.

5.2 The club, its office bearers or any members shall not be liable for any accident that may befall anyone while engaged on club activities or in or about club premises or for the loss or damage of personal property within the club premises.

6. Entry fee and subscription

6.1 Ordinary members shall pay an annual subscription in the amount fixed at the A.G.M..

6.2 New members shall pay the full amount of the current annual subscription on being notified of the acceptance of their application for membership.

6.3 Honorary members shall be entitled to free membership or to membership at such reduced subscription as may be fixed from time to time at the A.G.M.

6.4 Each year's **annual subscription** shall be payable in advance on the completion of the preceding year's A.G.M.

7. Resignation from membership

Any member may resign his or her membership at any time by giving written notice to that effect addressed to the Membership Secretary.

8. Reinstatement of Membership

Those who resign from ordinary membership may at the discretion of the committee be reinstated as ordinary members on payment of the current annual subscription.

9. Expulsion from membership

A General Meeting of the club shall have power by a majority of not less than two thirds of the votes recorded to expel any member for any cause which the meeting shall deem sufficient. The proposal to expel a member shall be made only on a motion submitted by the committee or in pursuance of a requisition made to the Secretary by not less than ten members.

10. Finance

10.1 **Funds** of the club shall be applied in the interests of the club and the furtherance of its objects as the committee may decide.

10.2 The **financial year** of the club shall commence on the 1st November and end on the 31st October subsequent thereto.

10.3 **Treasurer's accounts.** The Treasurer shall, at the A.G.M., submit accounts for the financial year ending on the preceding 31st October.

10.4 **Auditor.** The committee shall appoint an Auditor to audit the accounts of the club in time to be presented to the A.G.M.

10.5 **Liquidator.** In the event of dissolution of the club, a liquidator shall be appointed by the committee. After meeting all obligations of the club, any surplus of funds shall be divided equally among the ordinary members of the club at the date of dissolution.

11. Property.

- 11.1 The club may acquire and hold heritable property by purchase, lease or otherwise, to be used in furtherance of the objects of the club and may sell let, or otherwise dispose of such property, arrangements for its use and management being made by the committee. In the event of a dissolution of the club and disposal of its property, the proceeds of such disposal shall be dealt with in accordance with Rule 10.5.
- 11.2 The Trustees for the club in property transactions shall be the President, Secretary and Treasurer for the time being and their successors in office, and the holders of these offices shall grant all deeds and documents necessary in subsequent transactions with the property.
- 11.3 The present clubroom is in Little Common Lane, off Abbey Lane, Ecclesall, Sheffield. Members shall be entitled to introduce guests to the clubroom, provided that any guests introduced shall be accompanied by the introducer who shall cause the name and address of the guest, together with his own name, to be entered in the visitor's book which shall be kept at the clubroom.
- 11.4 The committee may from time to time make, vary or revoke regulations not inconsistent with these Rules for the regulation of the use of the clubroom and the use of the club equipment and the clubroom library. All such Regulations unless and until revoked by the committee shall be exhibited on the clubroom notice board and shall be binding on all persons using the clubroom.

12. Committee

- 12.1 The affairs of the club shall be administered by a **committee** consisting of a maximum of fifteen and not less than seven Ordinary Members elected to hold office as President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Membership Secretary, Meets Secretary and members of the committee. The committee shall have power to fill any vacancy arising in their number pending the next A.G.M. Six shall form a quorum.
- 12.2 **Terms of the committee.** The members of the committee shall be elected at the A.G.M. and shall hold office thereafter until the succeeding A.G.M. Members shall be eligible for re-election with the exception of The President and Vice-President who shall not be entitled to hold Office for more than two successive years.
- 12.3 **Nominations.** It shall be the duty of the retiring committee to propose Candidates for the offices of President, Vice-President, Treasurer, Secretary, Membership Secretary, Meets Secretary and members of the Committee. Notice of the candidates so proposed shall be posted to all members at least two weeks before the date of the A.G.M.
- 12.4 **Counter-Nomination.** Any member may propose a candidate for any of offices mentioned in the preceding Rule by giving notice in writing to the Secretary at least one week before the date of the meeting accompanied by the consent in writing of the member so proposed.
- 12.5 **Election.** If at the A.G.M. the only candidates proposed are those

nominated by the retiring committee and there are no objections from the floor and no counter nominations have been submitted, the candidates so proposed shall be declared duly elected by the Chairman. If there are objections from the floor and/or counter-nominations, the meeting shall forthwith proceed to an election by ballot.

13. Meets and Meetings

- 13.1 **Meets or meetings** shall so far as possible be held at least monthly for the practical and social benefit of members. Advance notice of meets and meetings shall be given to all members by the Meets Secretary in a meets list. Full details of each meet shall be given subsequently by the approved meet co-ordinator.
- 13.2 **Annual General Meeting.** The A.G.M. of the club shall be held in November or December. At the meeting the officers shall submit their annual report and the Treasurer a set of audited accounts.
- 13.3 An **Extraordinary General Meeting** shall be called by the Secretary on the instruction of the committee or in pursuance of a requisition to that effect signed by at least ten members and specifying the object for which the meeting is to be called. The meeting shall take place within six weeks of the receipt of such instruction or requisition by the Secretary.
- 13.4 **Notice of a General Meeting** and the purpose for which it is being called shall be posted to all members at least two weeks before the date of the meeting.
- 13.5 **Chairman.** The chair at any meeting of the club shall be taken by the President or in his absence the Vice-President. In the absence of both, the meeting shall elect a chairman from the ordinary members present.
- 13.6 **Voting.** All ordinary and honorary members shall be entitled to vote at the A.G.M. and any Extraordinary General Meeting. The Chairman at any meeting shall in the case of an equality of votes have a second or casting vote.
- 13.7 **Minutes** of General and committee meetings shall be kept by the Secretary.

14. Dissolution of the club

A General Meeting of the club shall have power by a majority of not less than five-sixths of the votes recorded, with a minimum of recorded votes of not less than two thirds of all the ordinary members on the roll of the club at the time of the vote, to dissolve the club. The proposal to dissolve shall be made only upon a motion submitted by the committee, or in pursuance of a requisition made to the Secretary and signed by not less than ten members or by two thirds of the existing members whichever may be less. Ordinary members not present shall be entitled to vote by letter. Notice of the proposal to dissolve shall be posted to all members at least four weeks before the date of the meeting.

15. Amendment of Constitution / Rules

15.1 A General Meeting of the club shall have power to alter or add to the Constitution/Rules by a majority of two thirds of the votes recorded.

Notice of any such proposed alteration or addition shall be posted to all members at least four weeks before the date of the meeting.

16.General

16.1 The committee shall have the power to take such steps not herein specified as it deems necessary to fulfil the objects of the club.

16.2 Any **complaints** by members shall be made in writing to the Secretary, who if unable to deal with them shall submit them to the committee, whose decision shall be final and binding.

16.3 Any **notice** required by these Rules to be given to any member shall be deemed to be properly given if posted by ordinary post to the latest address given by the member in question to the Membership Secretary or alternatively if sent by email to the member's current email address.

17.Commencement

The Constitution/ Rules shall take effect as from 9th October 1967