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## BY-LAWS OF OXFORD UNIVERSITY MOUNTAINEERING CLUB

*From Michaelmas Term 2026*

### INTRODUCTION

1. As per the club's constitution: -
  - a. The Committee shall have power to make regulations and bylaws in order to implement the paragraphs of the Constitution, and to settle any disputed points not otherwise provided for in this Constitution.
  - b. This Constitution shall be binding on all members of the Club. No regulation, bye-law or policy of the Club shall be inconsistent with, or shall affect or repeal anything contained in, the Club's Constitution.
2. This document represents the by-laws made by the club to carry out its functions.

### THE COMMITTEE

The committee shall function as per the club's constitution. The following committee members roles, in addition to the officers named in the constitution, shall be included on the clubs committee: -

3. The President shall:
  - (a) be responsible for the overall running of the Club, acting as chairman at meetings, and directing the Club's Committee.
  - (b) guide the Club towards fulfilling its object, that is to say the support, development, improvement and promotion of mountaineering and rock climbing, and all their associated disciplines, in the University of Oxford,
  - (c) represent OUMC at Sports Federation meetings, producing an annual report for the Sports Federation and applying for relevant funding;
  - (d) liaise with the Oxford Alpine Club and the Irvine Trust Fund, sending an annual Irvine application for the club;
  - (e) overview the privacy regulations of the club, and make sure that the data stored by the club is preserved in the most appropriate way following privacy regulations. The President will flag to the committee whenever a policy is outdated and needs to be revised,
  - (f) be the Club's designated IT member.
4. The Indoor Club Captains shall: [EXCEPTION]
  - a. one of the two Indoor Club Captains shall be a representative for women and non-binary members.
  - b. run the club's weekly training sessions, open to all members.
  - c. issue a call for members of the competition team during Michaelmas Term, and select a total of 14-18 members of the team, with equal representation of men and women.

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- d. organise entry and transportation for BUCS, and liaise with the Sports Federation where necessary.
- e. in agreement with the Cambridge University Mountaineering Club, organise and run the annual Varsity match, including venue hire, participant registration and transport.
- f. attend the necessary Blues meetings, and abide by the Oxford Blues Committee constitution.

5. The two Meet Officers shall:

- a. Organise a plan of day and weekend trips before the start of each term, including booking minibuses and accommodation as required.
- b. Advertise the next week's meet through the mailing list each Sunday.
- c. Communicate with librarians and gear secretaries to ensure the required guidebooks and gear are available for the meet.
- d. Select attendees for each meet on a first-come-first-serve basis while prioritising climbers with necessary experience, gear, and cars to ensure the whole group can safely climb and travel.
- e. Ensure all attendees are current members of the club with valid BMC insurance cover.
- f. Inform the Sports Federation of the date, location and attendees via email in advance of the meet.
- g. At least one Meet officer, or an appointed committee member, shall attend the meet and take note of attendance before departure.

6. The Welfare Officers: [EXCEPTION]

- a. One of the Welfare Officers shall be a representative for women and non-binary members, and organise activities with these members of the club in mind.
- b. One or both Welfare officers should attend relevant Sports Federation training at the start of their role.
- c. Shall constitute a first point of contact for complaints issued by members of the club.

7. The Gear Officer shall:

- a. Look after the Club's stock of equipment, including ropes, rock shoes, harness, and winter gear;
- b. Make sure that every person wanting to borrow from the club requests formal approval, and that all borrowed gear is returned timely and in adequate conditions;
- c. Inspect the club's gear at least termly;
- d. Replace items of gear that are no longer safe and in good condition and suggest new needed items to the Committee.
- e. This role can have a supporting, non-voting officer.

8. The Course Officer shall:

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- a. Be responsible for organising at least one climbing and/or mountaineering related course per term to maintain skill levels of club members.
- b. Ensure that all persons attending courses are paying OUMC members.
- c. Liaise and maintain connections with local mountaineering instructors who can teach courses such as beginner's climbing skills, indoor lead climbing, outdoor sport climbing, trad climbing skills, winter mountaineering skills, mountaineering first aid skills and any additional skills that club members may find useful. Ideally the Club will seek training from a diverse and representative body of instructors, including women, non-binary, queer and minority professionals.
- d. This role can have a supporting, non-voting officer.

9. The Librarian and OMJ Editor shall:

- a. Shall run an annual Irvine application planning evening, as well as supporting the President for the organisation of the Irvine Expedition evening.
- b. Shall collaborate with the staff of the Bodleian Libraries to preserve and develop the Oxford Mountain Library, donated by Janet Adam Smith;
- c. Shall make sure that all guidebooks borrowed by individual members of the club are returned and do not go missing.
- d. Shall make sure that guidebooks are accurate and still relevant, and suggest new acquisitions whenever guidebooks become outdated.
- e. Shall annually issue a call for contributions to the Oxford Mountaineering Journal, and edit the contributions. If too many contributions are submitted, the editors shall proceed to select the most suitable.
- f. Shall organise printing and distribution of the Oxford Mountaineering Journal.
- g. This role can have a supporting, non-voting officer.

10. The Social Officer shall

- a. Shall organise the social activities of the Club during term. In particular this involves booking a venue and taking care of subscriptions for the Christmas Dinner (to be held at the end of Michaelmas Term) and the Annual Dinner (to be held at the end of Trinity Term).
- b. Shall make sure that members of the club feel welcome and safe during social events (such as the weekly pub evening on Wednesdays at the Gardeners Arms pub on Plantation Road), and that such events are inclusive (for instance, by providing non-alcoholic and vegetarian options).
- c. This role can have a supporting, non-voting officer.

**ADDITIONAL SECTION**

11. The Committee can be supported in its functioning by the following, non-voting officers:

- (a) a Webmaster, making sure that the Club's website is functioning and regularly updated with the new term card and committee details,
- (b) a supporting Gear Officer, Course Officer, Social Officer, and Librarian (as also outlined in the description of these roles).

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12. the Club shall effect and maintain registration with the British Mountaineering Council (“BMC”) as long as they remain eligible for such affiliation: purchase any insurance cover which the BMC makes available (unless the Insurance Section of the University’s Central Administration agrees to or prescribes other arrangements); and make every effort to comply with all the safety procedures which the BMC prescribes or recommends as good practice.

13. Life members shall be those who, after paying subscription for four years from the date of admittance, shall forfeit all further subscriptions subject to approval of the Committee.

#### **CHANGES TO THESE BY-LAWS**

14. CHANGES TO THESE BY-LAWS MUST BE APPROVED AT A GENERAL MEETING WITH THE APPROVAL OF TWO-THIRDS OF PRESENT, ELIGIBLE AND VOTING MEMBERS.

#### **INTERPRETATION**

15. Any question about the interpretation of these By-Laws shall be settled by the Senior Member of the club.

16. Guidance relating to by-laws and their relationship to the club constitution can be sought from the Sports Federation.