

The North London Mountaineering Club

CONSTITUTION

This document is valid as at **2 December 2006** and supersedes all previous versions.

1. Name:

This Club shall be called the "NORTH LONDON MOUNTAINEERING CLUB" and is hereinafter referred to as "The Club".

2. Objects:

The objects of The Club shall be to encourage the practice of mountaineering in all its aspects amongst its members.

3. Status

The Club is a non-profit making organisation and any surplus income or gains shall be re-invested in the Club, and, subject to Rule 29, will not be distributed to members or third parties.

4. Headquarters:

The headquarters of The Club shall be:

*Mile End Climbing Wall
Haverfield Road
London
E3 5BE*

or such other place as shall be approved by the Committee from time to time.

5. Membership:

The Club shall consist of ordinary members, family members, honorary members and concessionary members.

- a) Ordinary membership shall be open to any person aged eighteen years of age or over.
- b) Family membership shall consist of individual and partner and any children up to the age of eighteen years.
- c) Concessionary membership shall be available to students engaged in full-time education, the unemployed and the over 60's.

Criteria for membership: Any person seeking membership must be proposed and seconded by paid up members of the club. Additionally, anyone who neither lives nor works in the M25 area must also have their application approved by the Committee. All members must sign the annual waiver of liability.

Application for membership of the Club shall always be considered on a non-discriminatory basis. Membership of the Club shall be open to anyone interested in mountaineering on application, regardless of sex, disability, ethnicity, nationality, sexual orientation, religion or beliefs. Persons under 18 may only obtain membership as part of Family membership.

6. Honorary Members:

Honorary members, who shall not be liable to pay any subscription or hut fees but shall be entitled to all the privileges of membership, may be elected for life by the Club in General Meeting. However, there shall not be more than ten honorary members at any one time.

7. Subscriptions and Fees:

Subscriptions shall be paid yearly in advance at the rates set out below, become due and payable on election and thereafter without demand on 1st January in every year. The Committee may terminate the membership of any member whose annual subscription remains unpaid on 1st March.

Membership Subscriptions	Ordinary membership	£17.00 per annum
	Family membership	£23.00 per annum
	Concessionary membership	£9.00 per annum

Hut Fees	Unlimited hut use (Individual)	£15.00 per annum
	Unlimited hut use (Family)	£22.00 per annum

Members	£3.00 per night
Guests	£4.00 per night

New Members joining after 1st July shall be entitled to a discount of 50% on the membership subscription for that year. New Members joining after 1st October shall be deemed to have paid their subscription and unlimited hut use fee for the following year.

The Committee shall have the absolute discretion to set the rate per person per night for use of the Club's barn.

8. Committee and Officers:

The affairs of the Club, in all matters not in these rules reserved for the Club in Annual General or Extra-Ordinary General Meetings, shall be managed by the Committee of the Club. The Committee shall consist of:

President	Membership Secretary	New Members Secretary
Vice President	Indoor Meets	Outdoor Meets
Secretary	Hut Booking Secretary	Website Editor
Treasurer	Newsletter Editor	
Hut Warden	Two Other Members	

All of whom shall be Honorary Officers of the Club and elected annually at the Annual General Meeting. They shall go out of office in every year, but shall be eligible for re-election. The Committee may co-opt any member on to the Committee at any time.

The Committee may appoint one or more sub-committees for such purposes as it may deem appropriate.

9. The Secretary:

The Secretary shall be required to attend and keep the minutes at all Committee Meetings and summon and attend the Annual General Meeting and any Extra-Ordinary General Meeting which may be called.

10. The Treasurer:

The Treasurer shall be required to attend all Committee Meetings, Annual General and Extra-Ordinary General Meetings, keep the books of the Club and produce a balance sheet and income and expenditure account for the year to 30th September, or any other such date as may be set at an A.G.M. of the Club. They will keep the cheque-books in respect of the Club's Bank Account/s, but will only have the authority of the Committee to sign cheques jointly with another signatory as named on the Mandate. All expenditure over £300 must be authorised by the Committee. The Treasurer will provide details at the Committee Meetings of all expenditure incurred between Committee Meetings for information purposes.

11. Annual report of accounts:

The balance sheet and income and expenditure account as prepared by the treasurer are to be presented to a Reporting Accountant who will present his report in conjunction with The Club's accounts at the A.G.M.

12. Bank Mandate:

Authorised signatories of cheques shall be registered with the Club's Bankers on an approved form of mandate. They will normally consist of: The Treasurer, The President, The Secretary and one/two other Committee Members. Any two named may sign a cheque, but in no case may the Payee of a cheque be also one of the signatories.

13. Committee Meetings:

There will normally be a minimum of six Committee Meetings per year. A quorum for a Committee Meeting shall be a minimum of 5 Committee Members.

14. Trustees:

There shall be three Trustees of the Club who shall be appointed from time to time as necessary by the Club in General Meeting from among members who are willing to be so appointed. A Trustee shall hold office during his life, or until they shall resign by notice in writing given to the Committee, or until a resolution removing them from office shall be passed at an Annual General or Extra-Ordinary General Meeting of the Club by a majority comprising two thirds of the members present and entitled to vote.

Any property of the Club including land and investments shall be held by the Trustees for the time being, in their own names as far as necessary and practicable, for the use and benefit of the Club. On the death, resignation or removal from office of a Trustee, the Committee shall take steps to procure the appointment by the Club in Annual General or Extra-

Ordinary General Meetings of a new Trustee in his/her place; and shall as soon as possible thereafter take all lawful and practicable steps to procure the vesting of all Club property into the names of the Trustees as constituted after the appointment.

The Trustees shall have power to sell, lease, mortgage or pledge any Club property for the purpose of raising or borrowing money for the benefit of the Club only, with the authority of Club members.

15. General Meeting:

An Annual General Meeting shall be held in the last quarter of each year for the purpose of electing the Honorary Officers and Reporting Accountant of the Club for the forthcoming year and to discuss and vote on any other matters affecting the interest of the Club. Notice of the day and time of the Annual General Meeting shall be given by the Secretary, as prescribed in Rule 20, at least 28 days before the day of the meeting. The secretary shall receive all nominations and motions at least 14 days before the AGM so as to allow the secretary to distribute them to members prior to the meeting. The chairman may accept amendments to resolutions proposed at the AGM providing they do not materially alter the subject of the resolutions concerned.

16. Extra-Ordinary General Meeting:

An Extra-Ordinary General Meeting may be summoned by the Committee at any time, and shall be so summoned immediately upon ten members delivering to the Committee a written request stating the resolution they wish to put before the meeting. An Extra-Ordinary General Meeting shall be called by the Secretary within seven days of such request in the manner prescribed in Rule 20, giving at least fourteen days notice to the membership, except in exceptional circumstances.

17. A.G.M. or E.G.M. attendance:

At any Annual General Meeting or Extra-Ordinary General Meeting of the Club every member of the Club shall be entitled to be present. Every ordinary, student, and honorary member shall be entitled to one vote, and family membership shall be entitled to two votes only, upon every question raised. In the case of equality of the voting the Chairman of the Meeting (who shall be a member elected by the meeting before any other business is opened) shall have a second or casting vote. A member entitled to attend and vote at the meeting is entitled to appoint a proxy to attend and vote in their place. A proxy need not be a member of the Club. The name of the appointed proxy should be in the hands of the Secretary seven days before the meeting.

18. Quorum:

At any Annual General Meeting and Extra-Ordinary General Meeting a quorum shall consist of a minimum of 20 paid up members. If within one hour of the official commencement of an Annual General Meeting or an Extra-Ordinary General Meeting a quorum is not present the meeting, if called by members, shall be dissolved; in any other case it shall stand adjourned for one week to the same time and place and if at the adjourned meeting a quorum is not present within one hour the members present shall be a quorum.

19. Indoor Meetings:

Indoor Meetings are held on Wednesday evenings at Mile End Climbing wall and afterwards at the Headquarters of the Club every week throughout the year.

20. Notices:

Each member shall keep the Membership Secretary informed of their private address, or of some other address at which communication may be addressed to them. Notices of all Annual General Meetings and Extra-Ordinary General Meetings shall be posted to members by the Secretary to ensure that every member has sufficient notice of any meeting for such period as is required by these Rules. The accidental omission to send such notice or the non-receipt of the same shall not invalidate the proceedings or resolutions.

21. Newsletter:

A newsletter keeping members informed about Club activities, Committee decisions and general Club news will be sent to all members on a regular basis. The cost of this is included in the Annual Subscription.

22. Alteration or amendment to the Rules:

The general rules and constitution may only be changed by a majority comprising two-thirds or more of the members present in person or by proxy at any Annual General Meeting or Extra-Ordinary General Meeting of the Club of which notice has been duly given under Rule 15 or Rule 17.

23. The Hut, Bryn Brethynau, Barn and Out Buildings:

- a) The Club property, Cottage, Barn and Out Buildings shall be for the sole use of Club members with their guests, or when let out to other societies, or persons by the Hut Bookings Secretary.
- b) Members have exclusive right to use the Cottage, which shall not be let out to other organisations except under exceptional circumstances.
- c) Members may not use the Barn when it is booked out to other persons or societies.
- d) Members who purchase Unlimited Hut Use (UHU) are limited to a stay of 100 nights per year (January to December) with a maximum uninterrupted stay of one month.

Use of the cottage and barn by members is governed by a Code of Conduct with supporting rules which forms Appendix A to this constitution. These rules may be changed by the committee at any time without prior notice to The Club.

24. Misbehaviour:

The Committee may suspend the membership of any member whose conduct, whether on Club premises or elsewhere, is or has been in the opinion of the Committee contrary to the interests of the Club or injurious to its reputation.

25. Suspension:

Immediately upon the suspension (under Rule 24 of the membership) of any member the Committee shall:

- a) Cause an Extra-Ordinary General Meeting of the Club to be summoned in accordance with the notice period in Rule 16 where any allegations against the suspended member shall be related (in their presence if they attend) to the meeting by a member of the Committee, and the suspended member shall (if they desire) be heard in answer, a reasonable adjournment to enable them to prepare their answer being allowed them at the discretion of the Committee. The decision of the Club at the said meeting or at any adjourned meeting whether to re-instate the suspended member or to terminate their membership shall be taken by vote and shall be final and conclusive. The Chairman of any such EGM shall be the President of the Club, and in their absence it shall be the Vice-President, Secretary or Treasurer. If none of those members are present any other member of the Committee shall chair the meeting.
- b) Give notice to the suspended member at their address as last notified to the Secretary under Rule 20 of their suspension, and inform them that if they so desire they may be present at the said Extra-Ordinary General Meeting.

26. Exclusion of Liability:

Membership of the Club is conditional on your agreeing to abide by the Rules of the Club as laid down by the Committee. Members of the Club and their guests may use the Club premises and any other facilities of the Club entirely at their own risk and accept that the Club:-

- a) Will not accept liability for any damage or loss of property from the Club's premises belonging to members or their guests.
- b) Will not accept liability for personal injury arising in the Club premises, whether or not such damage or injury could have been attributed to or was occasioned by the neglect, default or negligence of any of the Trustees or officers of the Committee of the Club.

27. Additional Power of the Committee:

The Committee may in exceptional circumstances vary the Constitution (not inconsistent with this document).

28. Dissolution:

If at any time the Club shall pass at an Annual General Meeting or Extra-Ordinary General Meeting by a majority comprising 75% or more of the members present or by proxy and entitled to vote, a resolution of its intention to dissolve the Club, the Committee with the assistance of the Trustees as required, shall take immediate steps to convert into money all the property of the Club with, however, having the power to postpone or delay the conversion of any particular property if the Club in Extra-Ordinary General Meeting shall so authorise. Out of the proceeds of such conversion, the Trustees shall discharge all debts and liabilities of the Club, including the expenses of such conversion and any balance remaining in their hands shall be donated to the Mountain Rescue Organisation or such body as at the time of dissolution, carries out the functions of that body and that is a registered charity. If no such body exists, the remainder shall be donated to the British Mountaineering Council (or such other national mountaineering governing body which performs the functions of that body at the time of dissolution).

29. BMC Affiliation:

The Club shall be affiliated to the British Mountaineering Council ("BMC"), and as such, the members acknowledge and agree that they will become members of the BMC and that the Club shall pay the appropriate subscription on behalf of

each member included in the return filed by the Club with the BMC, and, in the event of the BMC being wound up, shall pay the sum of not more than £1 on behalf of each member included in a return filed by the Club with the BMC at any time within the preceding period of one year pursuant to the guarantee comprised in clause 6 of the Memorandum of Association of the BMC. The members further acknowledge and agree that they will each be bound by the Memorandum and Articles of Association of the BMC.

Appendix A
THE NORTH LONDON MOUNTAINEERING CLUB
CODE OF CONDUCT AND RULES FOR THE CLUB PROPERTIES

Code of Conduct

Anybody staying at the cottage or barn shall behave in a courteous and considerate manner to any other occupants. This shall include keeping the cottage clean and tidy when staying and when leaving. Treat the cottage and surroundings with respect - do not leave anything in a worse state than you found it. The club supports the Countryside Code (posted in the barn and cottage). Respect other users - if you want to do something that may disturb others - ask all concerned first and come to a compromise if challenged or desist.

It is the duty of the whole membership to enforce this code of conduct.

Any member found infringing the beneath mentioned rules or code of conduct or whose conduct is detrimental to the character, good order or welfare of the club and properties could have his or her membership discontinued under rule 23 of the constitution.

Supporting Rules

Financial/Organisational/Security

1. ALL MEMBERS MUST SIGN IN the cottage Hut Book as soon as possible on arrival.
2. Members are responsible for their guests fees and behaviour.
3. Members are allowed to bring TWO GUESTS with them at any one time. Permission must be obtained from the committee to exceed this number.
4. When leaving the property make sure all the doors and windows are locked.
5. It is the responsibility of the individual booking the barn to ensure that it is left clean, tidy and undamaged.

Health and Safety

6. NO SMOKING inside.
7. No portable stoves to be used.
8. Keep the routes to the fire escapes clear. In particular, members taking mountain bikes up to the cottage are asked to lock them in the Elsan shed (rather than the hallway or bathroom area).
9. Pets are not allowed upstairs or in the kitchen
10. The committee retain the right to ban individual untrained or aggressive dogs.

When in the Hut

11. Clean up and clear up after yourself as you go along. Use the appropriate storage areas for food, gear, drying clothes etc. so that there is space for other people. Even if you are the only party in the hut, remember that others may arrive at any time.
12. Fuel for the stove can be bought locally. The wood behind the cottage is ancient woodland, ie over 400 years old, and the National Park have explicitly asked our members not to forage for deadwood there.

When Leaving

13. Rubbish bag to be emptied every weekend and placed in the wheelie bin marked "NLMC" by the Bryn Glo Café. All glass bottles to be taken for recycling.
14. Clean surfaces and hobs, wash dishes and put them away, mop kitchen and bathroom floor, clean toilets and sinks, Hoover living room and upstairs.
15. No perishable food to be left.
16. The Gas must be turned off inside when vacating the cottage at the end of a stay. The tap is located near the top left hand end of the kitchen under the worktop.

- Any new rules or amendments will appear in the newsletter, on the website & on the Club Notice Board.
- A copy of these rules will be pinned to the wall of the cottage at all times.
- Any suggestions or complaints should be given to the current hut wardens.