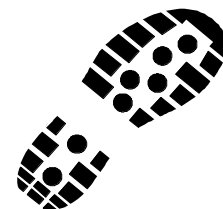


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# OXFORD UNIVERSITY **WALKING** CLUB



## Membership Form For Under 18s

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Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Male or Female: \_\_\_\_\_ Status on University Card  
Course: \_\_\_\_\_ (Undergraduate, Visiting, etc.): \_\_\_\_\_

College (or Postal Address): \_\_\_\_\_

When will you be leaving Oxford: (Term and year) \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth: (Day / Month / Year) \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address: \_\_\_\_\_

Have you matriculated at Oxford University: \_\_\_

Membership fees (for students and non-students): **(Please circle one.)**

- Join during Michaelmas, Christmas Vacation or Hilary Term: £17
- Join during Easter Vacation, Trinity Term or Long (Summer) Vacation: £11

All new memberships expire at the end of Long (Summer) Vacation. Old memberships expire when they would under the previous system.

The Oxford University Walking Club (the 'Club') is obliged to seek parental consent before taking minors (defined according to British law as those under the age of 18) on Weekend Trips or Minibus Day Trips. It is also necessary to inform parents/guardians of the risks associated with hill-walking so that informed consent can be given. The club therefore insists that all minors have their parents/guardians complete the following parental consent form.

Attached to this consent form is a copy of the Club's Equipment List, Code of Practice and Risk Assessment. These describe the Club's activities and the main hazards associated with them. It is hoped that this document will provide parents/guardians with sufficient information to allow them to give informed consent for their child/dependent's role in the Club's activities.

Therefore all under 18s wishing to join the Club and become involved in its activities should obtain the this Membership Form, Parental Consent Form, the Equipment List, the Code of Practice and the Risk Assessment from the Membership Secretary (Ben Watson at Oriel College). The Parental Consent Form must be fully completed by their parent/guardian, before the forms and fee are returned to the Membership Secretary.

Cheque should be made payable to "OU Walking Club". Please do not send cash by pigeon post. When we receive this form and payment, we will send a termcard booklet with all the walks / trips and social event listings.



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## Equipment List

### Club equipment

The club has some equipment in its storeroom for members to use on club trips, such as waterproof trousers and sleeping bags, so please ask if you would like to borrow something. Equipment can also be brought cheaply from outdoor stores such as Millets. If you do not understand any of the information in this sheet, or are unsure about how suitable your equipment or clothing is, then please contact the trip leaders for further information. If you have any medical conditions that you think the trip leaders should be aware of then please inform them and they will treat the matter in the strictest of confidence

### Essential equipment:

In the UK, what seems like a warm day at sea-level can be extremely cold on the hills or on top of a mountain. The weather can also vary more than you expect, from sunshine to a gale force storm from one hour to the next. Several thin layers are better than one thick layer and woollen sweaters will keep you warm even when wet. Jeans however will not, and are definitely not suitable for walking in during club trips.

- *For protection against the cold:* fleeces / jumpers, gloves (preferably water-resistant), woolly scarf, warm hat
- *For protection against wet weather:* good waterproof jacket, waterproof trousers, possibly gaiters
- Walking boots: they should be well-worn in, waterproof and have ankle-support – trainers or DMs are not acceptable
- Rucksack: with waterproof inner lining such as a bin liner or large plastic bags
- Water bottle: a minimum of 1 litre, preferably 2 litres
- Sleeping bag: for camping barn, bunkhouse and camping trips – not necessary for Youth Hostel trips
- Any personal medication you may need, such as an inhaler if you are asthmatic.
- Emergency rations: such as mint cake, marzipan, jelly cubes, chocolate
- Sun cream and sunglasses: especially during the summer and in snow
- Money: for food on the journeys and in the pub

### For general safety the club also recommends that you consider bringing:

- Personal first aid kit: plasters, bandages, antiseptic cream, blister kit and any medication you need
- Other items: survival bag, torch, whistle, map, compass



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## Parental Consent Form

Oxford University Walking Club (the 'Club') is a student-run organisation, supported by the Oxford University Sports Federation, which arranges a number of walks every term to various locations across the United Kingdom. These walks are classed into three groups:

- Local Walks: A single day's walking, using only public transport (trains and buses) to get to and from the desired destination.
- Minibus Day Trips: A single day's walking within a radius of approximately 100 miles from Oxford, using hired minibus transport, driven by a member of the Club to get to and from the desired destination.
- Weekend Trips: Trips generally spanning three days and two nights, although very occasionally longer trips are organised. The nature of walking on a Weekend Trip will be generally more challenging than that on a local walk or minibus day trip. Weekend trips often visit the most mountainous areas of the UK such as Snowdonia, the Lake District and the Scottish Highlands. Hired minibuses are used, driven by a Club member.

Oxford University Walking Club recognises that walking, and hill walking in particular, is an activity, which carries with it a danger of personal injury or death. Parents/guardians of those participating in these activities should be aware of and accept these risks.

The Club is obliged by law to obtain informed parental consent before leading a minor (defined by British law as a person under the age of 18) on a Weekend Trip or Minibus Day Trip. Informed consent means that you, as parent/guardian, should understand the risks associated with the Club's activities, and to make an informed decision on whether or not to allow your child/dependent to participate in these.

To achieve this, the Club attaches its Equipment List, Code of Practice and Risk Assessment to this Parental Consent Form. The Club also advises you read "Young People Climbing, Hill Walking, Mountaineering: A Parent's Guide" produced by the British Mountaineering Council which provides background on hillwalking and the risks involved. It can be downloaded from: <http://www.thebmc.co.uk/youth.htm> , or paper copies can be provided on request.

Parents/guardians should be aware that the Club's Trip Leaders are not necessarily qualified, are not regarded by the club as 'technical experts', but are amateur walkers or mountaineers who are regulated by guidelines in the club's Code of Practice as having a sufficient 'Level of Experience' to act in the capacity of a leader for the given club trip, and who are happy to impart their knowledge to others: any advice given should be viewed with this in mind.

The Code of Practice and Risk Assessment, along with other relevant Club documents such as the Constitution, Trip Leaders' Notes and Minibus Drivers' Advice Sheet, may be found on the Club's website: [www.ouwc.org](http://www.ouwc.org) . Paper copies can be provided by the Trip and Safety Coordinator ([trip.safety@ouwc.org](mailto:trip.safety@ouwc.org)). Please also contact the Trip and Safety Coordinator if you have any additional questions or concerns.

### Statement of Parental Consent

I have read and understood this Consent Form, Equipment List, Code of Practice and Risk Assessment, and I understand and accept the dangers associated with the activities of Oxford University Walking Club.

I hereby give my permission for my child or dependent to, for the duration of this membership, participate in Club Trips, and to seek medical assistance for them where necessary.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact address and phone number in case of emergency:

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Special dietary requirements (e.g. vegetarian) and any allergies:

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