

MOTIONS PACK – TGM HILARY TERM 2007

(1) Ratification of pro-forma amendments to the Constitution

Proposed: Tse Yin Lim (Zing)

Seconded: Marion Crawford, Christopher Thomas

This motion was passed proposal at the TGM of Michaelmas Term 2006, unanimously voted by all 14 OUWC members present. Voting was done by secret ballot. The following is the motion as it was presented at the meeting.

The Proctors have produced a new pro-forma constitution. Richard Dodsworth, Area Safety Officer for Sport, has asked us to incorporate these 2 sections into our Constitution. One addition is regarding overseas activities, the other relates to use of OUCS facilities (A). We also propose to make one minor change for consistency (B).

(A) Add the following 2 sections to the Constitution:

2(e) No member of the Club shall participate in any activity overseas organised by the Club, whether during term-time or vacation, unless the plans for such activity have been notified at least one calendar month in advance of the date of departure from the United Kingdom to the Director of Sport. Each member participating in such activities overseas shall observe any conditions imposed by the Proctors on the recommendation of the Director of Sport, e.g. relating to the deposit of contact addresses, fulfilment of health, safety and insurance requirements, and stipulation of coaches, trainers or Senior Members to accompany the trip.

2(f) The Club may apply to Oxford University Computing Services ('OUCS') to use information technology ('IT') facilities in the name of the Club. Where relevant facilities are allocated by OUCS it is the responsibility of the Club:

(i) to designate a member of the Club entitled to a University e-mail account (as defined by OUCS rules) to act as its IT Officer, whose duties shall include liaising with OUCS about the use of facilities allocated and passing on to his or her successor in office all records relating to the use of the facilities allocated. By default, the IT Officer is the Webmaster unless the committee designates another committee member;

(ii) to designate one of its members (who may be, but need not necessarily be, the same as its IT Officer) or, exceptionally, a member of Congregation to act as its principal Webmaster, whose duties shall include maintaining an awareness of the University Guidelines for Web Information Providers and co-ordinating and regulating access to the web facilities use by the Club;

(iii) to comply with regulations and guidelines relating to the use of IT facilities published from time to time by OUCS;

(iv) to ensure that everyone responsible under (i)-(iii) is competent to deal with the requirements, where necessary undertaking training under the guidance of OUCS.

(B) In section 2(d), replace 'Code of Conduct' with 'Code of Practice' to be consistent with our other documents.

(2) Abolishment of the Trip Leader Safety Document (TLSD) and introduction of new Code of Practice (CoP)

Proposed: Marion Crawford

Seconded: Christopher Thomas, Tse Yin Lim (Zing)

The Constitution states that the CoP may be revised at the committee's discretion with no need for approval at a TGM except for Section 9, the TLSD. We thus propose to abolish the TLSD altogether, in accordance with the introduction of a new CoP which defines the new way in which trips will be run.

In sum, trips will be run in a manner to encourage more self-sufficiency, competence and involvement of members. Trips will be run by Trip Organisers who see to the logistic arrangements, but are not in charge of planning or leading trip participants on any routes. Each participant will be responsible for him/herself; no single person will bear greater responsibility for other people's safety. The club will encourage members to improve their outdoor skills and knowledge through facilitation and subsidy of training. The club will also be affiliated to the British Mountaineering Council (BMC).

The main reasons for these changes are:

- To foster an ethos of self-reliance; this is essential in the outdoors and agrees with the BMC, the national governing body for hillwalking.
- To help members gain competence and useful experience; this also adds learning value to club membership.

- To get all participants more involved on trips; this unites members to promote a more club-like atmosphere.
- To divide responsibility for safety and organisation of trips; this addresses the issues behind the shortage of trip leaders in recent years.

The old and new CoP are attached herein as Appendix (i) and (ii) respectively.

(3) Constitutional amendments in accordance with the new Code of Practice

Proposed: Christopher Thomas

Seconded: Marion Crawford, Tse Yin Lim (Zing)

We propose the amendments to the Constitution to ensure its consistency with the new Code of Practice. This motion will have to be ratified at the next TGM, in Trinity Term 2007. The amendments proposed are:

(1) Paragraph 2b – Replace all of the current paragraph with the following:

The Club will affiliate to the British Mountaineering Council (BMC). The Club will, as far as is reasonably practicable, abide by BMC policy and guidelines. The Trip and Safety Coordinator will ensure that the Club is kept up to date with current and relevant issues of the BMC through its literature.

(2) Paragraph 17 – Replace the second bullet point (“Fulfilled the position of Principal Trip Leader on a Club trip”) by:

- Fulfilled the position of Trip Organiser on a Club Trip.

(3) Replace the section heading “Trip Leaders” by “Club Trips”.

(4) Paragraph 35 – Replace the current paragraph with the following:

A Club Trip is a trip that is advertised in a Club termcard or circular or on the Club's website, one in which participants are required to be members of the Club, one in which all transactions go through the Club accounts, and one in which the Club will take any profit made or financially support any reasonable loss incurred. The set up and running of Club Trips is described in the Code of Practice.

(5) Paragraph 36 – Replace the current paragraph with the following:

The Trip Organiser of any Club Trip is the person who undertakes to organise the trip and is responsible for the planning and logistics of the Trip as a whole. There may be one or more Trip Assistants who help with this. The Trip Organiser and Assistants have no responsibility for the planning of walks or the conduct or safety of participants on walks during Club Trips. Their duties and responsibilities are detailed in the Code of Practice.

(6) Paragraph 37 – Replace the current paragraph with the following:

Participants on Club Trips are responsible for the planning and carrying out of walks. They should adhere to the Club's Code of Practice and the Risk Assessment.

(7) Paragraph 38 – Remove references to the Trip Leader Safety Document by replacing the current paragraph:

Any amendment to this Constitution must be passed by simple majority in a secret ballot at two consecutive Termly General Meetings. Any amendment to the Code of Practice ~~or the Trip Leader Safety Document~~ must be justified point-by-point to and approved by the Area Safety Officer for Sport. ~~The changes to the Trip Leader Safety Document should be justified point-by-point to the members and passed by simple majority in a secret ballot at one Termly General Meeting.~~ Members with concerns over safety issues are invited to discuss them with the Trip and Safety Coordinator or the Area Safety Officer for Sport.

With the following:

Any amendment to this Constitution must be passed by simple majority in a secret ballot at two consecutive Termly General Meetings. Any amendment to the Code of Practice must be justified point-by-point to and approved by the Area Safety Officer for Sport. Members with concerns over safety issues are invited to discuss them with the Trip and Safety Coordinator or the Area Safety Officer for Sport.