**Climbing Club Constitution 2023**

**Mission Statement**

The University of Michigan Climbing Club is committed to:

1. Helping bring climbing to new people
2. Helping both new and experienced climbers apply their skills outdoors
3. Helping facilitate trips for experienced outdoor climbers

**Membership**

A member of the Michigan Climbing Club is defined as:

1. An enrolled University of Michigan student or staff member
2. A person who has paid the yearly monetary dues to the club ($20/year)

During the summer period, club members who will still be students during the upcoming school year and paid dues for the previous academic year are still considered club members.

If a prospective member feels that paying the required $20/year would be an undue burden on their financial situation, whatever that may be, they are encouraged to speak with the Treasurer or any other E-Board member. Our organization is committed to maintaining a welcoming environment to everyone, despite their ability to contribute directly to the club’s finances.

If a general member wishes to leave the organization, there are no steps needed. Dues will not be refunded. Members can leave the club whenever they wish. They must contact an executive board member if they wish to be removed from the mailing list.

**Leadership Roles**

The club leadership roles and responsibilities are as follows:

**President**:

* Weekly emails
* Lead club meetings and ensure transparency between E-Board actions and the club
* Set the direction of the club
* Recruit new members into the club

**VP:**

* Handles Try - it - Night for both semesters
* Club outreach/interaction
* T shirts - design competition, interest, ordering
* Assist President as needed
* Fulfill the duties of President in their absence

**Treasurer:**

* Manage club finances and spending
* Manage club apparel and sales (once t shirts are in)
* Take minutes and notes at leadership meetings
* Handle club bank accounts and manage dues

**Trip Chairs (2):**

* Plan, execute, and lead club trips or delegate leaders/drivers/participants if not on the trip.
* Get new members interested in climbing. Facilitate the transition to outdoor climbing and get new members excited to come on trips.
* Manage trip logistics such as campground reservations, carpooling, etc.
* Manage the club gear. This requires logging all gear and gear rentals, as well as ensuring all gear is safe to climb on to the best of their ability.
* Ensure that all club sponsored climbing or adventure activities operate safely. This involves going on trips and being in charge of safety above all else.
* Train or facilitate training of other club members so every member who will be climbing outside has the knowledge to do so safely.
* Ensure those attending trips have filled out waivers prior to trip

**Social Chair:**

* Create a fun and welcoming environment for all club members.
* Plan social events.
* Manage all social media accounts including Facebook, Instagram, official website.

Apart from the specific roles stated above, each member of the leadership team is expected to uphold the culture of the club and set a good example for how all members can become better, safer climbers. While it is expected that every member of the club is welcoming to everybody, it is especially important that the leadership team upholds and enforces this sentiment.

**Leadership Meetings**

All members of club leadership are expected to attend biweekly club leadership team meetings. During these meetings the leadership team will discuss any pertinent issues. Any new policies that will be implemented into the club will be put to a vote within the leadership team. It is the responsibility of the president to lead these meetings. All members of leadership are expected to come prepared to represent the concerns of all club members, ensuring that the club follows a direction that represents the entire club body, and not just the leadership team. Additionally, any member of the leadership team can call a club meeting at any time if there are motions to discuss that cannot wait until the biweekly meetings.

**Voting in Leadership Meetings**

Any issues discussed during club meetings will be put to a vote. All members of the leadership team have an equal vote. Only in the event of a tie vote, any absent board member votes will be considered in the final outcome. After this period, the motion will pass or fail based on the votes of those members who were present. Motions pass based on a majority vote. Ties do not indicate a majority vote.

**Joining Leadership**

Members of leadership will be voted into office at a meeting held at the end of winter semester every year. To elect a person for the new role, the leadership team will announce to the club they will be accepting applications for the new position. At this meeting, leadership candidates will have time to give speeches and answer questions, before their candidacy is put to a vote in front of the club members who attend the meeting. The new leadership member will hold their position until the next elections barring any unforeseen circumstances. A prerequisite to run for President is to have previously been on board.

**Impeachment**

If a board member proves unable to perform his/her duties, the impeachment process is as follows:

1. A one-on-one meeting with the President (or Vice President) and the board member in question about their ability to perform in the role
2. If they are no longer able to perform their duties, an impeachment meeting will be held with the board and a vote will be held to determine whether a new person will be elected to the position. The officer in question does not get a vote.
3. If the vote results in a tie, the officer in question will not be impeached.

**Social Events**

Social events are a great way to help club members become closer to one another. However, many social events (climbing club or otherwise) contain alcohol on the premises. Climbing Club in no way endorses underage drinking; the Social Chair will ensure that any planned event properly indicates the legal drinking age and restrictions for consumption of alcohol.

**Trip Leaders**

Trip leaders are any club member (leadership or general) that has been approved to lead the trip responsibly and safely by trip chairs. The trip chairs have the final jurisdiction in who is approved to lead trips. All trip chairs must abide by the Michigan Climbing Club Trip Leaders Certification Guide.

While on trips, the trip leaders have the final say on any safety related climbing matters. Every climbing group needs a trip leader. While on a trip, if a climbing party splits up, they must have at least one trip leader in every group. Trip leaders need to prioritize group safety over all else. They must be knowledgeable of and able to carry out our emergency process.

**Club Trip Definition**

A club trip is defined as an excursion planned and approved by the trip chairs that will be led by an approved trip leader and will only contain club members. All club trips will be publicized in an email to the entire club prior to the trip.

**Club Trip Planning**

Club trips will primarily be planned by the trip chairs. It is expected that there is at least one club trip planned per month. However, any member is allowed to help plan trips, but the final decision will be made by the elected trip chairs. To submit a trip request, club members should email mccleaders@umich.edu or contact a board member outlining detailed plans for the trip. For any trip, the trip leader must also fill out the trip inventory, which outlines all members going, camping plans, and all gear taken on trips. All trips must be formally approved by the trip chairs. Trip chairs are responsible for deciding who comes on trips in order to maintain a safe ratio of experienced to inexperienced climbers.

**Club Gear**

Club gear needs to be logged and carefully tracked. It is the responsibility of the trip chairs to maintain and appraise gear and retire old gear when necessary. Club trips will have access to any necessary club gear. Trip leaders are responsible for collecting gear and returning it in full to the trip chairs or other board members. Any club member who damages a piece of gear, either intentionally or due to irresponsible lack of safety precautions, rendering it retired, must pay to replace it. There will be a gear audit at the beginning of every summer in order to keep track of and store gear effectively.

**Waivers**

All members must sign a waiver before embarking on a scheduled club trip outdoors.

All members on club trips must be fully vaccinated for COVID-19 at the time of departure from Ann Arbor.

**Reckless Climbing**

The trip leaders are responsible for identifying any reckless or unsafe climbing and reporting it to the trip chairs. Any climber who engages in reckless or unsafe climbing will risk removal from Michigan Climbing Club.

**Amendments**

This is a living document. Any minor ratifications or further amendments depend on a majority vote by the Eboard.

**Affiliations**

Michigan Climbing Club is not affiliated with any local, state, or national chapter.

Michigan Climbing Club is in part sponsored by Planet Rock.

Michigan Climbing Club is a Voluntary Student Organization (VSO).

**Statements**

Michigan Climbing Club is committed to a policy of equal opportunity for all persons and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, marital status, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, disability, religion, height, weight, or veteran status in its membership or activities.

Upon joining the organization, all members agree not to undermine the purpose or mission of Michigan Climbing Club.

**Ratification**

This document was originally created by the 2018-2019 executive board of Michigan Climbing Club, led by the President Jacob Bone and signed below. This constitution is ratified annually by the elected executive board of Michigan Climbing Club.

**Signature:** Jacob Bone, President **Date:** 4/22/2019

**Signature:** Summer Edwards, President **Date:** 6/5/2020

**Signature:** Toby Cormack, President **Date:** 5/27/2021

**Signature:** Wayne Zhu, President **Date:** 6/5/2022

**Signature:** Hadley Ketzenberger, President **Date:** 5/2/2023

**Amendment 1:**

Membership to the Michigan Climbing Club is at will. This means that either party, the member or the Executive Board of the club, is able to terminate membership at any time. The Executive Board has the ability to indefinitely suspend or permanently terminate an individual’s membership to the club if the Board receives sufficient evidence that the member has violated university behavioral policy. Suspension or termination of an individual’s membership by the Executive Board requires a unanimous vote from the Executive Board. In this scenario, reimbursement of the suspended/terminated member’s dues is allowed, and is at the discretion of the Executive Board. Readmission of a suspended member requires a unanimous vote from the Executive Board, and repayment of dues to complete readmission to the club.

**Date ratified:** 2/6/2020

**Signature:** Shalina Gupta, President **Date:** 2/6/2020

**Amendment 2:**

Trip Safety. For all club sanctioned trips, first aid kits are required at every crag where there are club members. It is the responsibility of the trip leader to supervise and manage the whereabouts of kits and to distribute them as necessary. Trip chairs are responsible for ensuring that all first aid kits are properly packed prior to trips, along with notifying other executive board members if supplies are needed.

**Date ratified:** 6/19/22

**Signature:** Wayne Zhu, President **Date:** 6/5/2022