

## South Devon Mountaineering Club Rules

### **1. SAFETY**

You should have a basic knowledge of the activities that you wish to participate in. You must exercise care, common sense and self-preservation at all times. Be aware of the other members around you and how your actions will affect them. This helps ensure the safety of all members on activities.

As an individual it is up to you to ensure you have the skills and knowledge to decide whether the activity you are participating in is safe. Please speak to a member of the committee if you need advice on the experience necessary. The committee is also happy to organise skills courses as required which is often a very cost effective way of learning, or recommend local course providers.

#### **BMC Participation Statement**

*"The BMC recognises that climbing, hill walking and mountaineering are activities with a danger of personal injury or death. Participants in these activities should be aware of and accept these risks and be responsible for their own actions and involvement."*

#### Climbing and Mountaineering

The South Devon Mountaineering Club is a club for all standards of climbing and currently has members that enjoy seconding 'VD' grades and others that lead well into the 'E' grades. While we are happy to share expertise and tips at meets, if you do not have basic knowledge of climbing techniques and safety we would recommend that you go on a short training course.

#### Walking

The South Devon Mountaineering Club walk both in the UK and abroad on a regular basis. Although this activity generally does not have the inherent risks of climbing there are still things you need to know to be safe on the hills. The level of training and experience you need depends on the difficulty of the challenge.

### **2. CLUB EQUIPMENT**

The Club has a stock of climbing and walking equipment for the benefit of all members.

Club members to agree to use Club equipment at their own risk.

Club members agree to use equipment safely and appropriately and report any damaged or unsafe equipment to the nominated Equipment Officer as soon as possible.

Club members take full responsibility for Club equipment for as long as it is in their possession and must ensure that it is returned in a clean & dry state ready for its next use.

A nominated Committee member shall be responsible for checking all equipment on a regular basis to keep a record of stock and help ensure the safety of all equipment.

The Club does not provide ropes for the use of lead climbing.

All suggestions for purchase of Club equipment shall be discussed with the Committee prior to purchase.

### **3. MEETS ORGANISATION**

Any member can organise a trip away, and all members are encouraged to do so. The club is able to help by financing deposits for huts and/or transport to reduce the financial outlay of the organiser.

By doing this, the club underwrites the paid portion of the trip. This means that, in case of unavoidable cancellation, members who have already paid deposits will not be out of pocket. Similarly, if the trip makes an overall loss, this loss is paid for by the club. However, the potential for any losses should be agreed beforehand with the treasurer, acting on behalf of the committee. The club does reserve the right to refuse to underwrite a trip, e.g. if the trip looks likely to make a substantial loss, or there's a large financial risk involved.

Arrangements for trip payments need to be between the treasurer (or other nominated committee member) and the trip organiser. The treasurer cannot be responsible for tracking and/or collecting payments from individuals."

### **4. UNDER 18s**

All club members must be over 18 years of age, which is a requirement of our BMC insurance policy. Under 18s may join in with club activities as long as they are under the direct supervision of their parent/carers who are members of the Club.

The only residential Club meets under 18s can attend are designated Family meets or Open meets and only under the direct supervision of their parent/carers who are members of the Club.

In short, we would be delighted if your children were to occasionally come to club meets, provided you are present and a club member. Although your children cannot join the club, you can and your family gains access to the group emails we use for setting up meets.

The Club follows BMC guidelines for safeguarding, which may be reviewed from time to time in the light of any changes in BMC advice.