

BALLYHOURA BEARS WALKING CLUB CONSTITUTION

ARTICLE I – NAME

The club shall be known as The Ballyhoura Bears Walking Club (hereinafter “the club”).

ARTICLE II – OBJECTIVES

1. To facilitate and increase the enjoyment of hillwalking and mountaineering activities of members of the Club.
2. To act as the collective voice of Club members
3. To assist in the work of Mountaineering Ireland aimed at maintaining access to, conservation of and protection of our mountain and cliff environment.
4. To encourage responsible use of the mountain environment.
5. To encourage club members to train to be capable of ensuring their own safety in the mountain environment.

ARTICLE III –MEMBERSHIP

1. ELIGIBILITY

Membership of the club shall be open to those over the age of 18.

Membership of the club shall only be open to individuals who recognise that Hill Walking and Climbing are activities with a danger of personal injury or death.

The Committee reserves the right to accept or reject new and renewal applications.

2. RESPONSIBILITIES

Members shall be aware of and accept these risks and agree to be responsible for their own actions and involvement.

3. MEMBERSHIP

The membership year begins on 1st Nov and ends on 31st October.

If your membership fee is unpaid after 31st October you are no longer covered by Mountaineering Ireland Insurance.

4. ‘Full Member’ means a Club member who may attend and participate in general meetings and hold office.

‘Associate Member’ means a member of an Associate Organisation who may attend meetings, participate in discussion but they may neither vote nor hold office.

‘Associate Organisation’ means a club affiliated to Mountaineering Ireland.

5. The rights of a member of the Club (a Member) shall be conditional upon his/her complying with the provisions of this constitution and any rules (Club Rules) from time to time issued by the Committee, including payment of any annual membership fee and levies.

6. Any person seeking admission as a member shall complete and sign the current application form, which must be returned to the Membership Secretary together with the prescribed fee.

ARTICLE IV – MANAGEMENT OF THE CLUB

1. The club will be controlled by its members acting in Annual General Meeting (AGM) or Extraordinary General Meeting (EGM)

2. One of these meetings will be the Annual General Meeting at which officers of the Club will be elected.

3. Management of the Club between annual general meetings shall be entrusted to the elected members who must act in accordance with the Constitution of the Club. They may make decisions on matters not covered by Constitution or Rules but these must be approved by the next General Meeting.

ARTICLE V – OFFICERS

1. The officers of the Club shall be elected by the members at an Annual General Meeting and shall be The President/ Chairman/ Secretary/Treasurer/Walks Secretary /Membership Secretary/Social Secretary/ Training Officer/ Environmental Officer/ PRO/ Vice Chairman/ Assistant Secretary.
2. Officers are elected annually at the AGM and eligible to serve a term of three years on the club committee.
3. After a term of three years officers must step down. An officer may seek election to another role on the Committee after a three-year period of office or after stepping down from the committee for a year or more.
4. The Committee may co-opt an officer to a role at the next AGM.

ARTICLE VI – COMMITTEE

1. The Chairman of the Club will normally preside and chair all meetings of the committee and General Meetings of the Club except if the business of an EGM concerns the office of Chairman. The chairman shall be responsible for reporting to the membership at the Club's AGM.
2. The committee shall be composed of officers of the Club plus a number of members without a specific role.
3. The committee shall nominate representatives of the Club to attend meetings of other organisations General meetings to represent the views of the membership and vote on behalf of the Club.
4. The Club Secretary shall be responsible for all correspondence relating to Club affairs and for giving notice of General and/or Committee meetings, and the writing and distribution of minutes from those meetings.

ARTICLE VII - OPERATIONS

1. The Secretary shall give at least 21 clear days' notice of AGM/EGM and its agenda.
2. Items for inclusion should be submitted at least 14 days prior to the AGM and communicated to the members at least 7 days before the AGM.
3. Should an EGM be petitioned by not less than ten registered members or by the committee or both the Secretary will convene the said meeting within 30 days with not less notice than 7 calendar days. Fifteen percent of members must be present for a valid vote to take place.
4. The membership secretary shall collect membership forms and subscriptions, keep records of the membership of the Club and report details of the members to Mountaineering Ireland.
5. The Treasurer shall account for all income and expenditure of the Club.
6. The committee shall have the right to co-opt additional non-voting members.
7. A quorum for a meeting of the Committee shall be half of the elected voting members. The committee shall hold at least four meetings each year.
8. A committee member who is absent from three consecutive meetings shall be deemed no longer to be a committee member.

ARTICLE VIII – COMPLAINTS

Policy in relation to complaints and the standard of behaviour expected of members (based on Mountaineering Ireland guidelines) are set out in the Club's Complaints and Procedures and Code of Conduct, which is available on the Club's website.

ARTICLE VIX – SUBSCRIPTION

A General Meeting shall have the power to set membership subscription levels for the Club.

ARTICLE X– DATA PROTECTION

1. The Club collects and manages data in accordance with the Club's Data Policy, which is available for review on the Club's website. Members' data may only be used for Club related purposes. A Member consents to the processing of his/her personal data for the purposes of the Club but not further or otherwise.

2. Ballyhoura Bears walking club is committed to protecting your privacy and processing your Data in accordance with the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) from May 25th 2018. See the club website for details of the policy.

ARTICLE X1 – AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION

1. This constitution may be amended by a 2/3 majority of those present and voting at a general meeting. Notice of any proposed amendment must be delivered to the Secretary at least 14 days prior to the meeting.

2. The club rules may be amended by a simple majority of those present and voting at a general meeting. Notice of any proposed amendment must be delivered at least 14 days prior to the meeting.

ARTICLE X11 – DISSOLUTION OF THE CLUB.

1. The club can be dissolved by 2/3 majority vote carried out in accordance with Article 7 where upon the committee will arrange to donate any assets to SEMRA after the discharge of any club liabilities.

2. Any remaining liabilities at the time of dissolution shall be the joint responsibility of all full members.

DECLARATION:

Ballyhoura Bears Walking Club hereby adopts and accepts this constitution as the current operating document regulating the actions of members and managed by the Executive Committee of the club.

CLUB CHAIRPERSON:

NAME: _____

DATE: _____

CLUB SECRETARY:

NAME: _____

DATE: _____