UNIVERSITY OF LEICESTER MOUNTAINEERING CLUB
CODE OF PRACTICE

The University of Leicester Mountaineering Club recognises that climbing and mountaineering are hazardous 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.

AFFILIATION
The club will be affiliated to the British Mountaineering Council.

The club will organise mountaineering activities in accordance with the recommendations of the British Mountaineering Council.

INSTRUCTION
Climbing wall sessions will be available for all members. Novices will be given instruction by experienced club members on climbing techniques, types, uses and care of equipment, terminology and communication by standard calling systems.

Novices must not be left whilst they are using the climbing wall but must be under the direct supervision of an experienced club member.

All club members must abide by the operator's rules governing the use of the climbing wall.

Any club equipment used during climbing wall sessions must have been passed by the Gear Secretary as fit for use and must also be checked before use by the person instructing and the user.

Any faulty or suspect equipment must not be used. It must immediately be removed from the climbing wall area, and returned to the Gear Secretary as soon as possible.

The Club President, in consultation with the committee, must identify the training needs of club officers to improve skills, awareness of safety requirements and the levels of instruction within the club.

Club officers must be encouraged and assisted to attend appropriate courses, run by recognised mountaineering organisations.

The Club President must ensure that there is an experienced and competent Gear Secretary who will be responsible for the storage, maintenance and record keeping of all club equipment.

The Gear Secretary must maintain an up-to-date inventory of all club equipment in hand, and log new purchases, dates of use, falls on ropes or harnesses, any faults or damage, repairs or disposal.

The Gear Secretary will be responsible for checking all club equipment before and after use and for arranging repairs or disposal of damaged equipment.

The means of disposal of damaged equipment must first be cleared with the Sports office.

Club members must report the history of any gear they borrow so that the Gear Secretary can keep accurate records.

Members who use their own personal equipment will be expected to know how to use such equipment correctly and safely. No responsibility can be held by the Mountaineering Club for the failure of such personal equipment.

CLUB MEETS
The Club President must ensure that the information given to members about club meets includes the location, the type of climbing to be done, personal equipment to be brought by individuals and what levels of ability will be catered for.

The Club President must ensure that information regarding travel, accommodation, catering arrangements and any unusual local hazard or danger that can be foreseen before the trip is communicated to participants of each trip. Such information to be displayed on the club noticeboard or sent out on e-mail before each trip.

The Club President and committee must formulate a procedure whereby all groups record, at an agreed central control point, their names, proposed routes and expected return times. The procedure must also cover checking that all groups have returned, and for getting help in the event of an emergency.
All activities should be undertaken in a minimum of pairs and members should not go out on their own.

Each group must ensure that they notify the central control point as soon as they return from a climb.

The Club President must ensure that he/she, or the overall Meet organiser, has the University's 24-hour emergency telephone number.

**CLIMBING HUTS**
The Meet organiser, or a club officer, will check the condition of a hut immediately on arrival.

Particular care must be taken to ensure that:

- All fire exits are unobstructed
- There is no loose floor covering likely to cause an accident
- Gas, electricity and water all work safely

Everyone using the hut must be made aware of any problem and this must be reported to the hut warden as soon as possible.

All club members must abide by the rules imposed by the hut's owner.

**DISCIPLINE**
Any member who by his/her actions or behaviour puts others at risk, or brings the club into disrepute, may, at the discretion of the Club President and committee, be temporarily suspended or expelled from the club.

The Club President will advise the member of the breach of discipline and the action to be taken.

Any member who feels he/she has been treated unfairly may appeal to the committee or may raise the matter in writing with the President of the Sports Association.