

## **CONSTITUTION OF THE LOS ALAMOS MOUNTAINEERS. INC.**

- I. NAME.** This organization shall be called The Los Alamos Mountaineers, Inc.
- II. PURPOSE.** The purpose of this club shall be the encouragement, practice, and enjoyment of safe mountaineering, rock climbing, and other activities.
- III. MEMBERS.** Any person may become a member of the club by approval by the Board of Trustees of the application and the payment of dues.
- IV. OFFICERS.** Annually, at the November meeting, upon notice at the preceding monthly meeting, the club shall elect a President, a Vice-president, a Secretary, and a Treasurer. They shall be elected by a majority of those present. A Board of Trustees shall consist of the elected officers and not more than three additional members appointed by the officers. A special election will be called to fill vacancies.
- V. RECALL OF OFFICERS AND OTHER TRUSTEES.** Any member of the Board of Trustees may be removed by a three-quarter vote of all members.
- VI. RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE TRUSTEES.** The Trustees shall be responsible for organizing all activities of the club and shall govern the affairs of the club.
- VII. DUES.** Dues and other assessments shall be proposed by the Board of Trustees and approved by a majority of those present at the next meeting. No person, by virtue of membership nor of tenure of office in the club, shall become liable for any of the club's debts or expenses beyond the amount of dues and assessments for that person as prescribed by this Constitution.
- VIII. AMENDMENTS.** Amendments to this Constitution may be proposed by any member at any meeting. Upon approval by a majority of those present at the meeting, the proposed amendment shall be mailed to all members within ten days and will become effective upon approval of two-thirds of those members voting at the next regular meeting. Absentee ballots may be cast by any member of the club after the constitutional amendments are proposed and must be given to the Secretary before balloting in order to be counted.
- IX. SPENDING POLICIES.** General spending policies must be authorized by a majority of the membership at a regular monthly meeting. Detailed expenditures within such policy shall be authorized by the Board of Trustees.
- X. DIVESTMENT OF FUNDS UPON DISSOLUTION.** If the Los Alamos Mountaineers are dissolved, all the club funds and equipment shall become the property of St. John s College Search and Rescue Team, Santa Fe. If this team no longer exists or is not tax-exempt, all club funds and equipment shall become the property of Bandelier National Monument.

# **BY-LAWS OF THE LOS ALAMOS MOUNTAINEERS. INC.**

## **ARTICLE I. MEETINGS**

Meetings shall be held monthly unless otherwise decided by the Board of Trustees. Notices of meetings shall be mailed to all members at least three Days prior to the meeting. Ten members or one-half of the membership, whichever is less, shall constitute a quorum.

## **ARTICLE II. ELECTIONS**

The Nominating Committee shall submit its recommendations for club officers at the October meeting. Election shall be held at the November meeting by secret ballot and by a majority of those voting, except that the secret ballot may be dispensed with by unanimous consent. Additional nominations may be made from the floor at the October meeting. The officers shall begin their terms upon election and shall serve for one year and until their successors are duly elected and qualify. Absentee ballots may be cast by any member of the club after the October meeting and must be given to the Secretary before balloting.

## **ARTICLE III. OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES**

### **Section 1. ELECTED OFFICERS**

- a. The President shall be the chief executive officer of the club and shall exercise the usual powers of such office. The President shall see that a report of each meeting of the Board of Trustees is made to the membership. The President shall have responsibility for overseeing the use of any conservation fund maintained by the club. The President may appoint such committees the President sees fit.
- b. The Vice-president shall preside in the absence of the President and shall succeed to the presidency upon the resignation or removal of the President. Unless otherwise decided by the Board of Trustees, the Vice-president shall be responsible for organizing and overseeing the annual climbing school.
- c. The Secretary is charged with the keeping of the club minutes and with the custody of the originals of the club Constitution, By-laws, and amendments thereto. The Secretary shall be responsible for mailing the monthly notices to the members.
- d. The Treasurer shall have custody of the moneys of the club and shall keep an appropriate book of account.

### **Section 2. APPOINTED OFFICERS**

The elected offices shall appoint no more than three additional members to serve on the Board of Trustees. The Trustees shall be responsible for organizing all activities of the club and shall govern the affairs of the club.

### **Section 3. COMMITTEES**

- a. At or before the September meeting, the President shall appoint a nominating committee of three members, no more than one of whom is a member of the Board of Trustees. This committee shall submit its recommendations for the club officers at the October meeting.

b. At or before the November meeting, the President shall appoint an audit committee consisting of two members not officers of the club. This committee shall determine the appropriateness of the expenditures and shall check the existence of the monetary balance.

## **ARTICLE IV: TRIP GUIDELINES**

### **Section 1. GENERAL**

- a. All trip participants shall be made aware of these guidelines before participating in club activities.
- b. These guidelines shall be distributed to every club member at least once a year.
- c. A presentation shall be made at least once a year in a regular meeting that addresses the topic of safety in club activities, and informs those attending of these guidelines.
- d. All club trips shall be undertaken in a conservative spirit. The objective will be abandoned if circumstances suggest that there is a significant danger of accident.
- e. All participants shall be responsible for their own actions and safety during club activities, regardless of the level of experience of the participant or the nature of the activity. This responsibility includes evaluation of partners being relied on during the activity.
- f. Participants must obtain prior permission of the trip leader for each trip.
- g. Non-members may participate in club activities at the discretion of the leader.
- h. Members shall not undertake private activities that interfere with the goals or are detrimental to the safety and enjoyment of scheduled trips.
- i. All persons under eighteen years of age must be sponsored and accompanied by a responsible adult other than the leader.
- j. All persons under eighteen years of age must have written parental permission.
- k. No person shall be permitted to participate in a club trip unless that person has on file with the club a duly signed and witnessed waiver of responsibility indemnifying the club, its members, and officers from any claims that might result from injury, death, or loss of property which that person might suffer while participating in the activity. If the person is under eighteen years of age, the waiver must be signed by his/her parent or guardian.

### **Section 2. TRIP LEADER**

- a. Trip leaders must be club members. Any club member may organize and lead a club trip. The club does not train or certify trip leaders.
- b. The leader shall have authority as to the composition of the party.
- c. The leader shall familiarize himself/herself with the objective, degree of difficulty, the route, and weather conditions and forecasts, and shall share that information with the trip participants. For exploratory trips, the leader shall familiarize himself/herself with the expected terrain and conditions, as well as possible extremes of terrain and conditions that could impact the safety of the trip, and shall share that information with trip participants. For technical climbs, all participants shall be made aware of the rating for the chosen route.

d. The leader shall prepare a roster of the party and a brief description of the objective and planned route. This is to be left with a responsible person not on the trip, who will be available in the event that this roster is needed. The leader or his designated alternate shall account for all participants before returning home.

e. Every party shall carry such emergency, survival, and first aid equipment as the leader considers necessary.

f. All trips shall be conducted with due consideration for the desires, interests, and opinions of those participating. However, the leader shall be the final authority on matters of route, safety, and other decisions of a similar nature. However, should a majority of the party wish to abandon the objective, the leader shall concur.

### **Section 3. TRIP PARTICIPANTS**

a. Each person shall acquaint himself/herself with the nature of the trip and shall verify to his/her own satisfaction that it is within his/her capabilities and experience. In particular, each person shall ascertain the ratings of technical climbs and assure himself/herself that he/she can climb at the rated levels.

b. Each person shall provide himself/herself with the necessary equipment, food, and clothing as recommended by the leader.

c. Each person shall accept the temporary authority of the leader and cooperate with the leader and other participants to make the trip safe and enjoyable.

d. The party shall remain together as a single unit unless it is formally decided to subdivide it. In the latter case, the leader shall appoint a sub-leader for each sub-party who is capable of leading the sub-party according to these guidelines, and who freely accepts these responsibilities. The composition of each sub-party and its intentions, route, destination, and estimated times of arrival shall be clearly understood by all concerned. The trip leader shall be responsible for verifying the return of all sub-parties.

e. On technical climbs including inexperienced climbers, a rope leader shall be designated for each rope. No person shall be designated a rope leader unless he/she has previously led pitches of comparable difficulty on a climb of comparable difficulty and length as that proposed.

### **Section 4. COMPLIANCE**

All climbers are expected to conform to the spirit of these regulations in the interests of safe mountaineering. Willful violation shall be cause for expulsion from the club by the Board of Trustees.

### **ARTICLE V. AMENDMENTS**

Amendments to these By-laws may be proposed in writing by any member at any meeting. Upon approval by a majority of those present at the meeting, the Proposed amendments shall be mailed to all members within ten days and will become effective upon approval of two-thirds of those voting at the next regular meeting. Absentee ballots may be cast by any member of the club after the mailing of the proposed amendments and must be given to the Secretary before balloting.