

CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY RAMBLING CLUB

Constitution

Last amended 6th March 2001

1. The name of the Club shall be "*Cambridge University Rambling Club*".
2. The aim of the Club shall be:
"To provide the opportunity for members of the University to participate in rambles in the local countryside."

3. *Membership*

Membership of the Club shall be available to all members of the university (except those expelled as described below), and to anyone else whom the Committee deems appropriate. There shall be an annual fee for membership, which shall be fixed by the Committee. The Committee shall have the right to offer free honorary membership, either for life or for a fixed period, to any person that it deems appropriate. It shall not refuse an application for membership on the grounds of race, sex, sexual orientation, religion or political views. It may, however expel any member for behaviour likely to bring the Club into disrepute. All members shall have full voting rights at Club meetings.

The membership year shall run from October to September. Those eligible to join the Club may do so at any time by submitting their membership fee to any member of the Committee. At the end of each year, members shall be invited to renew their membership for the following year by submitting their membership fee for that year to a member of the Committee, and the Committee shall fix a date by which they should do so. The membership of those who have not done so by this date shall then cease.

4. *Club events*

- a) The Club shall aim to provide leadership for rambles around Cambridgeshire and the surrounding countryside on a regular basis during Full Term.
- b) Other social activities shall be provided for Club members at the Committee's convenience.
- c) The Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the Club shall be held each year in the second half of the Lent Full Term. The time and venue of this meeting shall be determined and publicised by the Committee at least fourteen days beforehand.

5. *Election of the Committee*

The Committee of the Club shall be elected at the AGM. Its term of office shall run from the start of the Easter Term immediately following its election for one year. The Committee shall consist of the following positions:

- President
- Secretary
- Treasurer
- Three general members

Any member of the Club may be nominated for any one Committee post by two other members of the Club. Nominations should be submitted to the secretary, either in writing in advance of the AGM, or in person at the AGM if the candidate and both nominators are present.

There may be hustings for the elections at the AGM, at the discretion of the person chairing the meeting. The election shall be conducted in accordance with the procedure described in Appendix A.

The Committee may at its discretion co-opt additional Committee members to itself where it perceives the need, or to fill vacancies that may arise.

6. *Responsibilities of the Committee*

a) Responsibilities of the President:

- To take overall responsibility for the smooth running of the Club's activities
- To promote the activities of the Club
- To chair any meetings of the Club
- To mediate or decide in any dispute regarding or involving the Club
- To take responsibility for the Club's possessions, unless this duty has been delegated to another member of the Committee

b) Responsibilities of the Secretary:

- To keep accurate minutes of any meetings of the Club
- To keep records of Club outings
- To assist the President as necessary with the production of publicity material for the Club's activities

c) Responsibilities of the Treasurer:

- To keep records of the Club's accounts, and oversee the operation of the Club's bank account
- To ensure that the Club is able to meet its financial obligations
- To inform the Club's members of the Club's financial standing at the AGM

All members of the Committee shall be delegated responsibility for the organisation of individual events. The Committee shall nominate one of its members to maintain the Club's website.

7. A Senior Treasurer shall be appointed by the Committee to audit the Club's accounts. The Senior Treasurer shall be made an honorary member of the Club for the duration of his time in office. The Senior Treasurer shall not be personally liable for any financial debt or other obligation of the Club.
8. Expenditure of money on the Club's behalf must be authorised either by the President and the Treasurer or by at least three members of the Committee.
9. In the event of the dissolution of the Club, the monetary assets of the Club shall be paid to the Societies Syndicate for the benefit of other university societies with similar aims to this Club. The material assets of the Club shall be offered to other societies to whom the Committee believes they may be of use. If they are not required by such societies, the Committee shall dispose of them as it deems appropriate.
10. Amendments to this constitution may only be made in accordance with the procedure detailed in Appendix B.

Appendix A: Election of Committee Members

1. The election of Committee members shall take place at the AGM. The elections for the Committee positions shall take place in the following order: President, Secretary, Treasurer, general members.
2. Only members who are present at the meeting shall be eligible to vote. Candidates may, however, be elected in their absence.
3. A candidate for one of the Committee positions who is not elected for that position, and is present at the meeting, may then be nominated for one of the positions that is subsequently to be elected, providing that there are two other members present at the meeting who are willing to nominate him.
4. Each of the elections for President, Secretary and Treasurer shall take place by a 'first past the post system', which involves the following procedure:
 - (i) Each member present at the meeting shall be allowed to vote for one candidate. The voting shall be carried out by a secret ballot.
 - (ii) The votes shall be counted by two persons chosen at the meeting, who are not candidates for election.
 - (iii) The candidate who receives the most votes shall be elected. If there is a tie, and there are other candidates who were not involved in the tie, a second vote shall be held involving only the candidates involved in the tie. If there are no other candidates, or if there is still a tie after the second vote, the winner shall be chosen by lots.

If there is only one candidate for the position, then that candidate shall be appointed to the position without contest.
5. The general members shall then be elected by the same procedure, except that:
 - (i) Each member shall be allowed to vote for up to three candidates.
 - (ii) The three candidates who receive the most votes shall be elected. If there is a tie for third place, and there are other candidates who received fewer votes than those involved in the tie, a second vote shall be held excluding those candidates. If there are no such candidates, or if there is still a tie for third place after the second vote, any candidate receiving more votes than those involved in the tie shall be elected. The remaining positions shall be filled by choosing candidates involved in the tie by lots.

If there are three or fewer candidates, then those candidates shall be appointed without contest.

Appendix B: Constitutional Amendments

1. Constitutional amendments may be proposed by any four members of the Club, and must be submitted to the Secretary in writing.
2. Constitutional amendments may only be made at AGMs or at special meetings called for that purpose. In order for an amendment to be considered at an AGM, it must be submitted at least four days before the meeting. Special meetings shall be called at the discretion of the President. Such meetings must be held during Full Term, and their time and venue must be publicised at least fourteen days in advance. In order for an amendment to be accepted, it must be voted upon at the AGM or special meeting, and must receive the support of at least 75% of the members present at the meeting, and at least 10% of the Club's total membership. Only members of the Club who are present at the meeting shall be eligible to vote.
3. The Committee reserves the right to unanimously veto any constitutional changes which receive the support of less than 50% of the total membership of the Club.