

# Kendal Fellwalkers

## Constitution

### **1. Name of the Club**

1.1 The name of the club shall be Kendal Fellwalkers, referred to as the Club.

### **2. Objectives of the Club**

2.1 To promote hill walking among members of the Club.

2.2 To act in relation to the Club's objectives on behalf of and in the interests of Club members.

2.3 To promote other activities from time to time, provided they are approved by the Committee, an AGM or an EGM.

### **3. Membership of the Club**

3.1 Membership of the Club shall be open to persons who are interested in hill walking and who agree to abide by the Constitution and Rules of the Club.

3.2 Membership of the Club shall be open only to persons who recognise that hill walking and associated activities carry a risk of personal injury or death. Members must be aware of and accept these risks and must agree to be responsible for their own actions and involvement.

3.3 Club membership is not available to persons under the age of 18 unless written consent of a parent or guardian is provided.

3.4 An AGM or an EGM may confer honorary membership on long-standing members who have given considerable service to the Club.

### **4. Management of the Club**

4.1 The management of the Club shall be entrusted to the Club Committee.

### **5. Officers of the Club**

5.1 The elected Officers of the Club shall be the Chairman, the Vice-Chairman, the Secretary, the Programme Secretary and the Treasurer.

5.2 Voting for the election of Officers shall take place at the AGM.

### **6. Committee of the Club**

6.1 The Committee shall be composed of the Officers of the Club. It may at its discretion co-opt up to two members.

6.2 The Chairman will normally chair meetings of the Committee and of the Club.

6.3 The Secretary shall be responsible for correspondence relating to Club affairs, for calling Committee meetings, and for the production and distribution of minutes from these meetings. The Secretary shall be responsible for announcing General Meetings of the Club and shall give at least ten days notice of such meetings to members. The Secretary shall keep records of the Club membership.

6.4 The Programme Secretary shall be responsible for arranging a programme of walks.

6.5 The Treasurer shall be responsible for the collection of subscriptions and shall account for all income received and expenditure made on behalf of the Club.

6.6 A quorum for a meeting of the Committee shall be three Officers.

### **7. Annual General Meeting**

7.1 There shall be an Annual General Meeting (AGM), normally to be held no later than October in each year. The AGM shall:

7.1.1 receive and ratify, as appropriate, reports by outgoing Officers on the year's business

7.1.2 elect the Officers and Committee of the Club

7.1.3 determine the annual membership subscription

7.1.4 approve any changes in the Constitution and Rules

7.1.5 arrange the Club's business for the coming year

7.1.6 deal with any other matters relating to the business of the Club.

7.2 Items for inclusion in the agenda of an AGM (or an EGM) shall be submitted to the Secretary at least fifteen days prior to the meeting.

7.3 Decisions, other than amendments to the Constitution, that require a vote of members shall be by a simple majority.

### **8. Extraordinary General Meeting**

8.1 An Extraordinary General Meeting (EGM) may be called by the Committee on its own initiative or at the request of at least ten members of the Club. An EGM shall have the power to make any decisions concerning the Club, including those that would normally be made at an AGM.

### **9. Rules of the Club**

9.1 The Committee shall have the power to set Club Rules, which shall be in accordance with the Club's Constitution.

9.2 All members shall abide by the conditions of membership of the Club. Membership may be withdrawn from any member who habitually or deliberately fails to abide by the conditions of membership, provided that such withdrawal of membership has the approval of the majority of the Club's Officers. Any such withdrawal shall be subject to confirmation at the next AGM or EGM.

**10. Amendments to the Constitution**

10.1 This Constitution may be amended only with the consent of two thirds of the members present at an AGM or EGM.

10.2 Any proposed amendment must be delivered to the Secretary at least 15 days prior to the AGM or EGM. Notice of the proposed amendment shall be given in the agenda for the relevant meeting.

**11. Dissolution of the Club**

11.1 The Club may be dissolved by a two-thirds majority vote conducted in accordance with Rule 10.

11.2 The Committee shall thereupon arrange to distribute any assets equally among the members. Any liabilities at the time of dissolution shall similarly be the joint responsibility of the members.

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## Rules

1. All participants are expected to behave responsibly while taking part in Club activities. In particular, they must maintain contact with the leader during walks and inform the leader if they wish to leave a walk.
2. Prospective members and guests are allowed to come on a maximum of two Club walks before becoming members. On such walks they will be deemed to be 'Temporary Members' in order to conform to the Club's insurance policy. In what follows, the term 'members' includes 'temporary members'.
3. It is the responsibility of members to ensure that they have suitable equipment for a proposed walk, taking account of likely fell-top conditions on the day. ('Suitable equipment' may, in particular, include ice axe and crampons.) However, the leader may decline to allow a member to join a walk if in the leader's judgement the member is not suitably equipped.
4. Members with a relevant medical condition should (for information only) advise the leader accordingly at the start of the walk.
5. Members need to be aware that, particularly in winter, the starting point, the starting time, or even the walk itself may differ from what is given in the programme. In their own interests, therefore, they should always advise the leader if they propose to join the walk at the starting point and not at the usual meeting place.
6. Sharing of cars for travel to and from the walk starting points is encouraged in order to minimise costs, environmental impact and parking problems.
7. The Club financial year begins on 1st January and members are expected to have paid their subscriptions before this date. However, new members paying their subscriptions on or after 1st October in any year will be deemed to be paid-up until 31st December in the following year.
8. Dogs are allowed on Club walks at the discretion of the walk leader, subject to the overriding authority of the Committee. It is the responsibility of owners to ensure that their dogs, if allowed on the walk, are kept under strict control and do not constitute a nuisance to other walkers or to livestock. All dogs must, if so requested by the walk leader, be kept on a lead.
9. Members under the age of sixteen must be accompanied by a responsible adult.

(Rules last amended at the AGM of 7 September 2005)

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