



Laune Mountaineering Club Constitution

NAME

The name of the Club shall be Laune Mountaineering Club and its headquarters will be in Killorglin.

OBJECTIVES OF THE CLUB

To promote mountaineering, hillwalking and rambling.

To provide an opportunity for members of the Club to meet and participate in club activities together.

To act on behalf of and in the interests of Club members.

To promote awareness of the need to maintain access, conservation and protection of the cliff, mountain and countryside environment whilst respecting local landowners and their properties. To take part in the work and activities of Mountaineering Ireland.

To 'Leave No Trace' after walks, be aware of environmental issues and educate club members on these.

To encourage our members to be more environmentally friendly both on the mountain and off and to follow our environmental guidelines.

To ensure the safety of members and other mountaineers by encouraging members to become self-sufficient and able to assist others on the mountains.

MEMBERSHIP OF THE CLUB

Membership of the Club shall be open all irrespective of age, appearance, colour, disability, ethnic origin, gender, language, marital status, nationality, political opinion, race, religion, sexual preference or social status.

Members of other Mountaineering Ireland clubs are accepted into the club as "Associate members" with a reduced membership subscription.

Membership of the Club shall only be open to individuals who recognise that climbing, mountaineering and hillwalking are activities with a danger of personal injury or death. Members shall be aware of and accept these risks and agree to be responsible for their own actions and involvement.

Club Membership is open to people over and equal to the age of 18 years.

Club Membership is open to those under the age of 18 as long as they are accompanied by a responsible adult.

New members shall be permitted to participate in a maximum of three (3) walks in one year before there is a requirement to become a full member.

In line with Mountaineering Ireland policies, club members must respect other members and not engage in objectionable or offensive comments or actions. This includes, but is not limited to, comments or actions related to age, appearance, colour, disability, ethnic origin, gender, language, marital status, nationality, political opinion, race, religion, sexual preference, social status or other characteristics. Inappropriate actions, behaviour, comments or physical contact will not be tolerated.

The Committee shall have the right for good and sufficient reason to terminate the membership of any member provided that the member has been allowed the opportunity to be heard by the Committee before any decision is taken.

An Extraordinary General Meeting (EGM) can be called at the request of five (5) members.

Members are responsible for ensuring that their Application Form details are correct and that their email is functioning correctly. Where an Email is unavailable or temporarily out of use it is the member's responsibility to find alternative means of acquiring club information.

All members must accept and adhere to the *Guidelines for Members*.

All leaders must accept and adhere to the *Guidelines for Leaders*.

Membership of the Club shall cease on receipt by the Secretary of a notice of resignation from the member; or on the member's failure to pay the annual subscription before 31st December in any year or as otherwise provided for in this Constitution.

MEETINGS OF THE CLUB

Notice of a General Meeting/AGM shall be given to every member of the Club, by e-mail at least 14 days before the meeting. Items for inclusion in the agenda of the General Meeting/AGM must be submitted to the secretary not less than 7 days before the meeting.

A quorum for a meeting of the Committee or a general meeting shall be five members. Should there not be a minimum present within half an hour, it shall stand adjourned until a time decided by those present and if, at such adjourned meeting, a minimum is not present within fifteen minutes, the members present shall be deemed the minimum needed for that meeting.

In addition to the AGM the Committee shall hold at least two meetings each year for the purposes of preparing the hillwalking programme and conducting any other business.

Any paid-up member of the club is entitled to vote at General Meetings.

MANAGEMENT OF THE CLUB

The Management of the Club shall be entrusted to the Club Committee.

OFFICERS OF THE CLUB

The Officers of the Club will be elected at the AGM.

Nominations/applications for Officers of the Club to be forwarded to the Secretary at least 14 days before the AGM.

The Officers of the Club shall be the President, the Chairperson, the Vice Chairperson, the Secretary, the Membership Secretary, the Treasurer, the Training Officer, the Children's Officer, the Archive Officer and the Environmental Officer as well as 3 other officers without a specific role.

Each officer apart from the President shall retire his/her position at the end of each year.

Officers can offer themselves up for re-election.

Voting for the election of Officers shall take place at the AGM. Each candidate must be proposed and seconded. If a candidate is unopposed, they shall be deemed elected. In the event of two persons applying for one position a general vote of members will take place.

The Officers of the Club shall have the power to co-opt additional members with full voting rights onto the Committee to fill vacant positions. This to be decided by simple majority at a Committee meeting.

COMMITTEE OF THE CLUB

The Committee shall be composed of the Officers of the Club.

The Committee shall nominate a representative (or representatives) of the Club to attend Mountaineering Ireland meetings and represent the views of the Membership and vote on behalf of the Club.

The Chairperson of the Club will normally preside at and chair all meetings of the Committee (or Club) and shall be responsible for reporting to the Membership at the Club's AGM.

The Vice Chairperson is subordinate to the chairperson to serve the chair in the absence of the Chairperson or when a motion is being discussed involving the Chairperson.

The Club Secretary shall be responsible for all correspondence relating to Club affairs and for announcing Committee meetings & the AGM and for keeping minutes of meetings. The Secretary shall also be responsible for Social Media.

The Membership Secretary will be responsible for collecting memberships, paying membership fees to Mountaineering Ireland and keeping a record of Membership of the Club.

The Treasurer shall be responsible for the bank account and for doing the annual accounts.

The Training Officer is to work with members of the club to promote awareness of all recognised Mountaineering Ireland training courses and to implement training courses throughout the year.

The Environmental Officer will be responsible for creating awareness of environmental issues and liaising with Mountaineering Ireland on environmental issues.

The Archive Officer will be in charge of all older club records and of the archive of photographs.

The Social Officer will organise the Christmas party and any other social occasions.

All decisions of the Committee shall be made by a simple majority. All the elected members of the Committee shall have one vote on every question and in the case of equality, the Chair or other member presiding at the meeting shall have a second or casting vote.

Subcommittees may be appointed, from time to time, where necessary, to aid the Committee in the running of the club.

All committee members must appreciate that they are on the committee for the good of the club in its entirety.

CLUB SUBSCRIPTIONS

The Committee shall have the power to set membership subscription levels for the Club on an annual basis. Membership is due on November 1.

RULES OF THE CLUB

The Committee shall have the power to amend Club rules including Guidelines for Members and Guidelines for Leaders. Such rules shall be in accordance with the articles of the Club's Constitution and the policies of Mountaineering Ireland.

AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION OF THE CLUB

This Constitution may be amended by a two thirds majority of those present at an AGM or EGM. Notice of any amendment must be delivered to the Secretary at least 7 days prior to the AGM or EGM.

DISSOLUTION OF THE CLUB

The Club can be dissolved by two thirds majority vote of eligible members present at a special meeting, whereupon the Committee will arrange to discharge any assets equally amongst nominated charities and groups e.g. MCI Environmental Defence Fund, Mountain Rescue etc.