



Tufts University Mountain Club

Constitution

Last Ratified: February 3rd, 2019

Article I.

Name and Object of the Club

- A. The name of this club is the Tufts Mountain Club
- B. The objective of the club is to provide opportunities for the Tufts University community to go outside. This constitution recognizes that the Tufts Mountain Club is a unique organization in that the well-being of the members and the reputation of Tufts University are directly dependent upon the proper administration of the club. The electoral procedures are intended to place responsible and competent individuals in positions of leadership.

Article II.

Physical Plant

- A. The physical plant of the Tufts Mountain Club shall be all the things at the disposal of the Board that are used to encourage the club objectives.
- B. All structures, land, vehicles, offices, objects and accounts maintained by the Tufts Mountain Club shall be considered the physical plant and shall be listed by the Board.
 - 1. As of January 2019, the physical plant of TMC is as follows: the Loj (1 Potato Hill Road, North Woodstock, NH) in Woodstock, NH; one Honda Odyssey van; one Nissan Rogue car; the basement and first floor of Hayes House (17 Chetwynd Road, Somerville, MA) at Tufts; the gear in those rooms as inventoried by the Gear Director; and the server for tuftsmountainclub.org in the Hayes House.
- C. The responsibility for the maintenance of every part of the physical plant shall be entrusted to the Board.

Article III.

Membership

- A. The members of the Tufts Mountain Club shall be those persons who have paid the annual dues.
 - 1. Annual dues are determined by the Board prior to the beginning of each Fall Semester, following review and analysis of club finances from the previous academic year.
- B. Membership shall be restricted to members of the Tufts University community. This includes all students, faculty, staff, alumni and immediate families of said persons.
 - 1. Persons falling outside of the Tufts University community may petition to become “Friends of TMC.” Approved persons are privy to the same benefits and privileges as Tufts-based TMC members. Petitions will be reviewed by the Board on a case-by-case basis.
- C. Membership may be revoked or suspended for just cause by a four-fifths vote of the Board. Just cause is defined in V.B.1.a&b.

- D. Acceptance of the membership in the Tufts Mountain Club binds a member to the rules and bylaws of the club, and the decisions of those with official responsibility while utilizing the Tufts Mountain Club facilities.
- E. Members shall be reminded that they have duties and responsibilities in regard to the maintenance and well-being of the physical plant, as well as the privileges of usage.
- F. Members are allowed to bring up to four (4) guests to any TMC function as long as those guests remain with their host at all times (e.g. they leave when their host leaves). These guests are the responsibility of their host and must sign the TMC Personal Liability Waiver if participating in TMC events other than recreational Loj use.
- G. Upon becoming a member, one must complete a participation release and waiver form. All guests and other participants in TMC activities must also complete one of these waivers.
- H. Only members who have paid yearly dues shall be allowed to vote at Club Meetings.
- I. The Tufts Mountain Club website (tuftsmountainclub.org) shall maintain a database of the current membership.
- J. Tufts Mountain Club does not tolerate discrimination of any kind, including but not limited to: racism, sexism, classism, homophobia, transphobia, ableism, xenophobia, or ageism.

Article IV.

Officers and Duties

- A. The Board is the administrative body of the Tufts Mountain Club and will fulfill their duties as described in the bylaws.
- B. Membership on the Board is limited to members of Tufts Mountain Club who will begin and finish their terms as undergraduate students of Tufts University, and will be present at the Medford and/or Fenway campus for their entire term.
- C. All voting positions on the Board shall be elective.
- D. The Board shall encourage the club objective as stated in I.B., with the following goals in mind:
 1. To provide for the upkeep and primary control of the physical plant.
 2. To recognize that all club activities carry certain inherent hazards and to encourage the minimization of these hazards.
 3. To establish and maintain good relations between the Tufts Mountain Club and club alumni, the Tufts University administration, local recreation and outdoor organizations (e.g.

the Malden YMCA and MetroRock), the authorities of the White Mountain National Forest, and the Woodstock, NH community.

4. To advocate the responsible use and maintenance of the White Mountain National Forest.
5. To encourage the participation of the members in working toward club goals.
6. To provide opportunities for events and outings to TMC members, in accordance with club goals.
7. To foster a sense of community amongst club members.

E. The number and titles of Board members will vary with the club's needs on a year-to year-basis. There will be only one person elected to any given position unless otherwise specified. As of January 2019, the club's officers are:

Board

1. President
2. Vice President
3. Loj Director
4. Treasurer
5. Communications Director
6. Events Director
7. Community Director
8. Student Outreach
9. Stewardship Director
10. Webmaster*
11. Gear Director
12. Aqua Program Director
13. Climbing Program Director
14. Hiking Program Director
15. Skiing Program Director
16. Biking Program Director
17. Van Director

*Webmaster is not a voting position.

F. An Action Group may be appointed by the Board for specific, temporary purposes. Parameters and responsibilities of Action Groups are outlined in IV.A of the bylaws.

G. The responsibilities of each position on the Board shall be listed in the bylaws.

H. Honorary Members of the Board

1. The Board may propose honorary positions. These positions must be approved by a majority vote of the Board.
2. Honorary members may be appointed by the President and approved by a majority vote of the Board.

I. The Board is responsible for all monetary transactions of the Tufts Mountain Club. All expenses requiring a draft on the treasury, except for routine expenses

incurred in the running of the club, must be submitted to the Treasurer for approval.

1. Routine expenses are gasoline for the Tufts Mountain Club vans, van maintenance and repairs, gear *replacement* purchases less than \$250, and food and supplies for the Loj.
 - J. All expenses requiring a draft on the treasury once approved by the Treasurer and in excess of \$250 must be submitted to the board for approval.
 - K. The Board is the judge of its members. Any officer may be removed, according to V.B.

Article V.

Replacement of Officers

A. Elections

1. The annual election will be held during the last general meeting of the calendar year.
2. Candidates for all offices may nominate themselves via an electronic form created by the Board. This form will close three days prior to elections.
3. Candidates must meet the qualifications listed below:
 - a. The candidacy of those wishing to run for the Technical Board positions is subject to the approval of the current board members in those positions, as these positions require a certain degree of technical knowledge/skills.
 - b. The candidate must be caretaker certified, except for first-years or transfer students.
 - c. All candidates must read the TMC Constitution and bylaws prior to running.
4. Voting shall be determined by the text-to-vote system. In the event that the text-to-vote system cannot be used, voting shall be determined by private spoken submission to the Board member officiating the vote. Two individuals appointed by the President will tally votes, which will be secret to all other members. A member officiating a vote may not be a candidate for any position in the election.
5. Election shall be by a simple majority of members present. In the event that no candidate obtains a simple majority, the election shall be decided by a runoff election between the two candidates with the most votes. Candidates who do not win the election for a given position may then “drop down” and run for other positions for which the election has not yet occurred.
6. Any candidate who does not attend the election meeting and has not notified the President of intent to run will be removed from the election roster. If they have notified the President, the nominee should provide a written statement to be read aloud or form of media to be presented at the election meeting.

7. Voting order shall be determined by the Vice President prior to elections. The Vice President shall endeavor to accommodate the candidates' plans to drop-down. In the event that the Vice President is a candidate for election, this task may be appointed to an unbiased Elections Chair by the President.
- B. Removal
1. Any member of the Board may be removed for:
 - a. Any action which is antagonistic toward the goals as listed in I.B.-C.
 - b. Any action which is antagonistic toward the goals as listed in IV.E.
 - c. Failure to attend or take part in Board meetings or Executive functions without having submitted to the Board an explanation.
 2. Removal of any member of the Board may be done due to the reasons listed in V.B.1. by unanimous vote of the Board (the person in question not voting).
- C. Filling of Vacancies
1. In the case of vacancy on the Board, the President shall fill the vacancy with all due speed. The person filling the vacancy shall be considered an honorary member and shall be approved by the procedure in IV.I.
 2. If the position of President becomes vacant, the position is filled by the Vice President. In that case, the position of Vice President may be filled by any active board member subject to a vote by the remaining Board members. This subsequent vacancy may be filled by any person who meets all qualifications outlined in V.A. 3.
 3. If the vacancy occurs before the first general meeting of the academic year, a special election shall be announced by the President at the next scheduled general meeting and call for candidates to fill the position. An election will be held at the following general meeting.
 4. The procedure for a special election shall follow that which is listed in V.A. 4,5 & 6.

Article VI.
Meetings

- A. Time
1. Open Board meetings shall be held monthly at a time and place to be chosen by the Board.
 2. The Board meetings are held weekly, at a time and place convenient to the majority of the board.
 3. Additional special interest meetings may be held if deemed necessary by the Board.

B. Purpose

1. Open board meetings shall be for the purpose of conducting club business as specified by the bylaws and for the purpose of informing the membership of the business and activities of the club.
2. At the beginning of each semester Board will host a General Interest Meeting. The purpose of these meetings is to recruit new members and describe the activities and purpose of the club.
3. Board meetings shall be for the purpose of guiding the activities and meetings of the club and conducting the business of the club as specified in the bylaws.

ARTICLE VII.

Advisor and Board of Directors

A. Purpose

1. The Board of Directors (BOD) will provide guidance and support to the TMC Board. The BOD will promote good communication between the TMC and Tufts administration, and will assist the TMC in program development, in effectively utilizing University resources, and in seeking additional outside resources when necessary.

B. Meeting Guidelines

1. The BOD will meet at least once a year. Additional meetings of the BOD can be scheduled as necessary.
2. Meetings shall be run in a professional format. The President of the TMC is responsible for creating and providing copies of the meeting agenda to the BOD.

C. Membership to the Board of Directors

1. The BOD will consist of current TMC Board Members, alumni, and Tufts University administrators; the exact composition of the BOD may change depending on the current needs of the TMC. The TMC and the BOD may request additional personnel to attend BOD meetings when appropriate.
2. Members from the Tufts Mountain Club will include the TMC President, Vice President, Treasurer, Loj Director, and advisor.
3. Members from the Tufts University administration should include representatives from the following departments:
 - a. Tufts University Police Department/Tufts University Health and Safety
 - b. Facilities
 - c. The Office for Campus Life

D. Advisor

1. The club advisor may attend Open Board Meetings with the Board on a monthly basis.
2. The advisor shall attend weekly meetings with the President, Vice President, and any other Board or other TMC members as necessary. The student leaders will update the advisor on the status of ongoing projects, events, and discussions.
3. The advisor shall assist the Board and TMC members in accomplishing club goals as stated in I.B and IV.D.
4. The advisor shall assist in maintaining financial documentation and other documentation of the TMC.

Article VIII.

Bylaws

- A. Bylaws may be adopted, amended, suspended, or rescinded by a simple majority of the members voting. Notice of a proposed change in the bylaws must be publicized to membership via email in the weekly immediately prior to the voting meeting or notice of online poll in the weekly.

Article IX.

Amendments and Ratification

- A. This constitution may be amended at any time by presenting amendments at an Open Board meeting which will then be voted upon by all members in attendance. Presented amendments must be announced to the TMC membership at least one week prior to the Open Board vote.
- B. Amendments and the resulting constitution may be ratified by a two thirds vote of the members present and voting.
- C. All amendments may be subject to the approval of the Tufts Community Union Judiciary.