

Brunel Climbing (BUMS)

Code of Conduct

The Aims of the Club

- To promote the interests of climbing amongst members of the Club.
- To provide an opportunity for all members of the Club to meet and participate in climbing 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 and mountain environment.
- To promote up to date and safe climbing skills.
- To actively make the club self sufficient by passing knowledge and experience to new members, so they can continue to build up the club.

The following constitutes the clubs procedures which must be followed by all members so that all activities are carried out safely!

Procedures to Follow:

General Hazards

- Participants to seek advice from their GP if unsure about how existing medical conditions will affect their ability to participate in club events.
- Participants must disclose any relevant medical conditions to trip organiser in confidentiality before departing on the trip.
- An experienced climber is a climber deemed to be competent through self-assessment and observation by multiple exec members.
- All minibus drivers must have passed the university minibus test.
- The driver of each minibus will preform a head count after every stop to ensure that they have all the members who left the bus have returned. Any uncertainty in numbers should be reported to the trip organiser.
- The trip organiser will ensure there is a first aider and first aid kit on every trip.
- Members will be advised to behave with propriety towards the general public. This is enforced by the exec. The exec will supervise the group and remove members from any hostile situation.
- No trips of less than 4 people will be allowed. If the party divides each sub-group must contain a minimum of 4 people.
- The exec reserves the right to bar any member from club activities for reckless, dangerous or antisocial behaviour.

Climbing Indoors

- The club will use reputable climbing walls. These will be selected by the trip organiser.
- All climbing will be done in accordance with the climbing centre rules.
- Novices will be supervised by experienced climbers at all times.
- Climbing hardware to be inspected before use by experienced climbers and at the end of each trip by the Gear and Safety exec member. Inadequate equipment will be removed.
- Novices will be briefed during the safety induction not to stand under other climbers. This will be enforced by all exec members.
- Exec Members will organise a training course led by experience club member throughout the first two terms, with the possibility of extending this into the third term if time/resources allow. All novices must attend, be assessed and pass the initial rope work module before being allowed to belay unattended and/or unsupervised.

Climbing Outdoors

- Group instructed by trip organiser to stay on paths & be aware of crag environmental hazards (including hazards from plants and animals) at the start of the trip.
- The exec will make sure that everyone who attends trips has been passed the club competency. Unless they are a fresher who is attending a freshers trip.
- Group instructed to stay away from top of crag by trip organiser at the start of each trip.
- Experienced members will check the belays before use.
- Climbing hardware to be inspected before use by experienced climbers and at the end of each trip by the Gear and Safety exec member. Inspections according to BMC guidelines. Inadequate equipment will be removed.
- Ropes to be used on crag and mountain routes. This is enforced by all exec members. No soloing is allowed, except while bouldering.
- Bouldering mats and spotters will be used while bouldering when deemed necessary by an experienced climber. Spotters must be experienced or supervised by experienced climbers.
- All climbing practices must be done according to BMC guidelines. All exec and experienced participants to ensure compliance. Inexperienced and novice belayers instructed and supervised by experienced climbers.
- All participants are encouraged to climb routes appropriate to their ability.
- The exec reserves the right to bar members from trips who are deemed to pose a danger to themselves or others.
- Members are required to pass and be signed off on the initial rope work module before undertaking any climbing activity which is not top roping.
- Experienced climbers to make judgement on protection required for each route. Experienced climbers maybe required to supervise novices when possible to ensure the climbers are following safe procedures.
- An assessment will be made on the suitability of conditions for climbing by the trip organiser.
- Participants advised on clothing and equipment suitable for conditions.
- Exec members have the right to stop participation if clothing, footwear or equipment is deemed unsuitable.

- Abseiling according to BMC guidelines. Experienced climbers to supervise novices. Training on abseiling will be given during the training course.
- Helmets will be worn by all participants when inside the "danger zone". Danger zone is determined by experienced climbers on arrival at crag. Danger zone always includes while climbing, abseiling and belaying.
- Members will be instructed not to stand underneath other climbers. This will be done during their club induction. This is enforced by all experienced climbers.
- A trip list containing destination, expected time of return and list of participants will be left with Student Activities upon departure and a trip member will report back upon return. This is the responsibility of the trip organiser.
- The trip organiser will ensure that at least 2 people are carrying mobile phones.
- The trip organiser will ensure that there is a first aider in the group and a first aid kit.

Socials

- The exec will encourage sensible drinking.
- Safe venues will be chosen by the social secretary(s).
- Socials will be deemed to end once the chosen venue has been left.
- Members are to be made aware by the exec of the risks of theft and violence where applicable.
- One member of the exec will stay sober (within drink/drive limit) to chaperon the others if transport is required to and from the social event. This will be organised by the social secretary(s) or the president.

Please note that on top of the above procedures, all individual members of the group owe a Duty of Care to fellow members of the group and other groups, and where appropriate the public. Any group member who acts in such a way as to deliberately cause harm or injury to a fellow member and/or who displays open and persistent disregard for the groups Code of Practice will be disciplined by the group executive committee and may face expulsion from the group.