

Purposed Amendments and Bylaws

MIT Caving Club

March 10th, 2010

1 Amendments

AMENDMENT 1: Procedure for amending the constitution

The constitution may be amended at a meeting of the caving club, which must be announced at least one week in advance and should be held in the Caving Club Office. The amendment must be approved by a vote of $2/3$ of the members present, and will take effect immediately.

AMENDMENT 2: Procedure for enacting bylaws

Bylaws may be voted on at any meeting of the caving club which was announced at least one week in advance and is being held in the Caving Club Office. The bylaws must be approved by a vote of $1/2$ of the members present, and will take effect immediately.

AMENDMENT 3: Removal of the President

In the event that the president has failed to hold elections within one month of the Ides of March, he or she will have forfeited the office, and the Secretary will be the Acting President and will hold elections within three weeks. If they fail to do so, the Treasurer will become the Acting President and will hold elections within three weeks. If they fail to do so, any member of the club may announce elections.

2 Bylaws

CAVING TRIP LEADER: Anyone who has been designated by a former or current president as being capable of leading caving trips. Caving trip leaders have access to the horizontal caving gear.

VERTICAL CAVING TRIP LEADER: A caving trip leader who has been further designated as capable of leading vertical trips involving ascending, rappelling, and rigging. Vertical caving trip leaders have access to horizontal and vertical caving gear.

VERTICAL TRIP LEADERS: People who have been designated by a former or current president as capable of leading non-caving trips involving vertical work, such as rappelling. They also have access to horizontal and vertical caving gear.

NOTE ABOUT TRIP LEADERS: Being designated, e.g. a vertical caving trip leader does not mean that one is capable of leading a trip to any arbitrary vertical cave. Part of being designated a leader means that the president is confident in your ability to make the necessary judgment call regarding which caves might be too difficult for you or which you do not have adequate knowledge to lead a trip to. This is similarly true for the other types of trip leaders. When in doubt, seek someone experienced with the cave/vertical activity to come with you.

HOW TO BECOME A TRIP LEADER: Designating trip leaders is at the discretion of the president. In general, trip leaders must be "ghost-led" on at least one caving/vertical trip (that is, they act as the de facto trip leader but are accompanied by an "official" trip leader of the appropriate type). The ghost leader and the president must then both agree that the person should be designated a trip leader.

Anyone attempting to become a vertical caving trip leader must have been first certified as a caving trip leader, and then must be further ghost-led and approved on a vertical caving trip. This includes people who were previously designated as "vertical trip leaders." That is, caving trip leader + vertical trip leader \neq vertical caving trip leader.

Finally, trip leaders must be MIT affiliates, including alums.

RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF TRIP LEADERS

Trip leaders are free to use gear to lead club trips and for personal use. They should inform the club president by e-mail when they are planning a trip and how much gear they will need so gear use can be coordinated. The president should respond promptly to such e-mails and take the necessary measures to ensure that gear is available as needed.

In general, trip leaders do not need "permission" for gear use. However under some

special circumstances the president has the right to arbitrate the use of gear (e.g. if two people need it on the same day, the president may decide who gets to use it; club trips will take precedence over personal use).

Trip leaders must abide by safe and respectful caving practices. Failure to do so will result in revocation of privileges.

In return for the privilege of using caving club gear for personal trips, trip leaders should lead club trips (especially beginner trips, but any trip which is legitimately open to the whole membership is adequate). Trip leaders who frequently use the gear for personal trips without leading any club trips may have their privileges revoked, at the discretion of the president.

GEAR USE BY NON-TRIP LEADERS FOR NON-CLUB TRIPS

In general, members who are not trip leaders must ask the permission of the president in order to use club gear for non-club trips (this includes Boston Grotto trips, personal trips, etc). Usually such people will have to get a trip leader to let them into the office in order to access the gear.

GEAR USE BY NON-MIT AFFILIATES

People who are not MIT affiliates may use MIT Caving Club gear on trips led by MIT caving club trip leaders.

People who are not MIT affiliates may use MIT Caving Club gear on trips not led by MIT caving club trip leaders, if the trip as a whole includes more than 50% MIT affiliates.

TRIP FEES

Trip leaders should charge a \$5 trip fee which will be used to support the club. This fee is not normally charged for non-trip activities such as vertical practice. However, it should be paid when gear is used for personal trips or for non-MIT trips. This fee should be waived if it causes someone financial hardship. Trip participants should also contribute money to cover other costs incurred on the trip such as gas or car rental, if these costs cannot be reimbursed by the club.

GEAR DEPOSITS

In order to borrow gear, members and trip leaders should leave a deposit check. Cash

deposits are strongly discouraged but may be accepted at the discretion of the trip leader; the Caving Club assumes no liability for the loss or theft of cash deposits. The check will be returned or destroyed when the gear is returned. If gear is not returned, the check will be used to pay for replacements, and any extra amount will be refunded.

Amounts for deposits:

Horizontal caving gear only (helmet + cavepack + webbing + emergency blanket + head-lamp + gloves + kneepads): \$300

Horizontal caving gear + wetsuit: \$375

Horizontal caving gear + vertical caving gear: \$600

Horizontal caving gear + vertical caving gear + wetsuit: \$675