



Alpine Club Regulations

REGULATIONS

Membership

1. Membership of the Alpine Club is open equally to all men and women who have the relevant alpine mountaineering experience.

Qualifications

2. No candidate may be elected to Membership of the Alpine Club until he or she is 18 years of age.
3. A candidate for Full Membership shall have achieved a high level of proficiency and self-reliance and shall have demonstrated a commitment to alpine climbing. Typically, they have climbed approximately 20 substantive peaks or routes at an average grade of PD or above in the Alps, or in other ranges or wilderness areas, over at least three seasons. Hard alpine routes and serious climbs in the greater ranges will carry more weight than snow ascents. Ski mountaineering ascents are taken into account.
4. A candidate for Alpine Climbing Group (ACG) Membership typically will have the following level of mountaineering experience:

(a) at least 3 “major alpine-style routes” in the European Alps or other equivalent ranges anywhere in the world. By “major alpine-style routes” we mean long and serious routes of at least TD standard.

or

(b) routes of a somewhat lower technical standard in the “greater ranges”, e.g. Himalayas, Andes.

or

(c) somewhat easier/shorter routes on lower mountains in very remote areas, e.g. polar.

Extra credit will also be given for first ascents, new routes, and winter ascents.

A candidate’s overall record, including easier alpine-style routes in any location, and hard British winter routes, will normally span at least three years.

5. Candidates for Aspirant Membership shall have alpine mountaineering experience, which includes roped glacier travel and an ability to competently lead mixed snow and rock climbing to PD grade. Aspirants should have an enthusiasm for the mountains making it reasonably likely that they will qualify for Full Membership in due course

Alternatively, for those mountaineers who do not have any alpine mountaineering experience, but now wish to take their experience to an alpine level, the Club

offers Probationary Aspirant Membership for a fixed term of one membership year. These candidates should be able to demonstrate an ability to competently lead traditional multi-pitch rock routes at grade Severe and have UK winter mountaineering and climbing experience, which demonstrate an ability to competently lead mixed winter climbing routes at Grades II - III in Scotland, as a necessary foundation to develop the skills needed for technical mixed snow and rock travel in an alpine environment to enable them to successfully apply for Aspirant Membership with alpine experience or Full Membership within the fixed term of their membership.

6. Candidates for Associate Membership do not have the climbing experience or aspiration to become Full members of the Club, but do have an interest in alpinism in the Alps and Greater Ranges and support the objectives of the Club. Their interest can be focused on their study of mountaineering history, literature, art, equipment, science, protection of the mountain environment or conservation of the Club's heritage and they will have made a substantive and eminent contribution normally demonstrated by exhibition, publication or other public demonstration of their work. Alternatively, they will have made a valuable contribution to the Club's activities over a considerable number of years.

Application Forms

7. Separate forms are provided for:
 - a) Full Membership
 - b) ACG Membership
 - c) Promotion from Aspirant Membership to Full Membership
 - d) Aspirant Membership
 - e) Associate Membership
8. Every candidate for Membership should apply on a form approved by the Committee (in the case of ACG membership, on a form approved by both the AC Committee and ACG Committee)

The same form will be used for application for ACG membership by an existing AC member, and by someone who is not yet an AC member.
9. All forms shall provide for the name, age and address of the candidate, and for the name of any other mountaineering club of which the candidate is a member.
10. Forms for Full, ACG and Aspirant membership shall list a candidate's expeditions and climbs, stating in each case the month and year, whether a camp or bivouac was involved, whether it was conducted partly or wholly on ski, and whether a guide accompanied the party.

An expectation of Full (including ACG) membership is personal alpine mountaineering competence.
11. Forms for Associate Membership shall provide information demonstrating an interest and experience in the alpine environment and/or mountaineering activities, history, literature, art, equipment or science; and a wish to benefit from, or contribute to, the Club's activities.

Proposers and Seconders

12. The proposer and seconder of every candidate for Full Membership shall be a Full Member of the Alpine Club (AC). The proposer shall have personal knowledge of the candidate.
13. The seconder may be the Chair of the Applications Sub-Committee.
14. If the candidate does not know a proposer who is a full member, the Chair of the Applications Sub-Committee may propose the candidate after making appropriate enquiries; in which case the seconder of the candidate shall be another member of the Applications Sub-Committee.
15. The Committee shall have power to dispense with this requirement in the case of a candidate who is ordinarily resident outside the United Kingdom.
16. Every candidate for ACG membership must be supported by a proposer and a seconder who are both ACG members. The ACG Secretary may act as seconder for application for ACG Membership.
17. The proposer of every candidate for Aspirant Membership or Associate Membership shall be a Full Member of the Alpine Club (AC), or an elected officer of a club in full membership of the British Mountaineering Council, the Mountaineering Scotland, or the Mountaineering Ireland, or any member of the British Association of Mountain Guides, who has personal knowledge of him or her.

Letters of Support

18. The proposer shall write to the Club intimating the extent and duration of his or her personal knowledge of the candidate, and the proposer's reason for considering the candidate technically and otherwise suitable for membership of the Club (and /or ACG). The letter shall be signed by the proposer.
19. They will send this "Letter of Support" to the AC office.

Submission of Applications and their consideration

20. Once completed, the form must be signed manually by the applicant.
21. A hard copy of the completed application form should then be sent to the AC office, who will then send the form and the Letter of Support to the appropriate people for consideration. In the case of the Alpine Club, to the Chair of the Application Sub-Committee for consideration by the Application Sub-Committee. In the case of the ACG, to the ACG Honorary Secretary for consideration by the ACG committee.
22. The procedure to be followed will be as follows:
 - a) for an application to the Alpine Club, the Applications Sub-Committee will consider the application and decide whether to refuse it or accept it for consideration for election. The Committee of the AC will then consider whether to elect the candidate or reject or defer his or her application election.
 - b) for an application to the ACG, the ACG Committee will consider to elect the candidate or reject or defer his or her application election. Those candidate's details will then be passed to the AC Membership Application Sub- Committee where they will be considered for admission as Full AC members, if they are not already a Full AC member. Membership of the ACG is contingent upon the joint approval of both committees.

c) the AC Committee will, before proceeding to the election of any candidate, take into consideration any communication received from any member concerning his or her application, and any such communication shall be treated as confidential. The ACG Committee will do the same for ACG Membership.

d) The Committee will periodically review the proportion of Full Members/Aspirant Members/Associate Members of the Club.

Promotion of Aspirants Membership to Full or ACG Membership

23. When an Aspirant Member considers that he or she has attained the competence and experience required he or she should apply for Full AC or ACG Membership on the relevant form.

a) Promotion from Aspirant AC Membership to Full AC Membership

b) ACG Membership application form

The election procedure and the above regulations shall thereafter be followed.

Election of Associate Members to Aspirant or Full Membership

24. If an Associate Member considers that he or she has attained the experience required for Aspirant Membership, or the competence and experience required for Full Membership, he or she may apply for Membership on the relevant form.

The election procedure and the above regulations shall thereafter be followed.

Alpine Climbing Group

25. The Alpine Climbing Group (ACG) is a section of the club and will be managed under the Club Rules and Regulations. The objective of the ACG is to encourage high standard alpine-style mountaineering. Its Members, who are Full Members of the Alpine Club elected under the above regulations, are known as Alpine Climbing Group Members.

The management of the ACG and its operations will be the responsibility of the ACG Committee consisting of an Honorary President, an Honorary Secretary and whatever other posts are deemed necessary. Two will form a quorum.

The ACG Committee may:

I. nominate up to two members to sit on the Club Committee if invited.

II. co-opt any ACG member as another ACG Committee member, or to fill a casual vacancy

III. determine the criteria for membership of the ACG

IV. arrange meetings, dinners or other functions for ACG Members.

26. The ACG committee posts will normally be elected annually between the 1st October and 31st December of each year. The ACG Hon Sec will invite nominations from all members giving two weeks' notice. Nominations for each post must be made by two members (proposer and seconder). If after two weeks, a post has only one nomination, that nominee will be declared elected. If a post has more than one nomination, an election will take place. This will normally take place

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electronically, with each member having a single vote. In the event of a tie, the president will have a second, or casting vote.

27. There will be no annual ACG subscription, as being a section of the AC, ACG members are only required to pay their AC annual subscription.

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