

Constitution of the Army Mountaineering Association¹

1. Name

1.1 The name of the Association shall be the Army Mountaineering Association (AMA). The official address of the AMA shall be:

Army Mountaineering Association
JSMTC Indefatigable
Plas Llanfair
Llanfair PG
Anglesey
LL61 6NT

2. Scope and Objectives

2.1 Scope. The AMA embraces the wide range of mountaineering activities, including: use of climbing walls, sport climbing (see below); hill-walking; rock climbing; summer, winter and Alpine mountaineering; ski mountaineering; polar exploration; and expeditions to the greater ranges, including high altitude mountaineering.

2.2 Sport Climbing. Sport Climbing, an approved and officially recognised Army sport², is defined as: “competitive climbing on artificial climbing walls”³.

2.3 Objectives. The objectives of the AMA shall be:

- a. To promote military efficiency by encouraging mountaineering in the Army and to develop among members a high standard of mountaineering competence by:
 - (1) Organising climbing meets and supporting mountaineering expeditions.
 - (2) Giving advice and assistance to the Chain of Command, units and individuals on all aspects of mountaineering.
 - (3) Providing a link between active mountaineers.
- b. To advise Headquarters LAND COMMAND on mountaineering matters.
- c. To promote and develop Sport Climbing in the Army.
- d. To represent the interests of Army mountaineers across the services, and to the British Mountaineering Council (BMC).

3. Presidents

3.1 The AMA shall have one serving President, one Honorary President, and one or more Honorary Vice-Presidents.

¹ Approved at the AMA Annual General Meeting on Saturday 29 September 2001 at JSMTC Indefatigable

² ASCB 158.322 dated 26 Mar 01.

³ The Association acknowledges the more commonly accepted definition of Sport Climbing as rock climbing solely on bolted routes and with no leader placed protection, and accepts it as an activity under the more general heading of Rock Climbing. The Association emphasises that it does not support or acknowledge competitive climbing other than on artificial surfaces and therefore uses this narrow definition of sport climbing.

4. Committee

4.1 The affairs of the AMA shall be managed by a General Committee and an Executive Committee, collectively referred to as the Committee.

4.2 General Committee. The General Committee shall meet once per year, prior to the Annual General Meeting. The General Committee shall comprise the Executive Committee plus the following:

BA(G) Representative	Divisional Representatives
JSAM Representative	Equipment Member
FASTRAK Co-ordinator	Publications Sub Editor
Army Team Coach	

4.3 Executive Committee. The Executive Committee shall normally meet at least 3 times per year. Except as otherwise shown in this Constitution, the Executive Committee shall have power to act on behalf of the Association. The Executive Committee shall comprise the following:

Chairman	Sport Climbing Secretary
Vice Chairman	Communications Officer
General Secretary	Membership Secretary
Treasurer	Publications Editor
Expeditions Adviser	Publicity Officer
Meets Co-ordinator	

4.4 Committee Organization. The Executive Committee may co-opt further members. The Executive Committee shall organize itself into 3 sections, namely: Mountaineering, Sport Climbing and Communications, headed by the Vice Chairman, Sport Climbing Secretary and Communications Officer respectively. Each section may include General Committee members, and other AMA members. The Executive Committee shall have power to appoint sub-committees for any specified purpose, and to dissolve such sub-committees when necessary.

4.5 Non-voting Members. The Executive Committee shall have power to invite up to 6 non-voting members to attend meetings. These would normally include representatives from the Joint Service Mountain Training Centre (JSMTTC), the Army Sport Control Board (ASCB), Headquarters Adjutant General, and Headquarters LAND.

4.6 Appointing Committee Members. All Committee Members shall be members of the AMA. They shall be elected at the AGM and must be re-elected annually. Further Committee members may be appointed at the Annual General Meeting. The Executive Committee shall have power to fill, until the AGM, any vacancy occurring from among its members. Persons wishing to propose members for election to the Committee shall forward details of the person to the General Secretary at least 14 days prior to the AGM. The details shall include the names of those proposing and seconding the nomination and the written agreement to serve of the person being proposed.

4.7 Committee Meetings. An authorized Committee Meeting shall be one for which the General Secretary has circulated the date, time and place to all members of the Committee at least 7 days beforehand. The quorum is three Committee Members.

5. Membership

5.1 Entitlement. AMA Membership is open to:

- a. Serving officers and soldiers of the Regular and Territorial Army.
- c. Retired officers and soldiers of the Regular and Territorial Army provided they have previously been a member during their service and continued their membership.
- d. Serving officers and soldiers of Commonwealth or foreign armies for the period they are attached to a British Army unit for any reason.
- e. Civilians employed by the Army Department and currently on the strength of a unit or establishment.
- f. Retired civilians who have been employed by the Army Department and have previously been members during their service and have continued their membership.
- g. The spouse and/or children of any member.

5.2 Honorary Membership. Honorary Membership may be granted to anyone who, through past or present activities, has rendered or is rendering outstanding service to the AMA. Such membership shall be approved at the AGM on the recommendation of the Committee. No subscription shall be payable by an Honorary Member.

5.3 Withdrawing Membership. The Committee shall be empowered to withdraw membership from any member should it be considered necessary.

5.4 Subscriptions. Except for Honorary Members, there shall be one level of subscription, which is to be approved by every AGM for the following year. Subscriptions shall be payable on joining and thereafter on 1 January annually. The subscription paid by new members joining after 1 October will cover the period to the end of the following year. Members who have not paid their subscription by 31 March shall be deemed to have resigned their membership.

6. General Meetings

6.1 Annual General Meeting (AGM). The AGM shall, in addition to any other business:

- a. Receive the Committee's report, covering the previous year and future plans.
- b. Award Army colours for Sport Climbing.
- c. Receive and approve an audited statement of the accounts.
- d. Establish the level of subscription for the following year.
- e. Elect or re-elect members of the Committee.

The General Secretary shall give 28 days notice of the AGM.

6.2 Extraordinary General Meeting. An Extraordinary General Meeting may be called:

- a. On the decision of the Committee, or
- b. Following receipt by the General Secretary of a request to that effect signed by no fewer than 15 members and specifying the object for which the meeting is to be called. The meeting shall be held within 42 days of such a request being received.

The General Secretary shall give 28 days notice of such a meeting.

6.3 Chair. General Meetings shall be chaired by the President, or, in his absence, the Chairman, or Vice Chairman. In their absence, the Committee may elect a Chairman.

6.4 Voting. Only paid-up members may vote at General Meetings. The Constitution of the AMA may be altered by a majority of not less than two-thirds of those present and voting at the AGM or at an Extraordinary General Meeting called for that purpose.

7. Miscellaneous

7.1 Affiliations. The AMA is affiliated to the JSMTTC and the ASCB. The AMA shall be represented on the JSMC, normally through the Chairman. The AMA is affiliated to the BMC and enjoys its privileges. The AMA shall represent the interests of Army mountaineers on the BMC, either directly or through the JSMC.

7.2 Branches. Subject to the approval of the Committee, branches in specific geographical areas may be established. Such branches shall be financially self-supporting, and shall draw up a constitution in line with the Constitution of the AMA.

7.3 Army Training / Mountain Leader Training Boards. It is the policy of the AMA to encourage members: to take part in the mountaineering training organized by the Army; to maintain logbooks as a record; to obtain appropriate qualifications sponsored by the Army; and to obtain the various certificates of the Mountain Leader Training Boards where appropriate.

7.4 Environmental Issues. The AMA considers the environment in which its activities take place to be a valuable and irreplaceable asset. All expeditions and meets sponsored by the AMA shall give due consideration to their impact on the environment and ecology of the area in which they are run. Sponsored expeditions shall endeavour to leave no evidence of their activities.

7.5 Publications. A Journal shall be published regularly to record articles submitted by members. The main means of communication within the AMA shall be a Newsletter published as required. The views expressed in these publications shall not be deemed to express any official view of the AMA or of the Army unless this is specifically stated.

8. Finance

8.1 The funds of the AMA shall be utilised by the Committee for the purpose of furthering the objectives quoted in paragraph 2 above and, at the discretion of the Committee, may be used for other mountaineering purposes. The AMA accounts shall be audited annually. The powers of the Committee in financial matters shall be by resolution at the AGM.

8.2 In the event of the AMA ceasing to exist, any funds remaining after settling all outstanding liabilities shall be paid to the ASCB for the furtherance of other Army adventurous training activities and sports.

9. Information

9.1 Anyone requiring further details should direct their query to the General Secretary via the Membership Secretary, at JSMTTC Indefatigable on 95581-7964, or at the address at Paragraph 1.1.